

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

Date: July 13, 2012  
Ref. No. 30108

File: 280-20

- I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation.
- II **ISSUE:** Minister Polak has been invited to co-present with Grand Chief Ed John at the First Nations Public Service Secretariat's *Symposium for BC First Nations: Skills Building for Governing*

CN/ED	
ADM	<i>lg</i>
DM	<i>mm</i>

III **BACKGROUND:**

In 2008 First Nations leaders in British Columbia directed the development of a province-wide Capacity Building Strategy intended to expand human resource development and capacity of the First Nations public service. The First Nations Public Service Secretariat (FNPSS), an initiative of the First Nations Summit Society (FNSS), was established to implement this strategy.

The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) provided \$585,000 to the FNPSS between 2007 and 2009 to support its Courage to Excel strategy to increase First Nations public service competencies.

The FNPSS has entered into agreements with a number of organizations with expertise relevant to public service, including the Institute of Public Administration of Canada, the Canada School of Public Service, and the Association of Records and Information Managers and Administrators.

In February 2012, FNSS, the FNPSS, and the Province, represented by MARR, and the British Columbia Public Service Agency (BCPSA), signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to strengthen the professional capacity of British Columbia First Nations' Public Service to deliver services for First Nations communities and organizations. It will also improve Aboriginal relations and support the British Columbia Public Service in building its capacity to work effectively with First Nations

Not Responsive

The MOU lays the groundwork for two-way job shadowing, work exchanges and sharing of human resource expertise. The MOU commits the parties to collaboratively prepare annual work plans that will draw on existing in-kind resources and programs.

One of the early actions being undertaken under the MOU by MARR and the BCPSA is the provision of largely in-kind support to the FNPSS as it plans for and delivers the *Symposium for BC First Nations: Skills Building for Governing*. A one-time amount of \$15,000 was provided by MARR in fiscal 2011/12 to support FNPSS Symposium planning.

The Symposium will be held at the Executive Airport Plaza Hotel in Richmond. The Minister is invited to speak between 1:00pm – 1:30pm on October 29, 2012, with Grand Chief Ed John about the MOU

Not Responsive

#### IV DISCUSSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

#### V CONCLUSION:

Attendance by the Minister's would present an ideal opportunity to affirm government's commitment to building a new, strengthened government-to-government relationship through improved public service capacity within both the British Columbia public service and the First Nations public service. Additionally, related initiatives such as the British Columbia Aboriginal Youth Internship Program and the Building Public Service Capacity in Aboriginal Relations initiative could be showcased as part of a larger commitment to shared capacity and relationship development.

Not Responsive

Drafter: Jan Gottfred, Director, 250 356-5223

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MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

Date: August 29, 2012

Ref. No. 30409

File: 280-20

I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak

II ISSUE:

September 5, 2012, meeting with Chief Ernest Campbell of the Musqueam Indian Band regarding the Marpole Midden

III BACKGROUND (Update Only):

At a meeting in Vancouver on August 29, 2012, the Musqueam Indian Band, as represented by Councillor Wade Grant and others, but not Chief Campbell:

CN/ED	
ADM	✓ PN
DM	CP

s.13, s.16, s.17

At a separate meeting in Vancouver on the same day, Gary and Fran Hackett, and Sean Hodgins (the Developers):

s.13, s.17

s.13

IV DISCUSSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.16, s.17

## V CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the Minister:

s.13, s.16, s.17

Peter Walters, ADM, 250-387-6838

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Pages 5 through 6 redacted for the following reasons:

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s.13, s.16, s.17

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

Date: Aug 28, 2012  
Ref. No. 30347

File: 280-20

- I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister
- II ISSUE: Meeting with Minister Polak, Minister Thomson and Dallas Smith President, Nanwakolas Council Society
- III BACKGROUND:

BC and Nanwakolas Council Society (NCS) have built a strong and positive relationship over the last two decades. This relationship has been documented through a series of agreements. These include the enabling process for the Central Coast Land and Resource Management Plans in 2001, the conclusion of the Great Bear Rainforest Land Use Planning Agreement-in-Principle and Collaborative Management Agreements in 1996, the first Strategic Engagement Agreement (2009) and most recently the 2011 Reconciliation Protocol (RP).

