Huu-ay-aht First Nations Presentation to #AVICC 2012

A Note on Presenter
John Alan Jack
- BA Global Studies (VIU)
- Member of Council
- Huu-ay-aht First Nations
- Elected to 2nd Term in June, 2011 and assigned ACRD as a part of my portfolio.
- ACRD Director for HFN as of April 11, 2012 (last Wednesday)
<john.j@huuayaht.org>

Pronunciation
- Formerly: Ohiat Indian Band
- Now: Huu-ay-aht First Nations
  “who + eh + aht”
  aht/ath = People

Values

Vision Statement
The Huu-ay-aht envision a proud, self-governing, sovereign Nation. *lisaak* (greater respect) will guide us as we work together to establish a healthy, prosperous, self-reliant Nation where our culture, language, spirituality and economy flourish for the benefit of all Huu-ay-aht.

Introduction
- Population: Approx. 700+
- Dispersion:
  - On-TSL: 15%
  - Off-TSL: 85%
  - On-ACRD: ~65%
- Principal Population Centers
  - Village of Anacla
  - Port Alberni and Surrounding Areas
  - Nanaimo, Victoria, Parksville/Qualicum and the Lower Mainland.
Age Demographics

**Pop.** Approx. 700

- 63% are 35 and Under
- 47% are 25 and Under
- 53% are 16 to 50 Years
- 34% are 16 to 35 Years

(As of 2008)

Recent History

1. Treaty Negotiations – Success
2. Constitution Ratification – Success
3. Treaty Ratification – Success
4. Treaty Implementation – On Going
5. Self-Government – April 1, 2011
6. ACRD Membership – April 11, 2012

A Note on “Maa-nulth”

The term Maa-nulth does not denote a new First Nation, but is rather the short form of the term “First Nations of the Maa-nulth Treaty Society” – a group of independent tribes working together to pursue a treaty with the Crown.

We are still the Huu-ay-aht First Nations and we are still part of the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council.

The Rule of Law

- Constitution Act
- Government Act
- Financial Administration Act
- Land Act, Community Development Act
- Elections Act, Referendum and Recall Act
- CoC & CoI Act, FoI & PoP Act

HFN Leadership

**Tyee Ha’wilth:**
- Derek Peters

**Chief-Councillor:**
- Jeffrey Cook

**Council Members:**
- Charlie Clappis
- Sheila Charles
- Jack Cook
- Tom Happynook
- John A. Jack

**Executive Director:**
- Connie Waddell

Treaty Settlement Lands

Rather than reserves owned by the Crown and administered by a federal ministry, the Huu-ay-aht have negotiated for control and jurisdiction over selected Treaty Settlement Lands within its traditional territory.

The Huu-ay-aht has lawful influence over the zoning, ownership and resources on over 10,000 hectares.

1 hectare = 100m x 100m
**Economic Development**

Arms-length business management through **Huu-ay-aht Economic Development Corporation** (CEO Stan Coleman)

Businesses include Forestry, Pachena Bay Campground, West Coast Trail Maintenance, Gravel, Gas, Comm. Fish Licenses...

*By removing politics from business, we hope to benefit on our investments even more...*

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**Community Development**

**Waste Water Project:** We are working to build a treatment plant to serve not only the needs of our future housing development.

**Sub-Division:** We wish to build a sub-division near the House of Huu-ay-aht to allow our members to return home. Additional residents means additional funds and demand for teachers and other government services.

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**HFN in ACRD**

1. In the Treaty
2. Lead Up
3. Funding Integration

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**In the Treaty**

- Maa-nulth First Nations may become members of their respective regional district board within 10 years. After which, they must.
- Huu-ay-aht and Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ chose ASAP
- Toquaht and Uchucklesaht chose to wait.
- Kyuquot-Checklesaht territory falls within the Mount Waddington Regional District...

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**Reasons for Joining ACRD**

- Official voice on Regional District
- Equal participation as other communities
- Explore opportunities for cost savings, expanded service or access to expertise that HFN does not (yet) possess
- Relationship-building: re-engagement on more structured terms using treaty as an impetus for that “new relationship”.

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**Lead Up**

- HFN gave notice to the BC gov’t shortly after the Effective Date of the Treaty (April 1, 2011)
- HFN Observer to ACRD Board short after...
- Looked to join ACRD in January 2012, after advice from Chairman Wong and BC, HFN agreed to hold off until April 2012.
Funding HFN’s Integration - 1

• A need to establish a respectful, functioning relationship right out of the gate.
• BC had mentioned funding to help guide FN integration into the ACRD, but was not forthcoming due to budgetary pressures.
• Raised by Chairman Wong at UBCM in Vancouver in September, 2011.

Funding HFN’s Integration - 2

• January 2012 – An initial report was completed for (and funded by) the ACRD that surveyed the programs and services available to FNs as new members.
• March 2012 – BC delivered with funding to create a fact sheet, work-plan and toolkit for FNs and RDs coming together. This work is now in progress...

KLECO, KLECO!

Thank you!