

Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX

From: Dean, Sharon GCPE:EX
Sent: Monday, September 22, 2014 4:07 PM
To: 'spetrescu@timescolonist.com'
Subject: Media Request: Grace Islet

Hi Sarah

Here is the Ministry response regarding Grace Islet:

The ministry continues to work with First Nations, landowner and local government on a resolution. Once a resolution is reached, we'll be sure to let you know. In the meantime, it's not appropriate for the ministry to comment and/or speculate as discussions are ongoing.

Regards

Sharon Dean, BCom
Manager Communications
Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
P: 250 356-6998 C: 250 580-6456

Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, October 7, 2014 3:48 PM
To: 'Petrescu, Sarah (Times-Colonist)'
Subject: media request: victoria times colonist, grace islet update

Howdy Sarah –

- The ministry is still exploring options for a resolution.
- It would be inappropriate for the ministry to comment/speculate at this time, as discussions are ongoing.

Greig Bethel

Public Affairs Officer
Media Relations
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Office: 250 356-5261
Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

From: Petrescu, Sarah (Times-Colonist) [<mailto:spetrescu@timescolonist.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 7, 2014 10:46 AM
To: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Subject: Grace Islet

Hi Greig,

Any progress on Grace Islet resolutions? Last time I checked in you said something was in the works.

Thanks,

Sarah

Sarah Petrescu
Reporter
spetrescu@timescolonist.com
250-507-2528 (cell phone)
250-380-5370 (office)
@sarahpetrescu
timescolonist.com

Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Sent: Friday, October 24, 2014 2:49 PM
To: 'frank.stanford@bellmedia.ca'
Subject: media request: cfax radio victoria, grace islet update

Howdy again Frank –

I touched base with staff about Grace Islet, and here's what I found out:

- The ministry is still exploring options for resolution.
- It would be inappropriate for the ministry to comment/speculate at this time, as discussions are ongoing.

Greig Bethel

Public Affairs Officer

Media Relations

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Office: 250 356-5261

Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2014 10:22 AM
To: 'lisa cherry'
Subject: media request: globe and mail toronto freelancer. grace islet update

Howdy Lisa –

Unfortunately, Minister Thomson is unavailable for an interview this week as the Legislature is in session.

But here's the update on Grace Islet:

- The ministry is still exploring options for resolution.
- It would be inappropriate for the ministry to comment/speculate at this time, as discussions are ongoing.

Greig Bethel

Public Affairs Officer
Media Relations
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Office: 250 356-5261
Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

From: Lisa Cherry s.22
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2014 12:58 PM
To: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Globe and Mail _ Grace Islet

Hi Vivian,
How are you doing these days?

I'm just writing to get an update from Minister Thomson, as to whether he has plans to buy the islet from Mr. Slawsky?

As well, is a brief interview with him possible this week, as my next article on Grace Islet comes out next week

I'm available Wed or Thurs afternoon.

All the best,
Lisa Cherry

Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2014 4:43 PM
To: 'Lisa Cherry'
Subject: media request: globe and mail toronto freelancer. grace islet update 2

Howdy Lisa –

- Again, it would be inappropriate for the ministry to comment/speculate at this time.

Greig Bethel
Public Affairs Officer
Media Relations
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Office: 250 356-5261
Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

From: Lisa Cherry s.22
Sent: Wednesday, October 29, 2014 4:21 PM
To: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: media request: globe and mail toronto freelancer. grace islet update

Thanks Greig.

The Minister told a few chiefs that he would do a stop work order or possibly buy Slawsky out. It looks like neither are going to happen while they're still building the house, right?

As for the ministry possibly changing legislation of the Heritage Conservation Act, can I say that spring session is a possibility? An MLA told me some changes may be happening.

Thanks again,
Lisa

On Wed, Oct 29, 2014 at 1:22 PM, Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX <Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Howdy Lisa –

Unfortunately, Minister Thomson is unavailable for an interview this week as the Legislature is in session.

But here's the update on Grace Islet:

- The ministry is still exploring options for resolution.
- It would be inappropriate for the ministry to comment/speculate at this time, as discussions are ongoing.

Greig Bethel

Public Affairs Officer

Media Relations

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Office: 250 356-5261

Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

From: Lisa Cherry s.22
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2014 12:58 PM
To: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Subject: Re: Globe and Mail _ Grace Islet

Hi Vivian,

How are you doing these days?

I'm just writing to get an update from Minister Thomson, as to whether he has plans to buy the islet from Mr. Slawsky?