NCS is made up of nine KwaKwaka'wakw First Nations located on Northern Vancouver Island, of which six are signatory to the RP. The RP was revised with an expanded Forestry Schedule in November of 2011.

s.13, s.16

The primary reasons indicated for the meeting are:

s.13, s.16, s.17

- IV DISCUSSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

CN/ED	✓
ADM	✓
DM	<i>CHP</i>

s.13, s.16, s.17

V CONCLUSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

Not Responsive

Lindsay Jones, Regional Director Coast, 250-751-3250, G:\Negotiations & Regional Operations Division\Coast Team\280-20  
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s.13, s.14, s.16, s.17



MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

File: 280-20

Date: August 20, 2012  
MARR Ref. No. 30336  
MJTI Ref. No. 68989

I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, and Honourable Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation.

II ISSUE: Meeting scheduled with First Nations Technology Council, on September 5, 2012, in Room 765 – 999 Canada Place, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ED	_____
ADM	_____ ✓
DM	_____ ✓

III BACKGROUND:

First Nations Techonology Council (FNTC) was originally established by the First Nations Summit, but now is mandated by the First Nations Leadership Council. FNTC provides information and programming in the areas of connectivity, information technology, information management, technical capacity building and technical support.

FNTC is a partner in the delivery of the *Pathways to Technology* initiative, the goal of which is to ensure that all First Nations in the province have access to broadband technology. The Pathways initiative is jointly funded by Network British Columbia (Ministry of Labour, Citizens' Services and Open Government), Health Canada, and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. Total funding of approximately \$50 million has been provided or committed. The project is managed by All Nations Trust Company, based in Kamloops. The other key First Nations organizations involved are the First Nations Health Society and FNTC. The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) has ex-officio status on the initiative's steering committee. The majority of the funding will be used under contracts to telecommunications companies to deliver broadband technology to and within First Nations communities. FNTC is receiving \$5 million under this project to provide community technical capacity training support in newly-connected communities.

Earlier this year FNTC was advised by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC) that they would be receiving up to \$4 million over three years to develop and deliver technical training programs to Aboriginal clients, on or off- reserve. FNTC has named this initiative *Project Raven*. The funding is from HRSDC's Skills and Partnership Fund (SPF). The objective of the SPF program is to "enable Aboriginal organizations to experiment and to be innovative by using partnerships to create appropriate labour market products and services for Aboriginal people". There is an expectation within the SPF program that the funded agency will develop partnerships with industry/employers and other levels of government to create

employment opportunities for the program participants. In the case of FNTC, their training is expected to result in employment for at least one-half of the participants.

FNTC has advised that their representatives in this meeting will be:

- Norm Leech, Executive Director
- Denise Williams, Capacity Director
- Carolyn Stock, Project Raven Manager

#### IV DISCUSSION:

Representatives of FNTC met with Ministers Polak and McDiarmid and MLA Donna Barnett on November 3, 2011, to discuss their mandate and their work on technology initiatives including the *Pathways to Technology* initiative.

It is anticipated that the focus of the this meeting will be on *Project Raven*. FNTC will likely be seeking information on provincial programs or contacts with whom to pursue potential labour market funding partnerships for *Project Raven*.

MARR does not have independent access to labour market funding. Provincial ministries with labour market development funding include Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovations (MJTI), the Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Advanced Education.

MJTI's labour market programs are detailed in Appendix 1.

The staff level contact best able to discuss specific program funding opportunities at MJTI is Katherine Rowe, Acting Director, Industry Training Programs. Katherine Rowe can be reached at 250-387-7570.

The MARR contact for FNTC is John Harper, Director, Economic Initiatives. John Harper can be reached at 250-387-2536.

#### V CONCLUSION:

MJTI supports a variety of training programs. FNTC can follow up at the staff level to determine whether there are specific programs that they can access to support their *Project Raven* initiative.

