





Village of Port Alice



Alert Bay ``Home of the KILLER WHALE"



Kwakiutl First Nation





Da'naxda'xw / Awaetlala





Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw



Tlatlasikwala



NORTH ISLAND REGIONAL PROTOCOL AGREEMENT (Mount Waddington Region)

March 17, 2010 Port Hardy, British Columbia

Memorandum of Understanding:

NORTH ISLAND REGIONAL PROTOCOL AGREEMENT

This agreement made this 17th day of March 2010.

Between: The Regional District of Mount Waddington;

the District of Port Hardy;

the Town of Port McNeill;

the Village of Port Alice and

the Village of Alert Bay.

And: The Kwakiutl First Nation;

the 'Namgis First Nation;

the Da'naxda'xw / Awaetlala First Nations;

the Kwik'wastutinuxw Haxwamis First Nations;

the Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw Nation;

the Quatsino First Nation, and;

the Tlatlasikwala First Nation.

(the parties)

Preamble:

All First Nation members and residents of the Mount Waddington region trace their origins to societies of different cultural traditions, beliefs and values; and

The parties have distinct institutions, authorities and responsibilities towards their members and residents and acknowledge that the interests of all persons living in their respective communities are best served by working together in the spirit of cooperation; and

With this protocol, the parties seek to establish a cooperative framework that will lead to bi-lateral or multiparty agreements to address specific issues of mutual interest or concern.

The Mount Waddington region, for the purpose of local government administration and First Nation traditional territories, is identified by the map in Appendix "A".

Article 1 – Mutual Recognition and Cooperation

- 1.1 The parties recognize First Nations as original owners of lands within the boundaries of the Mount Waddington region, respect their aboriginal rights and title to their traditional territories and respect each First Nation's duly and properly constituted system of self-governance.
- 1.2 The parties recognize, acknowledge and respect the local governments as duly and properly constituted local governments under the legislative authority of the Government of British Columbia.
- 1.3 The abiding principle of cooperation between the parties shall be mutual respect and recognition.

Article 2 – Maintenance and Strengthening of Relationships

- 2.1 The parties agree that they will meet as needed collectively or in smaller groups to promote and encourage open and constructive dialogue.
- 2.2 The parties agree to inform one another on their respective governance protocols and processes to the end of maximizing mutual understanding.
- 2.3 Interested parties may explore and initiate protocols or policies of mutual social, economic, cultural and environmental importance.
- 2.4 The parties agree to meet collectively as needed to review and update this protocol, which is intended to be a living document.

Article 3 - Inclusion and Information of the Community at Large

3.1 Each party agrees to disseminate information or reports resultant from this agreement to their communities through their respective institutions.

Article 4 – <u>Living Document</u>

- 4.1 This document is intended to be a living document to reflect the relationship between the parties and the addition of new potential signatories.
- 4.2 Any changes to the preamble and articles of this document must be mutually agreed to by all parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as follows:

The Corporate Seal of the Regional District of Mount Waddington

The Corporate Seal of The Village of Port Alice

The Corporate Seal of The Village of Alert Bay

The Corporate Seal of The District of Port Hardy

The Corporate Seal of The Town of Port McNeill

The Corporate Seal of Kwakiutl First Nation

The Corporate Seal of 'Namgis First Nation

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The Corporate Seal of Da'naxda'xw/Awaetlala First Nation

The Corporate Seal of Kwik'wastutinuxw Haxwamis First Nations

The Corporate Seal of Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw Nation

The Corporate Seal of Quatsino First Nation

The Corporate Seal of Tlatlasikwala First Nation

The Corporate Seal of

(Organization Name)

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