As well, is a brief interview with him possible this week, as my next article on Grace Islet comes out next week

Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2014 3:27 PM
To: 'Petrescu, Sarah (Times-Colonist)'
Subject: media request: victoria times colonist, grace islet update

Howdy Sarah –

Nothing new to add:

- The ministry is still exploring options for a resolution.
- It would be inappropriate for the ministry to comment/speculate at this time, as discussions are ongoing.

Greig Bethel

Public Affairs Officer
Media Relations
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Office: 250 356-5261
Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

From: Petrescu, Sarah (Times-Colonist) [<mailto:spetrescu@timescolonist.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2014 9:47 AM
To: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Subject: Grace Islet

Hi Greig,

Just checking in on what the ministry is doing regarding Grace Islet. Last time we connected you said something was in the works? Still any action on that?

Sarah

Sarah Petrescu
Reporter
spetrescu@timescolonist.com
250-507-2528 (cell phone)
250-380-5370 (office)
@sarahpetrescu
timescolonist.com

Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2014 3:23 PM
To: 'james.gardner@bellmedia.ca'
Subject: media request: cfax radio victoria, grace islet update 2

Howdy James –

No update from when Frank and I last spoke on Oct. 24:

- The ministry is still exploring options for resolution.
- It would be inappropriate for the ministry to comment/speculate at this time, as discussions are ongoing.

Greig Bethel

Public Affairs Officer

Media Relations

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Office: 250 356-5261

Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, November 27, 2014 4:27 PM
To: 'Petrescu, Sarah (Times-Colonist)'
Subject: media request: victoria times colonist, grace islet update 2

Howdy Sarah –

Here's update on Grace Islet:

- The ministry can confirm the chief's comments. We're committed to find a solution that works in everyone's interest. Beyond that we have no further comment, as discussions are ongoing.

Greig Bethel
Public Affairs Officer
Media Relations
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Office: 250 356-5261
Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

From: Petrescu, Sarah (Times-Colonist) [<mailto:spetrescu@timescolonist.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 27, 2014 4:17 PM
To: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: media request: victoria times colonist, grace islet update

Any word? Is the minister available to speak tomorrow at all?

Thanks,

Sarah

Sarah Petrescu
Reporter
spetrescu@timescolonist.com
250-507-2528 (cell phone)
250-380-5370 (office)
[@sarahpetrescu](https://www.instagram.com/sarahpetrescu)
timescolonist.com

From: Petrescu, Sarah (Times-Colonist) [<mailto:spetrescu@timescolonist.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, November 26, 2014 4:54 PM
To: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: media request: victoria times colonist, grace islet update
Importance: High

Hi Greig,

I just spoke with the chief of Cowichan Tribes, who said the minister told him he (the government) now has a mandate to resolve the Grace Islet issue and two people have been appointed to mediate with the First Nations and owner. Can you confirm this?

I'd also like to speak with the minister at this point regarding what that mandate is and what's being done on this issue.

Thank you,

Sarah

Sarah Petrescu
Reporter
spetrescu@timescolonist.com
250-507-2528 (cell phone)
250-380-5370 (office)
@sarahpetrescu
timescolonist.com

Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 2, 2014 2:34 PM
To: GCPE FLNR Media Requests GCPE:EX
Subject: Media Request - Saltspring Island Driftwood Grace Islet queries

From: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, December 2, 2014 2:08 PM
To: 'smcintyre@driftwoodgimedia.com'
Cc: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Media Request - Saltspring Island Driftwood Grace Islet queries

Hi Sean! Greig had to step out. Here's answers to your questions. The answers are attributable to Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations.

Cheers,

Vivian Thomas

Communications Director
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Tel: 250 356-2475 cell: 250 213-2972
Vivian.Thomas@gov.bc.ca

1 Has Minister Thomson sought Treasury Board approval to give the province the option to purchase Grace Islet?

I received a mandate from government to pursue options that will resolve the situation on Grace Islet. The ministry is committed to finding a resolution that works in everyone's interests.

2 - What happens now that Lorne Brownsey has been appointed "to broker a deal" between the land owner and the province?

As you note in your question, Lorne Brownsey has been hired to work with the First Nations and landowner in reaching a resolution.

3 - Will the province consider expropriating the land and compensating the owner?

There are a range of options under consideration.

4 - Can you explain why the province has decided to appoint Brownsey and obtain Treasury Board approval at this stage? Did the Ministry take account of the Cowichan Tribes threat of legal action when making its decision?