MARR: John Harper, Director, Community Development Branch 250-387-2536  
MJTI Kevin Butterworth, Executive Director, Research and Innovation, 250-356-1894

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MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
AND MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES  
JOINT BRIEFING NOTE

File: 280-20

Date: August 27, 2012  
Ref. No. 30335

I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister

II ISSUE:

Information on casino policy for meeting with Grand Chief Joe Hall

III BACKGROUND:

Gaming has been a longstanding topic of interest at the negotiation table. Some First Nations have made inquiries about establishing casinos on First Nations lands. Citing "existing aboriginal and treaty rights," affirmed by section 35(1) of the Constitution Act, 1982, many First Nations assert that B.C. does not have exclusive jurisdiction over gaming activities in the province. Advocates of this position maintain that First Nations have a right to conduct and manage gaming, and that the Aboriginal right to self-government gives them the ability to regulate gaming activities on First Nations land.

s.13, s.14, s.16

s.13, s.16, s.17

#### IV DISCUSSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

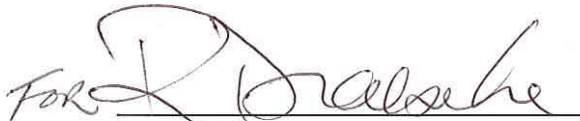
s.13, s.16, s.17



V CONCLUSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.16, s.17



*A/* Peter Walters  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation



Douglas S. Scott  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ministry of Energy & Mines & Responsible for  
Housing

Tiffany Hamilton, Senior Policy Advisor, Strategic Policy Branch, MARR, 250 356-2217  
Rick Caulfield, Policy Analyst, Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch, MEM, 250 387-3948

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Grand Chief Joe Hall.docx

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s.13, s.16, s.17

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
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BRIEFING NOTE

File: 280-20

Date: August 14, 2012  
Ref. No. 30320

I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister

II ISSUE:

Apache Corporation has proposed a meeting between Minister Polak and the Wet'suwet'en First Nation hereditary house chiefs to discuss pipeline-related issues

III BACKGROUND:

CN/ED	✓
ADM	CSF
ADM	PWV

Several natural gas pipeline projects, including the Pacific Trails Pipeline (PTP), of which Apache Corporation (Apache) is the managing partner, will transect Wet'suwet'en traditional territory en route to liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals in Kitimat. The route for Enbridge's proposed Northern Gateway oil pipeline would also cross Wet'suwet'en territory, and in some places would run adjacent to the PTP route.

s.13, s.16, s.17

IV DISCUSSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.16, s.17

## V CONCLUSION:

MARR Skeena Region, in collaboration with Strategic Initiatives Division, will lead preparations for an initial roundtable meeting between senior government representatives and the collective house chiefs. MARR will engage partner ministries through the LNG Steering Committee.

s.13, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.16, s.17

Not Responsive



MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
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BRIEFING NOTE

File: 280-20

Date: August 28, 2012  
Ref. No. 30311

- I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister
- II ISSUE:

Summary of actions taken by regional staff following a July 2012 meeting between Minister Polak and the Seabird Island Indian Band

III BACKGROUND:

CN/ED	✓
ADM	✓
DM	✓

On July 25, 2012 Minister Polak met with John Les, MLA Chilliwack, and Chief Clem Seymour of the Seabird Island Indian Band (Seabird) to discuss:

s.13, s.16, s.17

The July 11, 2012 Information Briefing Note to Minister Polak provides detailed background information on the issues discussed at this meeting.

Not Responsive

On July 31, 2012 Chief Clem Seymour wrote a letter to Minister Polak, which outlined nine action items that Chief Seymour felt resulted from the July 25, 2012 discussion.

From Chief Seymour's perspective, a number of follow-up items required action by MARR, and these are summarized below:

s.13, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.16, s.17

#### IV DISCUSSION:

On August 9, 2012 MARR staff from South Coast met with representatives from Seabird as a follow-up to the Minister's meeting on July 25, 2012 and in response to Chief Seymour's July 31, 2012 letter.

s.13, s.16, s.17

#### V CONCLUSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

Not Responsive

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

File: 280-20

Date: July 11, 2012  
Ref. No. 30144

- I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister
- II **ISSUE:** Background information for a meeting between Minister Polak, John Les  
MLA and Chief Clem Seymour of the Seabird Indian Band
- III **BACKGROUND:**

CN/ED	✓
ADM	✓
DM	✓

Chief Clem Seymour requested a meeting with Minister Polak in a letter dated  
June 13, 2012 to discuss:

s.13, s.16, s.17

#### IV DISCUSSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

#### V CONCLUSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

Not Responsive

Peter Jones, Regional Manager (South Coast), 604-582-5258, G:\Negotiations & Regional Operations Division\Coast Team\280-20 Briefing Notes\Information Notes\Seabird, 30144.docx

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

Date: August 14, 2012  
Ref. No. 30310

File: 280-20

- I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister
- II **ISSUE:** Follow-up meeting between Minister Polak and representatives of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners LP regarding their Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion

III **BACKGROUND:**

Kinder Morgan Energy Partners LP (Kinder Morgan) is the largest independent owner and operator of petroleum product pipelines in North America, transporting more than two million barrels a day of petroleum products through a network of over 40,000 kilometers of pipeline. The company also owns 180 terminals that store or handle a variety of products and materials such as gasoline, jet fuel, ethanol, coal, petroleum coke and steel.

