

COUNCIL'S CORNER

Winter 2017



*Executive Councillor
Tanya Corbet*



*Executive Councillor
Nikki Jacobs*



*Chief
Bryce Williams*



*Executive Councillor
Laura Cassidy*



*Executive Councillor
Andrea Jacobs*

ʔəy̓ sweyal, Tsawwassen Members.

This quarterly issue of Council's Corner is a summary of Executive Council decisions and updates from October to December 2017.

Building a strong future. Building a strong community.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Executive Council Meeting Schedule

As of November 28, 2017, Executive Council meetings have been changed from Wednesdays to Tuesdays. Executive Council also approved the addition of designated time for policy work to the meeting agendas.

New Chief Administrative Officer

After an extensive search, Executive Council appointed Richard ("Rick") Zerr as TFN's new Chief Administrative

Officer (CAO), effective December 4. Rick brings over 20 years of progressively responsible experience in municipal government operations, including over 15 years of experience as a CAO, Director, and General Management Executive. TFN is pleased to welcome Rick, and we look forward to the value he will add to the Tsawwassen Government.

SharePoint/Collabware Implementation

Executive Council directed staff to move forward with the next phase of an electronic records management project. The project includes the purchase of SharePoint and Collabware software and training for staff, and will ensure the proper management and control of TFN's electronic records.

COMMUNICATION

Branding and Style Guide

Executive Council directed staff to work with Myron Advertising + Design to create a visual brand and style guide for TFN. This project will help bring more clarity and consistency to TFN's communications material through a standard "look and feel." This project will also support the redesign of TFN's website by informing its design and layout.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Delta Police Department — TFN Service Team

Executive Council and the Delta Police Department (DPD) reached an agreement in early 2017 to create a dedicated team of DPD officers on Tsawwassen Lands. In November, Acting Sergeant Roy Garnham assumed his responsibility as the TFN Service Team leader and will be working over the coming months to set up his team and build connections and relationships within the community. This team—whose mandate includes community engagement and partnerships, proactive problem solving and crime prevention, and education and awareness on new and emerging issues impacting the community—will serve as an enhancement to the full police resources and services currently available to TFN.



Acting Sergeant Roy Garnham leads the Delta Police Department's newly-formed TFN Service Team, which is based on Tsawwassen Lands.

Service Plan Layout Changes

Executive Council approved a number of proposed changes to the format and layout of the next Service Plan. These changes—which are intended to make the document more 'user-friendly' and relevant to the readers—will include an overall reduction in the number of pages, increased use of infographics to communicate information, and a greater focus on high-level spending projections and overarching departmental goals.

EDUCATION & TRAINING



Executive Council hosted a joint meeting with the Delta School Board to address the challenges TFN students face in the school district.

Meeting with Delta School Board

On October 4, Executive Council met with the Delta School Board to talk about ways of overcoming the challenges facing Tsawwassen children in the Delta School District. TFN staff gave a presentation on the specific problems that need to be addressed, and there was a productive discussion about how TFN and the Delta School District can work together to implement an action plan to help Tsawwassen children achieve their full potential.

Employment and Training Funding Agreement and Policy

In October, an agreement was reached between Service Canada and TFN to allow for TFN to become a Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS) Service Provider. This new agreement means that TFN will now receive and directly administer approximately \$300,000 in annual federal funding to support the employment and training pursuits of Aboriginal peoples (Members and Non-Members) in the area. Executive Council also approved a new policy for the administration of ASETS funding by TFN in December.

EVENTS

Aboriginal Veterans Day

Under the direction of Executive Council, staff worked with TFN families to prepare and distribute commemorative posters in honour of their relatives who served in World War II. Then, on November 8, Chief Williams and Executive Councillors Andrea Jacobs and Nikki Jacobs participated in an Aboriginal Veterans Day march and ceremony in Vancouver. Tyler Schadow marched proudly with a TFN flag and stood with the flag next to the cenotaph alongside other flag-bearers throughout the ceremony, and Chief Williams laid a wreath on behalf of TFN. The commemorative posters were also mounted and placed on display next to the cenotaph for all to see during the ceremony.



Chief Williams and Executive Councillors Andrea Jacobs and Nikki Jacobs in front of the cenotaph and flag-bearers (including Tyler Schadow) at the Aboriginal Veterans Day Ceremony in Vancouver.

Remembrance Day Event in Ladner

On November 11, Executive Councillor Tanya Corbet participated in Delta's Remembrance Day ceremony, where she laid a wreath on behalf of TFN.