I have been having discussions with the First Nations and have been working for some time in trying to find a resolution. It is taking longer than we originally hoped. I was not aware of the Cowichan Tribes threat of legal action when we started pursuing options.

Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2014 4:36 PM
To: 'Katherine Gordon'
Subject: media request: focus magazine victoria, grace islet update/mst interview 2

Howdy again Katherine –

Discussions are going slower than we would like. Unfortunately, there's no further update on this before your deadline.

Greig Bethel
Public Affairs Officer
Media Relations
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Office: 250 356-5261
Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

From: Katherine Gordon s.22
Sent: Wednesday, December 10, 2014 1:44 PM
To: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Interview request with Minister Thomson re Grace Islet

Hi Greig, any update? How is it looking for a statement by Friday morning?
Katherine

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX [<mailto:Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: November-28-14 4:13 PM
To: 'Katherine Gordon'
Subject: RE: Interview request with Minister Thomson re Grace Islet

Katherine –

The ministry is currently engaged in a resolution process with First Nations and the landowner at Grace Islet, limiting the information we can release at this time.

We're committed to finding a solution that works in everyone's interest. Beyond that, the ministry has no further comment as discussions are ongoing.

However, we still might be able to arrange an interview with the Minister depending on when your deadline is. Please advise.

Cheers,

Greig Bethel
Public Affairs Officer
Media Relations
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Office: 250 356-5261
Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

From: Katherine Gordon s.22
Sent: Friday, November 28, 2014 3:55 PM
To: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Interview request with Minister Thomson re Grace Islet

Greig, once I know the Minister is confirmed for an interview, I will send specific questions in advance. They will concern, as I have already noted, the political approach to the issue as to why First Nations burial sites are treated differently to other cemeteries and the threatened launch of an aboriginal rights lawsuit. However, if he is not available for an interview, there is no point.

Please advise.

Thanks,
Katherine

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX [<mailto:Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: November-28-14 3:46 PM
To: 'Katherine Gordon'
Subject: RE: Interview request with Minister Thomson re Grace Islet

And the specific questions are ... ?

Greig Bethel
Public Affairs Officer
Media Relations
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
Office: 250 356-5261
Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

From: Katherine Gordon s.22
Sent: Friday, November 28, 2014 3:36 PM
To: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Interview request with Minister Thomson re Grace Islet

Hi Greig,
Yes, I will have specific questions for the Minister.
Regards
Katherine

From: Bethel, Greig GCPE:EX [<mailto:Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: November-28-14 2:37 PM
To: 'Katherine Gordon'
Subject: RE: Interview request with Minister Thomson re Grace Islet

Howdy Katherine –

Do you have specific questions?

Greig Bethel

Public Affairs Officer

Media Relations

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Office: 250 356-5261

Greig.Bethel@gov.bc.ca

From: Katherine Gordon s.22

Sent: Friday, November 28, 2014 1:55 PM

To: GCPE FLNR Media Requests GCPE:EX

Subject: Interview request with Minister Thomson re Grace Islet

Good afternoon,

I am working on a feature article for Focus Magazine regarding Grace Islet. I would appreciate a short telephone interview with the Minister regarding the Province's approach to the situation and response to the call by First Nations to prevent the building of a private home on the island.

Regards

Katherine Palmer Gordon

Author/Freelance Writer

(250) 247-7285

<http://www.gobc.ca/gabriola-island-travel/katherine-palmer-gordon> 431

<http://www.harbourpublishing.com/title/BornwiththeSongsInsideUs>

ADVICE TO MINISTER

**CONFIDENTIAL
ISSUES NOTE**

**Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural
Resources Operations**

Update: Nov. 25, 2014

Minister Responsible: Hon. Steve Thomson

Grace Islet (Ganges Harbour – Saltspring Island)

ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **We understand the cultural and historic significance of this site to First Nations.**
- **The Heritage Conservation Act is designed to balance the Province's obligation to protect First Nations' archaeological sites, while respecting the rights of private property owners.**
- **Recognizing the significance of the site to local First Nations, we're working with the First Nations and the landowner on an alternative resolution.**
- **I recognize that it is taking longer than initially anticipated, but we remain committed to find a solution that works in everyone's interest.**
- **It would be inappropriate for the ministry to discuss details and/or speculate on an outcome at this time, as discussions are ongoing.**

KEY FACTS REGARDING THE ISSUE:

UPDATE: On Nov. 21 and Nov. 24, Minister Thomson reached Chief Vern Jacks of the Tseycum, Chief Don Thom of the Tsartlip and Chief William Seymour of the Cowichan Tribes and informed them that the Province was moving forward with looking at long-term conservation options, had a mandate to help with a resolution of the situation and had retained two consultants to engage with the First Nations more fully on process and long-term options for Grace Islet.

s.13, s.16 s 17

Background:

Local First Nations and Saltspring Island residents want the province to suspend site alteration permits issued under the Heritage Conservation Act with regard to a development on privately owned Grace Islet in Ganges Harbour on Saltspring Island. They have been raising their concerns with local governments, the Province and media since late June.

