

**Regular Council Meeting Executive Summary
October 7, 2021**

Attendance	
Elected Chief & Council	Ken Watts (Chair), Deb Foxcroft, Ed Ross, Eunice Joe, Jennifer Gallic, Leisa Hassall, Les Sam, Natasha Marshall
Administration Staff	Vicky White, Executive Director Virginia Shrimpton, Executive Assistant
Guests	Restoring Owatchet -Dry Creek Estuary <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christopher Allamany

Tseshah Elected Council held the October 7, 2021, Regular Council Meeting via zoom due to infrastructure challenges impacting heat within the Administration Building. The Council meeting had a guest presentation from Christopher Allamany.

Restoring Owatchet – Dry Creek Estuary

Christopher Allamany provided a concept presentation on options for restoring the Owatchet – Dry Creek Estuary. Presentation included historical photos and concept renderings of the original estuary. Discussion acknowledged the land expropriation from Western Forest Products (Somass Mill site) by the City of Port Alberni. It was acknowledged that the presentation was intended to share initial concept with Tseshah before any further development or outreach in respect of traditional village site in the area.

Council reviewed and adopted meeting minutes from September 16, 2021.

Administration

Executive Director presented an overview of proposed organizational restructuring. Recommendation was based on an assessment of time and workload and management distribution. Net new capacity to be added include:

- Operations Manager 1.0 FTE
- Child & Family Support worker 1.0 FTE
- Accounts Payable Clerk 1.0 FTE
- Elders Coordinator .25 FTE

Further alignment with reporting distribution will be implemented to maximize capacity and workload distribution. Council passed a motion in support of the proposed organizational restructuring as presented on October 7, 2021.

Fisheries

Reflections on the fishing season were shared. Biggest concerns were around escapement, although Spring escapement was met. There is a lot of work to do on the fisheries rules. Concerns were raised around the level of verbal abuse that is directed at fisheries staff. There was discussion around staff capacity and a recommendation to invest in fisheries. Further recommendation was made to complete an assessment of how many community members access Economic Opportunity vs Community Fish Days to support informed decision making and analysis on the 60/40 split. A need for fisheries debrief

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was identified. Work is underway to build or strengthen the relationship with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) as outreach to begin negotiations on our next fisheries agreement.

Emergency Preparedness

An overview was provided on current and total covid cases in community as well as vaccine numbers. A report will be prepared for the Tseshaht Annual General Meeting (AGM). There is ongoing work to set up another vaccine clinic in community. Recommendation was brought forward to re-circulate communication material on public health measures, covid-19 symptoms, and testing. It was announced that Gina Pearson was the successful candidate for the Health Emergency Response Coordinator position.

Governance

There was discussion on committee restructuring. A brief overview of proposed restructuring and application process provided. Recommendation was provided to ensure this work aligns with the Financial Administration Law and the Governance Manual that are both under development. It will be important to ensure that clear and sound rationale is provided outlining financial impact and risk of not restructuring, as well as the positive impact for greater certainty for administrative planning and budgeting.

Alberni Indian Residential School (AIRS) Project

AIRS project staff were invited to a provincial residential school gathering in Kamloops. Due to increase in COVID-19 cases across the region and province, a request has been submitted to support virtual attendance. Project staff will be asked to provide an update at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Other Business

- Update was provided on discussions with Catalyst regarding the buy-back of poplar trees that they planted on the lands purchased by Tseshaht. Catalyst expressed interest and support for the proposed idea. Tseshaht council supported a motion in favor of exploration of logging the poplar trees in as cost neutral manner as possible, with opportunities for member employment.
- Discussion on cultural education opportunities offered by Denis St. Clair. Council supported recommendation to explore opportunities and begin some planning around that.
- There was discussion on cannabis growing opportunities and reflections on approaches other nations/individuals are taking.
- General discussion on the October 16, 2021, AGM. An overview of proposed reporting structure was provided.
- Council reviewed an Comprehensive Community Plan (CCP) update and will provide recommendations for approval pathway.

Band Council Resolutions (BCR's):

Council Considered and supported (XX) BCR's:

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