Community Christmas Dinner



Santa and three of his reindeer—Lillie Stark-Jones, Summer Williams, and Maddie Jacobs-Mayall—enjoying the festivities at TFN's annual Community Christmas Dinner.

On December 12, Executive Council hosted a Community Christmas Dinner for Members and their families at the Tsawwassen Springs Golf Course, featuring gifts delivered by Santa and a family photo booth.



Angeline and Terri Ann Splockton sharing a happy moment at the Community Christmas Dinner.

HEALTH

Fraser Salish Regional Caucus

In November, Chief Williams and staff attended the First Nations Health Authority's Fraser Salish Regional Caucus in Harrison Hot Springs. At the three-day gathering of Chiefs and community health experts, TFN took part in dialogue around various health-related priorities and initiatives in the Fraser Salish Region.

HOUSING

Member Housing

Executive Council directed staff to continue supporting Member home construction and development by providing information to Members about rental housing and assisting Members in recruiting professionals for home construction.

Specifically, Executive Council directed Lands Department staff to prepare recommendations for a Member outreach and engagement program, which should include things such as "how-to" workshops and open houses covering topics including: how to get a mortgage, how to build your own home, how to get help from TFN staff with your housing project, what the application process involves, and—for those who wish to rent—how to apply for a rental property.

Executive Council also directed staff to plan and host a "housing fair" in collaboration with professional consultants (such as the Greater Vancouver Home Builders Association) who could bring together builders, engineering and survey professionals, architects, bankers, landscapers, and other relevant service providers.

Executive Council also reviewed a presentation, prepared by Colliers International, detailing the business plan for TFN's multi-family rental housing project. Planning for this project is being informed by the rental housing needs assessment completed in fall 2017. Staff also reported to Executive Council on the federal and provincial funding programs available to support affordable housing projects and efforts to obtain this funding, which will help to offset costs to TFN.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Modern Treaty and Self-Governing Nations Forum with the Prime Minister

On November 1, Chief Williams took part in a meeting between Prime Minister Trudeau and modern treaty and self-governing First Nations. Chief Williams delivered the closing remarks to the Prime Minister on behalf of the modern treaty nations. His speech emphasized the importance of working together to strengthen the implementation of modern treaties. The meeting signalled the start of an ongoing, government-to-government dialogue with the Prime Minister.



Chief Bryce Williams met with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and leaders of other modern treaty and self-governing First Nations in Ottawa in November.

Webinar on Legalization of Marijuana

On October 12, Chief Williams and Executive Councillor Nikki Jacobs took part in a webinar on marijuana legalization hosted by Delta to learn more about the implications of the impending changes to federal legislation.

'Thriving Nations' Governance Conference

Executive Councillor Andrea Jacobs and TFN staff took part in the "Thriving Nations" conference on October 27–28, which was organized by the Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Corporation and Naut'sa mawt Tribal Council. At the conference, staff gave a presentation on TFN's experience with economic development as a modern treaty First Nation. Executive Councillor Jacobs provided a verbal report to Executive Council following the conference.

Visit from Northern Secwepemc te Qelmuw

On November 7, a group from Northern Secwepemc te Qelmuw (NStQ) visited TFN to learn about self-governance and economic development under the Treaty. Executive Councillor Nikki Jacobs led the NStQ visitors on a tour of Tsawwassen Lands. After the tour, staff gave a presentation and answered questions about TFN, and in the evening, the NStQ group watched the Tsawwassen Legislature to see TFN's self-government in action.

Presentation to Te'mexw Treaty Association

Executive Councillor Laura Cassidy took part in a workshop on fisheries for the Te'mexw Treaty Association on November 17. She shared information about TFN's experience with fisheries as a modern treaty nation. She talked about negotiating the fisheries chapter and also reviewed the benefits and challenges of managing our fisheries under the Treaty.

Assembly of First Nations, Special Chiefs Assembly

Chief Williams and Executive Councillor Tanya Corbet travelled to Ottawa in December to take part in the Assembly of First Nation's Special Chiefs Assembly. The Assembly included opportunities to connect with other elected leaders from across Canada. Chief Williams and Executive Councillor Corbet also helped advance resolutions on important topics such as the fiscal relationship with Canada.

Tax Policy Work with British Columbia

Executive Council directed staff to continue working on several tax-related files with British Columbia, including negotiation of a tax sharing agreement for PST revenue.

LANDS

Youth Centre

The Youth Center work has progressed to the detailed design stage. Executive Council has approved the building to be a High Importance Building classification, which means it will survive during an earthquake event with minor damages and will continue to function.



A sketch of the new Youth Centre's rear entrance facing onto the park.