Grace Islet contains at least 16 burial cairns. Ganges Village is part of the same broader archaeological site that encompasses adjacent Grace Point and Grace Islet.

Under the Heritage Conservation Act, land users are required obtain a site alteration permit from the

archaeology branch, which guides development on archaeologically sensitive sites. This process is designed to ensure development in an archaeologically sensitive area does not negatively impact archaeological values.

On Sept. 17, 2013, the Archaeology Branch approved amendments to the site alteration permit allowing the property owner to continue development on Grace Islet. The permit amendments included extending the expiration date to Nov. 30, 2016, requiring that all ground alteration activities be monitored by a qualified archaeologist, that architectural features be used to protect the cairns and implementing a restrictive covenant to permanently record the cairn locations and register them on the land title. A covenant has also been registered on the site to ensure the cairns are not disturbed in the future.

There is no appeal process regarding the latest permit amendments. Numerous discussions did occur with both the proponent and First Nations before the Archaeology Branch made the decision to grant the amendments.

The ministry issued a site alteration permit (under the Heritage Conservation Act) that is necessary before the property owner can alter the site by building a house. In doing so, he must avoid the burials. Local First Nations consider the Islet sacred and oppose any development on the site.

CHRONOLOGY

1974 – Grace Islet registered as an archaeological site.

1990 – current owner purchased the property

1991 – Capital Regional District issued water and sewer permits

March 2007 – Archaeology Impact Assessment completed by owner

October 24, 2011 - the Archaeology Branch issued a site alteration permit for the private owner to build a house that avoids the burials by building *over top of* but not *on* them. The branch confirmed that the private owner had done everything required to identify and avoid direct physical impact to the burials, in accordance with the Heritage Conservation Act.

July 9, 2012 Archaeology Branch staff visited Grace Islet with the property owner, his agent and two professional archaeologists to conduct a site visit to confirm reports of work done contrary to the archaeology permit. No First Nations representatives were present at the request of the property owner.

According to staff reports, machine excavation had stripped soils to bedrock over most of the proposed building footprint and been used to make a small access road. The following activities are in breach of the archaeology permit:

- Work done (ground disturbed) within 2 m of rock features
- Failure to mark/flag two human remain sites
- No archaeologist on site to monitor ground disturbing activities

The archaeology branch directed the property owner to suspend activities and informed 13 First Nations (Cowichan Tribes, Halalt First Nation, Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, Lake Cowichan First Nation, Semiahmoo First Nation, Tsawwassen First Nation, Stz'uminus First Nation, Lyackson First Nation, Penelakut Indian Band, Pauquachin First Nation, Tsartlip First Nation, Tsawout First Nation and Tseycum Indian Band) of the incident, requesting comment.

September 2012 the permit holders asked the Archaeology Branch to amend the current Alteration Permit to delete the current co-permit holder, extend the permit expiration date and allow for an analysis of the disturbed materials. First Nations were given an opportunity to provide comments with respect to this request.

Oct. 10, 2012 - Minister Thomson received a letter from the Penelakut requesting the site alteration permit be cancelled. Penelakut continues to write directly to the Minister and requests that the Province purchase the property so that the site may be preserved. Tsartlip and Cowichan officially opposes any

ADVICE TO MINISTER

development on Grace Islet. Tsawwassen supports the request for amendment, but since they recognize that Tsartlip and Penelakut have a greater interest they would defer to those nations, if pressed.

December 14, 2012, the Archaeology Branch issued a permit amendment to the property owner with specific conditions as to the examination of the disturbed materials and precluding any further development on the site pending receipt, review and reconsideration of the report stemming from this examination.

The examination did not find any human remains although mammal bones and a few projectiles were discovered. A final report was prepared and shared with First Nations.