The Trans Mountain Pipeline (TMx) system has been in operation since 1953. The existing TMx transports approximately 300,000 barrels per day (bbls/d) of various crude products some 1,150 kilometers from Edmonton, Alberta to marketing terminals and refineries in central British Columbia, the Greater Vancouver area, and the Puget Sound area in Washington.

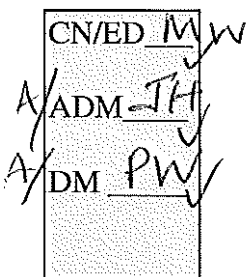
In April 2012 Kinder Morgan completed an open season call which resulted in firm new capacity demands for additional oil transportation capacity.

Kinder Morgan is proposing to expand the capacity of the existing TMx pipeline from 300,000 to 750,000 bbls/d. The proposed TMx expansion would result in 900km of new pipeline, new and expanded pump stations along the pipeline route, additional storage terminals and an expansion of the Westridge Marine Terminal in Burnaby, BC. The TMx expansion is projected to cost \$4.1 billion.

Key estimated project development timeframes are:

June 2012 – filing of commercial toll application to National Energy Board  
Late 2013 – filing of facility application to National Energy Board  
2014/15 – regulatory review of project  
2016/17 – construction of TMx expansion  
2017 – in-service operation of TMx expansion

Subsequent to the April 2012 completion of the open season, Kinder Morgan began communication and outreach to First Nations and other communities potentially impacted by the TMx expansion proposal. A public website has been developed for the TMx expansion which includes updates and information related to the proposal, but also more general information about the company and its safety record.



#### IV DISCUSSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

#### V CONCLUSION: Suggested messaging for meeting:

s.13, s.16, s.17

Giovanni Puggioni, Executive Director, 250-952-0530

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MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

File: 280-20

Date: August 20, 2012  
Ref. No. 30309

I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak

II ISSUE:

August 29, 2012, meeting with Minister Steve Thomson, and Gary and Fran Hackett, owners of the site of the proposed Century Group development on the Marpole Midden

CN/ED	
ADM	✓
DM	✓

1x/

III BACKGROUND (Update Only):

On August 15, 2012, the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO):

s.13, s.16, s.17

On August 17, 2012, a Musqueam representative advised that:

s.13, s.16, s.17

IV DISCUSSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

## V CONCLUSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

Peter Walters, ADM, 250-387-6838

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Midden.docx



MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

File: 280-20

Date: August 15, 2012  
Ref. No. 30307

I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister

II ISSUE:

We Wai Kai (Cape Mudge) First Nation request to discuss their Campbell River Shipping Port project

III BACKGROUND:

The We Wai Kai First Nation (WFN) have actively been pursuing several economic ventures within the Campbell River area. One key economic initiative is the establishment of a shipping port facility referred to as the Middle Point Harbour Limited Partnership.

s.13, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.16, s.17

IV DISCUSSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.16, s.17

## V CONCLUSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

Not Responsive

Luigi Sposato, Acting Regional Director, Coast, 250-751-7264, G:\Negotiations & Regional Operations Division\Coast Team\280-20 Briefing Notes\Information Notes\We Wai Kai 30307.docx

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

Date: August 14, 2012  
Ref. No. 30273

File: 280-20

- I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister
- II **ISSUE:** Representative for Children & Youth's report "*Aboriginal Children: Human Rights as a lens to Break the Intergenerational Legacy of Residential Schools*"
- III **BACKGROUND:**

CN/ED	✓
ADM	✓
DM	✓

In July 2012, the Representative for Children and Youth (the Representative) submitted to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) the report, "Aboriginal Children: Human Rights as a lens to Break the Intergenerational Legacy of Residential Schools" ( Not Responsive

The report offers a human rights framework and child rights lens to situate and contribute to the dialogue on residential schools; in effect linking historical experiences to the present. The report identifies that it was the absence of such a framework and lens that created an education system that caused harm to Aboriginal children and the inter-generational trauma for children and communities across Canada.

