

Adams Lake Indian Band

P.O. Box 588, Chase, BC V0E 1M0
Phone:679-8841 Fax:679-8813
email: receptionist@alib.ca
www.adamslakeband.org

Adams Lake Band Community,

April 11, 2017

Re: Sexqeltqin Bridge Roadblock April 11, 2017 Update

Adams Lake Band Community members please be aware that there is a roadblock currently in place at the Sexqeltin Bridge that started around 530 am on April 11, 2017. After discussion with Adams Lake Chief and Council and the Secwepemc community protestors it was decided that at least one lane would remain open at all times to allow emergency vehicles, school buses, and community vehicles through at all times.

Adams Lake Band does recognize the rights for peaceful protest. The immediate concerns were explained as (1) RCMP and Secwepemc relationships – there is concern that there are poor relationships and there are allegations of RCMP abuses with our Secwepemc members, (2) There are issues against the Adams Lake Band Chief and Council ignoring Secwepemc community concerns, (3) There are issues against Adams Lake Band office not representing or respecting community members, (4) There are issues related to Aboriginal rights and title as related to protests against land rights, water rights, pipeline development, forestry/road development, Sun Peaks infringements, lease land issues and other issues that challenge our rights to our land, water, and environment.

As Kukpi7 Adams Lake Band, I am committed to arrange a community gathering on Saturday April 29, 2017. On February 23, 2017 at the last General Band Meeting there was consensus that Adams Lake Band needs to address concerns with the Community Panel section of our Customs Election Rules. There is a requirement for two weeks' notice for a General Band Meeting and the first available Saturday will be April 29, 2017. Also, this General Band Meeting will address amendments to our Customs Election Rules and particularly the community panel section. At the General Band Meeting, there will be an announcement for a referendum because to change the Custom Election Rules it requires a referendum vote. After the referendum, there will need to be 3 community readings of the amendments.

I and Executive Director Shirley Kine are meeting with a RCMP sergeant on Wednesday April 12, 2017 to address concerns that our membership has with the RCMP. Other issues related to protection of our natural resources such as water, land, forests, and salmon will be addressed with the General Band Gathering (Meeting Saturday April 29).

Re: Kukpi7 (Chief) Update

Yesterday, I had time to talk with community members concerning my duties and obligations as Kukpi7 Adams Lake Band. I was able to share that Adams Lake Band Chief and Council has continued to represent Adams Lake Band in our negotiations with the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure in the road expansions from Monte Creek to Banff, with the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation in our Reconciliation Framework Agreement, and with BC Hydro negotiations.

Recent updates include an ongoing \$750,000 agreement with BC Hydro that was received by Adams Lake Band and also an extension of \$50,000 for Reconciliation Framework Agreement negotiations and planning. In addition, Adams Lake Band continues to negotiate with the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure and Parks Canada and we are taking the position of revenue sharing, direct awards, and financial settlements. These negotiations have the potential for over \$5 million dollars towards Adams Lake Band.

After the updates, there were other questions concerning my Kukpi7 responsibilities:

Issue #1 Kukpi7 Position and Thompson Rivers University Executive Director

I have fully informed Adams Lake Band members during my election that I will commit my time to Adams Lake Band and that I will continue in my role as Executive Director for Aboriginal Education at Thompson Rivers University. I am at a reduced time at Thompson Rivers University and I have fully dedicated my Tuesdays for Chief and Council meetings and for other meetings. I fully informed Adams Lake community that if you vote for me then I would continue in both positions. Since elected I have continued to do my best as Chief of Adams Lake Band; however, it has been difficult given that ½ the time I have been without a full quorum. A chief needs quorum to do his business; however, this will only happen once we amend the Customs Election Rule (See issues below).

Issue #2 Adams Lake Band Honorarium and No Specific Terms of Reference

Adams Lake Band pays me an honorarium and there are no terms of reference for the Kukpi7 (Chief's position). According to our Adams Lake Band, a Chief is able to attend Tuesday Chief and Council meetings and then attend other meetings that are not conducted in Chase.

For Example,

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Tuesday March 21 | Chief attended Joint Three Band Council Meeting at Quaaout with Neskanlith and Little Shuswap Band. |
| Thursday March 23 | Chief attended STS meeting in Chances in Salmon Arm and also 5 Band joint meeting discussion in Salmon Arm. |
| Monday March 27: | Chief attended Assembly of First Nations in Kamloops. |
| Monday March 27: | Chief attended meeting with Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation John Rustad to address concerns with the Reconciliation Framework Agreement |
| Tuesday March 28 | Chief chaired Chief and Council meeting in Chase BC |
| Tuesday April 4 | Chief had meetings at Band office in Chase BC |
| Thursday April 6 | Chief attended Parks Canada meeting in Revelstoke BC |
| Friday April 7 | Chief attended morning meeting in Kamloops with Minister of Transportation And Infrastructure. |

Friday April 7 Chief attended an afternoon meeting in Kamloops for the Reconciliation Framework Agreement with Senior Council and Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation.

Monday April 10 Cancelled 5 Band meeting in Quaaout due to Shuswap Band unable to attend.

Tuesday April 11 Chief attended to matters with Sexqueltin Bridge blockade

Wednesday April 12 Chief has planned Chief and Council Meeting

As Chief I continue to be dedicated to Adams Lake Band as demonstrated from my calendar in the last few weeks.

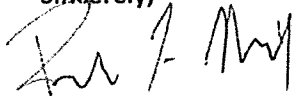
Issue #3 Disunity, Community Panel and Customs Election Rules

As discussed on the February 23, 2017 General Band Meeting, there was consensus that Adams Lake has a Customs Election Rules flaw that allows a Community Panel to disrupt our Adams Lake Band governance and that allows for potential abuses of power. For example, Adams Lake since my election on December 15, 2016 has been without a full quorum for about ½ the time due to our flawed system.

It was determined that Chief and Council and the community work to amend the Customs Election Rules that will fix the undemocratic and flawed system of a Community Panel that has the potential to make decisions that can only be overturned at the Federal Court level.

As Kukpi7 I am dedicated that we amend our Custom Election Rules and the Community Panel section that has caused much chaos, harm, and disunity at Adams Lake Band. I do anticipate full participation by the community on Saturday April 29, 2017.

Sincerely,



Paul Michel

Kukpi7 Adams Lake Band