On **May 26, 2013**, a forum with First Nations and community members was held in Ganges to discuss the Grace Islet situation. The Tsartlip, Penelakut and Cowichan First Nations attended, as well as an expert in burial cairns and an area archaeologist. Archaeology Branch staff were also present.

On **June 7, 2013**, Archaeology Branch staff met with the Penelakut and Cowichan First Nations to discuss the situation. Staff suggested the option of moving the cairns closest to the proposed house but First Nations remained adamant that any building on the islet will be a desecration of their burial island, although they did indicate they were interested in carbon dating the contents of one of the cairns to get an approximate age of the site.

September 2013 the permit was again amended to provide additional protection for the burial cairns and to extend the term of the permit until November 30, 2016.

July 10, 2014 – The Capital Regional District voted to lobby the provincial government to suspend the permits.

June to September 2014 – Saltspring Islanders and local First Nations hold rallies and protest to urge government to suspend work at Grace Islet.

July 29, 2014, Archaeology staff and compliance and enforcement staff visited the site due to reports of disturbances to the rock features and non-compliance with dock permits. No damage to the rock features was discovered.

Aug. 13, 2014 – The Capital Regional District debated a motion for the Capital Regional District to expropriate Grace Islet. In defeating the motion, the Capital Regional District pledged to urge the provincial government to expropriate the site.

Sept. 10, 2014 – Rally held outside FLNR executive offices on Blanshard Street to protest work on Grace Islet. Deputy Minister met with First Nation chiefs.

Sept. 2014 – landowner filed court injunction to prohibit protesters from the Islet. After Judge granted a one-month extension to hear arguments from First Nations, the landowner dropped the injunction filing.

Key Messages – Heritage Conservation Act

- The Heritage Conservation Act is designed to balance the Province's obligation to protect First Nations' archaeological sites, while respecting the rights of private property owners.
- The permitting process administered by the Archaeology branch is the same for all landowners. The principle of "developer pays" is long established in B.C. and is similar to other Canadian jurisdictions.

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

Not Responsive

What about Grace Islet?

- We remain committed to a resolution that works in everyone's interest. We are currently in discussions with the First Nations and landowner to resolve the current situation.
- It would be inappropriate for the ministry to discuss details further as discussions are ongoing.

Why did the Province purchase the Departure Bay site in 2008, but is declining to purchase Grace Islet?

- The Departure Bay site was a unique circumstance. Over 100 burials were discovered when the site began to be developed with a high likelihood of more burials on site. There was no option for developing the site. In that instance the province purchased the site and transferred the land to the Snuneymuxw First Nation as part of a reconciliation agreement.

Hill, Edward GCPE:EX

From: Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 5:45 PM
To: Hill, Edward GCPE:EX
Subject: Grace Islet Not Responsive

Hi Ted,

FYI that FLNRO asked for some standard messaging on Douglas Treaty regarding the Grace Islet issue. It is still a FLNRO/JAG lead but could you please touch base with MARR staff working on Douglas Treaty files to see if there is any further background or history we should know about that could inform messaging? I'll let you know if Vivian responds to my question below. Can you please be the MARR comms. lead on this tomorrow? Our goal is to help FLNRO with whatever they need, ensure we receive and review their comm. material and be able to summarize all of it for the MO. Douglas Treaty will be one of your files from now on.

Not Responsive

Thank you.

From: Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 5:36 PM
To: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Grace Islet - update

Standard Douglas Treaty messaging is below but will seek advice from exec. here to determine if/how to customize. Do you know what they specifically stated re: Douglas Treaty?

- **We respect and recognize that Douglas Treaty First Nations have historic treaties.**
- **B.C. consults with Douglas Treaty First Nations on any decision which may affect their treaty rights within their traditional territory.**
- **We are especially aware of the requirement for consultation regarding decisions on the land that affect their hunting and fishing rights.**
- **The Province is actively working with a number of Douglas Treaty First Nations, on a range of topics including modern treaty, strategic engagement agreements and economic development.**

BG:

- The Douglas Treaties are 14 historic treaties with Vancouver Island First Nations signed by the colonial government between 1850 and 1854 and involve a series of 14 land purchases.
- Under each treaty, an area of land was surrendered "entirely and forever" in exchange for cash or clothing. The signatories and their descendants retained existing village sites and enclosed fields for their continued use, the "liberty to hunt over unoccupied lands" and the right to "carry on our fisheries as formerly."

