



Ta'an Kwach'an Council

Lands Act

Elder's Council Jan 16th, 2018: facilitated meeting notes from flipcharts

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Hopes and Aspirations

- Original Lands Act: have we identified what worked and what did not work?
 - It needs to come back to community
 - What changed between the various drafts?
 - Does it still resonate with citizens?
- Failure to do anything has a price to pay
- When this process started, we had a community plan. Where does that fit today?
 - You need to look at the original plan to see what mattered to citizens
 - Try and create a visual realization of today with GIS perhaps
- Start with a mandate, a vision. It already exists in our final agreement and needs to be connected to the law
- Citizens need to take ownership of this process
- There is an issue of trust
- Without an act, we are missing opportunities like collecting from a tax-base
- It needs to be rooted in understanding of the Final Agreement
- Process advice: it all starts with trust
 - Leap of faith
 - Common vision
 - Sharing and caring
 - Respect as the foundation
 - All of these must be earned, and are not necessarily given
- In the first draft, there was a sense that our land was opened up to other people and people reacted feeling they needed to gain control again
- And today we are paying: why are we paying again? This does not seem fair
- There needs to be a clear relationship between the Act and the Registry
- Yes, you must include citizens. And recognize that you cannot make a horse drink the water. At a certain point, we need to move on
- Why should a citizen participate?
- Where does Council fit in all of this?
- Council: they have a legal obligation with implications on citizens
- Keep the Act short and sweet
- Do not put special Provisions in the act
- Be clear about the relationship between the community plan and a Lands Act
- Can we blend the Lands and Community Acts together?
 - And can regulations and policies fit underneath?
- There is a sense of frustration, this has taken a long time. And are we really starting from scratch again?
- Citizens are feeling a lack of connection to the land

- Like the City of Whitehorse, have a process start and be clear and when it ends, and then review. But the point is we need to stop talking at a certain point make a decision and move forward
- We need to take direction from the Final Agreements and implementation, Citizens need to know. What about youth? Can we better use the newsletter?

Review of December Community Feast

- Legislation is about protecting your assets. People need to understand that.
- Is there a perception that Whistle Bend is settlement land? There needs to be an understanding between fee simple and settlement land
- Without a Lands Act, there is lost opportunity
- Council needs to just make a decision for once
- A good process must have an endpoint, timeline matters and we need to tell people that and stick to it. Yes be inclusive, yes give everyone a chance to participate, and yes be clear when the process is over and a decision needs to be made.
- Do not draw out the process.
- Let us not be confused about the point of consultation, it is not to reach consensus.

Additional Thoughts

- There needs to be a deadline and endpoint
- All voices need the opportunity to be heard
- Consider the needs of all citizens
- I am really frustrated with how long this is taking. We have been at this for years and years. And we're just starting again?
- Without a Land's Act, we cannot get anywhere. This must be a priority
- Community meetings must lead to an actual decision
- I want to know why Council is doing this and why now? And why hasn't stalled out?
- I feel many Councils do not work well together and often get stuck in those who are 'for' and those who are 'against'? Is there a structural issue we need to examine?
 - We need to learn to work together better
- Consultation needs a time frame. If no decision then this conversation should be delegated to a special 'Lands Council'; depoliticize it, just like education