The report provides historical accounts of abuse of children in institutional settings experienced not only in Canada, but also in other countries, such as Ireland, the Netherlands, and Australia. It provides a useful historical overview of the shifts in societal attitudes toward children and Aboriginal people, and corresponding changes in international human and child rights initiatives and declarations. As greater recognition of children's human rights has taken place, so has awareness increased of the systemic and wide-spread emotional, physical, spiritual, cultural and sexual abuse that Aboriginal children experienced in residential schools.

The report highlights specific United Nations treaties that are important to Aboriginal children, with particular attention given to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Attention is given in the report to the importance of promoting and monitoring human rights implementation for Aboriginal children, and providing children with appropriate mechanisms for redress.

The Representative urges the TRC in their final report to probe more deeply the impact that residential schools have had on current Aboriginal children. Her report emphasizes how Aboriginal children today bear the legacy of colonial policy and the residential school era, which is corroborated by the higher rates at which Aboriginal children experience the lack of social determinants of health, such as poverty, infant mortality, and suicide.

The report acknowledges the strengths and resilience of Aboriginal children while also identifying the need for them to receive holistic support to move beyond trauma and reach their full potential.

#### IV DISCUSSION:

Reconciliation is central to the business of the Ministry. The Representative identifies questions that are useful for applying a child-centred lens to our reconciliation work (Appendix 2). At present, the Ministry engages and supports Aboriginal youth in two ways: by working directly with First Nations communities through community development practices, including youth empowerment, and by providing annual funding and support to provincial Aboriginal youth organizations, including supporting opportunities for their leadership development and inclusion in policy discussions in areas that are important to them.

The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child is reviewing Canada's UNCRC implementation in 2012 and will likely pay close attention to how well Canada has progressed since 2003 in complying with implementing Aboriginal children's rights. The Representative stands behind full implementation of UNCRC articles, as well as the recommendations set out in the Canadian Council of Child and Youth Advocates 2011 Special Report to ensure that Aboriginal children experience full implementation of their human rights.

She also strongly advocates for a revitalized Aboriginal education system that embraces children's rights, for the creation of a national research institute for Aboriginal children, and the proper management and access to records pertaining to Aboriginal people and children, particularly children in State care, to ensure Aboriginal people have access to justice.

#### V CONCLUSION:

As the Province continues to work toward reconciliation with Aboriginal people, and heal relationships, there is also an opportunity to create greater understanding of the experiences of today's Aboriginal children and youth and to increase their visibility and their opportunities to participate in reconciliation processes.

Not Responsive

Stephanie Gabel, Senior Advisor, 250-356-9106

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s.13, s.16, s.17, Not Responsive

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

Date: August 9, 2012  
Ref. No. 30260

File: 280-20

I Prepared for the INFORMATION of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister

II ISSUE: Establishing a tripartite "technical" working group on legal certainty

III BACKGROUND:

Legal certainty<sup>1</sup> was one of six topics identified by the Common Table First Nations (CTFNs) as an obstacle to concluding treaty. While exploratory discussions during the Common Table process in 2008 did not result in agreement on new policy options, the parties identified legal certainty as one of the topics that could benefit from further exploration.

s.13, s.14, s.16, s.17

IV DISCUSSION:

s.13, s.14, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.14, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.14, s.16, s.17

## V CONCLUSION:

s.13, s.14, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.14, s.16, s.17

Mary Sue Maloughney/Andrew Vesely Governance and Government Relations, Strategic Policy Branch, 250-356-9641 or 953-3374

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MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE



Date: July 25, 2012

Ref. No. 30237

File: 280-20

- I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak
- II ISSUE: Northern Nations (Stikine)
- III BACKGROUND:

The Ministries of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) and Children and Family Development (MCFD) are engaged in a number of initiatives with the Northern Nations.