- The 14 historic treaties relate to the following Vancouver Island-based First Nations: Songhees Nation; Esquimalt Nation; Beecher Bay Band; T'sou-ke First Nation; Tsawout First Nation; Tsartlip First Nation; Pauqhachin First Nation; Tseycum First Nation; Kwakiutl First Nation; Snuneymuxw First Nation.
- The following Douglas Treaty First Nations have interacted with the Province over the past year.

Te'mexw Treaty Association

- B.C is actively negotiating with the Te'mexw Treaty Association (TTA), which includes: Scia-new (Beecher Bay), Songhees, Malahat, Snaw-naw-as (Nanoose) and T'sou-ke Nations.
- In February 2013, B.C. announced incremental treaty agreements with the five TTA Nations, which bring economic opportunities and job growth to their communities, while increasing certainty on the land base

s.16

Snuneymuxw First Nation (SFN)

- In early 2011, MARR and SFN discussed options for renewed treaty negotiations, including opportunities for agreements that could be completed in the short term.
- The agreement was finalized and announced in March 2013. The agreement creates economic opportunities for the Snuneymuxw through the transfer of three land parcels, totaling over 877 hectares. These will provide forestry-related opportunities that can be used to generate revenue and to create employment for Snuneymuxw members. The agreement also transfers a culturally significant property in Departure Bay.
- In 2010, B.C. provided \$3 million to the SFN for economic and business development.

From: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 4:28 PM
To: Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Grace Islet - update

Yes pls.

From: Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 4:21 PM
To: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Grace Islet - update

Need anything on Douglas Treaty?

From: Thomas, Vivian P GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 3:56 PM
To: Thomson, Steve FLNR:EX; Strongitharm, Bruce FLNR:EX; Harrison, Scott FLNR:EX; Sheldon, Tim FLNR:EX
Cc: Gleeson, Kelly T GCPE:EX; Gordon, Matt GCPE:EX; Dean, Sharon GCPE:EX; Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX
Subject: Grace Islet - update
Importance: High

FYI, the judge adjourned the injunction application for four weeks “to give the First Nations more time to put their reasons together on why injunction should not be allowed” Also, for the first time, First Nations introduced the Douglas Treaty rights argument. There was also some indications that First Nations may escalate their protests given the province’s unwillingness to act.

Vivian Thomas

Communications Director

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

Tel: 250 356-2475 cell: 250 213-2972

Vivian.Thomas@gov.bc.ca

Hill, Edward GCPE:EX

From: Gunnarsen, Krista A ABR:EX
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2014 11:32 AM
To: Hill, Edward GCPE:EX; Maloughney, Mary Sue ABR:EX; Gilmore, Tena ABR:EX
Subject: RE: Douglas Treaty nations

Hi Tena and her critical incidence team would be plugged in

Krista Gunnarsen
356-8786

From: Hill, Edward GCPE:EX
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2014 11:30 AM
To: Gunnarsen, Krista A ABR:EX; Maloughney, Mary Sue ABR:EX
Subject: Douglas Treaty nations

Hi Krista and Mary Sue

I'm trying to find out if MARR has been in contact with Tseycum First Nation and other Douglas Treaty nations protesting the house construction on Grace Islet.

I'm helping FLNRO draw up messaging and any recent negotiations or interactions would help inform our response to media and stakeholders. Please give me a call when you can.

Thanks

Edward (Ted) Hill
Government Communications
and Public Engagement
Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and
Reconciliation
Tel: 250-356-5831

Hill, Edward GCPE:EX

From: Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2014 9:10 AM
To: Hill, Edward GCPE:EX; Dean, Sharon GCPE:EX
Cc: Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX; Ritchie, Leanne GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: FYI - Grace Islet injunction abandoned

Thanks.

From: Hill, Edward GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2014 9:09 AM
To: Uppenborn, Jeremy GCPE:EX; Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX; Ritchie, Leanne GCPE:EX
Subject: FYI - Grace Islet injunction abandoned

<https://www.facebook.com/graceislet/posts/696036127152904>

Lawsuit ABANDONED against Protectors of Grace Islet!! First Nations rights are human rights. Please keep up the political pressure on Minister Thomson at 250 387-6240 FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca and at his Kelowna-Mission Constituency Office 250 712-3620, and to Premier Clark 250-387-1715 premier@gov.bc.ca or her Westside-Kelowna office 250 768-8426, supporting the demand for a STOP WORK order and long-term protection and ecological restoration of Grace Islet.

Edward (Ted) Hill
Government Communications
and Public Engagement
Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and
Reconciliation
Tel: 250-356-5831