



Tla'Amin First Nation

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17 December 2007

Dear Sirs/Mesdames:

Re: Meeting Invitation - Development of Community Sustainability Charter

The Tla'Amin First Nation, City of Powell River and Powell River Regional District are exploring the development of a Community Sustainability Charter. We intend to commit to a lifestyle that is socially, culturally, economically and environmentally balanced. The definition of sustainability, as defined by Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland (former Prime Minister of Norway and Head of World Health Organization), is as follows:

“Sustainability is the principle of meeting needs of the present generation in terms of the environment, the economy and social systems while promoting a high quality of life but without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

A Sustainability Charter could expect to include the following elements:

- A declaration of vision, purpose, values and principles;
- A statement of hope and inspiration;
- A desire and commitment to develop inclusive partnerships; and
- A framework to integrate and balance competing expectations.

For your information, the *Local Government Act* does not require adoption of a Sustainability Charter as a legal document; however, a Sustainability Charter should be an official document that provides strategic, high level directions for local governments to pursue sustainable development. Like a Mission Statement that identifies the basic purpose of an organization, a Sustainability Charter outlines the community's commitment to sustainable development. Local governments adopt mission statements and sustainability charters as tools for strategic planning and management, but not as instruments to meet legal requirements under the *Local Government Act*.

The first step in the process is a community engagement meeting scheduled to be held:

Saturday, 19 January 2008
Dwight Hall
0900 to 1600

The meeting will commence with a thought provoking presentation from a panel of recognized leaders in the field of sustainable development. The main goal of this presentation is to provide current information and insights on Sustainability and to set the tone for the rest of the Community Engagement Program. We will post detailed information to our websites on the background of each of the panelists and the topics they will address once received. They will clarify the purpose of a Sustainability Charter from the perspective of the four focus areas -- economy, environment, social and culture. After the panelists' presentations, we invite you to share in a question/answer period. We will then break down into smaller groups to discuss the four focus topics at length. The end objective is a list of desired outcomes in order to achieve Sustainability. The workshop is intended to address some or all of the following questions:

1. What is your vision of a sustainable Powell River?
2. Where are we at the present time and what issues are we facing?
3. What challenges and opportunities are there?
4. What should our sustainability goals be?
5. What kinds of policies would support these goals?
6. What implementation tools should we be using?

Information obtained from this workshop will be considered along with on-going core services and be incorporated into the draft Sustainability Charter.

Invitations have been sent to a broad variety of organizations and service groups in order to encourage participation and to ensure that the voices of the people are well represented. Your active involvement is vital to the process as we move forward to ensuring we have a sustainable community and charter accurately reflecting our principles – the principles that you, the citizens, hold important.

We respectfully ask that you take the time to offer your input on where you see our community heading and help determine the goals and path we must follow to take us to fruition. We must work in unity to create the future that we envision.

Yours truly,

TLA'AMIN FIRST NATION




Chief Councillor Walter Paul

CITY OF POWELL RIVER



Mayor Stewart B. Alsgard

**POWELL RIVER
REGIONAL DISTRICT**



Chair Colin Palmer