CN/ED	
ADM	
DM	

The Northern Nations are: Kaska Dene (centred in British Columbia near Lower Post); Taku River Tlingit (centred in British Columbia near Atlin); and Tahltan (centred around Dease Lake).

s.13, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.16, s.17

#### IV DISCUSSION:

- MARR is working with the Northern Nations to contribute to reconciliation and support the BC Jobs Plan.

s.13, s.16, s.17

#### V CONCLUSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

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MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

Date: July 20, 2012  
Ref. No. 30233

File: 280-20

I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak

II **ISSUE:** Gathering Around the Fire - a Northern Nations reconciliation and healing commemorative event

III **BACKGROUND:**

CN/ED	_____
ADM	_____
DM	<u>        </u>

Since 2008 Taku River Tlingit, Kaska Dena Nations, and the Tahltan Nation have worked in partnership in the interests of their children, youth and families. The Stikine Wholistic Working Group was appointed by the three Nations to facilitate the work at the community level. The Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) provided funding for this work.

In 2010 a historic agreement was signed by the three Nations and government (represented by MCFD).

The three nations were then approached by government regarding their interest in working towards a Northern Nations Region Reconciliation Agreement between the three nations and BC government.

During those discussions the leaders of Kaska, Taku River Tlingit and Tahltan Nations raised the historic harm caused by and the continued negative impact of the Lower Post Residential School.

A working group comprised of the three Northern Nations worked together to coordinate and plan the community based healing process and the Lower Post Commemorative Event.

A funding proposal was submitted to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Gathering Around the Fire event was planned for August 2012.

IV **DISCUSSION:**

Many children from each of the Northern Nations attended the Lower Post Residential School and the experience was traumatic and harmful to majority of those who attended.

This has resulted in psychological problems, and negative social and emotional impacts on families and communities over generations. Alcohol, drugs, physical and sexual abuse, suicides, and mental illness are some of the resulting issues the communities struggle with on a daily basis.

The old residential school building in Lower Post that now houses certain community activities is a painful and ongoing reminder of the past.

The planning included consideration that the reconciliation and healing commemorative ceremony must not cause further harm or trauma, and thus include thorough preparation and support prior to the event, support at the event and follow up after the event.

## V CONCLUSION:

The commemorative ceremony at Lower Post will be one step in the healing process.

Participants of a planning workshop, also determined that healing and trauma requires ongoing work at many levels.

Through the planning process it was also noted that healing any historic mistrust between Nations, and hurts within and between communities and families, are important elements of reconciliation between the Northern Nations, Canada and British Columbia.

This is an opportunity for the government of British Columbia to acknowledge the impact of the Lower Post Residential School on the people of the Northern Nations and demonstrate continued commitment in supporting their visions and goals in developing healthy and strong communities for their children, youth and families.

Not Responsive

Drafter: Tracy Smythe, g:\atn\_pcr\david's group\briefing notes\30233 bn gathering around the fire.docx

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS  
AND RECONCILIATION  
BRIEFING NOTE

File: 280-20

Ref. No. 30232  
X-Ref. No. 30237

I Prepared for the **INFORMATION** of Honourable Mary Polak, Minister

II ISSUE:

August 12, 2012 meeting with Kaska Dena Council to discuss the establishment of an Oil and Gas Working Group

CN/ED	✓
ADM	✓
DM	<i>DM</i>

III BACKGROUND:

The Kaska Dena Council (KDC) represents the interests of Kaska members resident in BC primarily in the Kaska communities of Fort Ware, Good Hope Lake, and Lower Post in treaty and Incremental Treaty Agreement negotiations. The KDC also speaks on behalf of the BC Kaska members in their Strategic Engagement Agreement (SEA) and Forest Consultation and Revenue-Sharing Agreement (FCRSA) negotiations. KDC members are part of the larger Kaska Nation, which includes the Liard First Nation and the Ross River Dena Council, both based in the Yukon.

On June 26, 2012, KDC sent a letter to Minister Polak expressing their interest in establishing an oil and gas working group to begin exploring the socio-economic and resource revenue sharing benefits related to oil and gas activity in the Liard Basin reservoir. The Liard Basin reservoir is located in northeastern BC, north-west of Fort Nelson and within Kaska Traditional Territory. The letter referenced statements made by Apache Corporation respecting their proposed activities in the Liard Basin.

IV DISCUSSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.16, s.17

## V CONCLUSION:

s.13, s.16, s.17

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Pages 53 through 54 redacted for the following reasons:

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s.13, s.16, s.17

s.13, s.16, s.17, Not Responsive