Executive Council approved the commencement of the rezoning process for the lot on the corner of Falcon Way and Tsawwassen Drive to facilitate the development of the Youth Centre in accordance with the Facilities Plan consultation. Lands staff will be seeking comments from the Advisory Council and conducting a public consultation prior to final approval by Executive Council.

TransLink: Draft Southwest Area Transport Plan

In December, Executive Council reviewed the Southwest Area Transport Plan presentation which identifies recommendations related to transit service and infrastructure, regionally-significant cycling corridors, walking access to transit and the Major Road Network. TransLink asked for Executive Council feedback. Executive Council reviewed the proposed bus service changes and directed staff and TransLink to coordinate service changes on Tsawwassen Drive with proposed road closures and inform Members of any upcoming changes well in advance.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Executive Council received a number of comments from Members during the October to December period. These comments were reviewed and discussed in-camera and acted upon as appropriate.

Members can submit comments for Executive Council review and discussion via the comment box at the main administration building reception area, or by contacting CAO Rick Zerr or a member of Executive Council directly.

NATURAL RESOURCES & FISHERIES

Maritime Disaster Training Exercise

On October 25, Executive Councillor Laura Cassidy joined the Canadian Coast Guard, Canadian Armed Forces, Emergency Management BC, and others to participate in a large-scale emergency preparedness exercise in the Salish Sea near Salt Spring Island. The training exercise provided an opportunity for various agencies and organizations to practice a coordinated response in a maritime emergency scenario. This was the largest planned exercise in Canada.

The purpose of inviting First Nations to attend and observe this exercise was to start discussions to see how First Nations could play a role in the future.

TFN Post-Season Fisheries Report 2016

In November, Executive Council received and reviewed the TFN Post-Season Fisheries Report for 2016, which summarizes the details of the 2016 fishing year.

TFN's Food, Social, and Ceremonial (FSC) allocations for 2016 were based on pre-season, in-season, and final in-season estimates. The final FSC catch numbers for 2016 were as follows:

- Chinook: 86 caught of the 625 allocated. (Fisheries were shut down and the underage ineligible for carry-over to 2017 due to conservation concerns.)
- Sockeye: 2,978 caught of the 6,427 initially allocated. (In-season allocation was changed to 1,079 due to conservation concerns.)
- Coho: 64 caught of the 500 allocated. (There was no directed harvest of coho, but some were caught as a by-catch.)
- Chum: 2,495 caught of the 2,498 allocated
- Eulachon: 161 lbs. caught of the 288 lbs. allocated
- Crab: 79,059 caught

The Tsawwassen Harvest Agreement Allocation (Economic Opportunity [EO] fisheries) authorized TFN to sell 10,780 chum salmon, and TFN caught 13,672 chum — 2,892 more than the defined allocation. To eliminate an overage, TFN negotiated to have the Department of Fisheries and Oceans account for this additional harvest by reallocating a portion of the uncaught commercial Total Allowable Catch for Fraser Chum salmon to the TFN EO Chum fishery.



TFN's Natural Resources Department negotiated with DFO to have a portion of the uncaught commercial TAC for Fraser Chum reallocated to the TFN EO Chum Fishery.

Fraser River Dock Access

Executive Council directed staff to prepare a report on matters pertaining to TFN's new dock, including security precautions, accessibility for Members, and restricting access by the general public. The Natural Resources Department will also be undertaking a review of the existing dock policy as part of this work.

STRATEGIC PLANNING



Consultant Jessica Bratty takes notes at one of the strategic visioning sessions held during the 2017 Members' Gathering.

Executive Council and staff have continued working on TFN's Strategic Plan for 2018–2023. In November, Executive Council reviewed the input from the Members' Gathering workshop on strategic visioning. Staff were directed to continue consulting with Members through family meetings and community meetings. Jessica Bratty, the consultant who led the Members' Gathering workshop, was retained to support these consultations. Based on input from Members, staff will prepare a draft plan for review and approval by Executive Council and Legislature in spring 2018.



TREATY

2013-2017 Implementation Committee Annual Reports

Executive Council reviewed and approved the 2013-2015 Implementation Committee Annual Report and the content for the 2015-2017 report. The purpose of these annual reports is to review the Treaty implementation activities carried out by TFN, Canada, and BC.

Final Agreement Amendments - BC Consent

In November 2017, BC completed its consent process for making amendments to the appendices of the Final Agreement (the Treaty). See the Legislature section on page 8 for more details about these amendments. In making these changes, the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Scott Fraser, made the following comments about TFN to the BC Legislative Assembly:

“Hon. S. Fraser: I rise in this House to move the amending agreement to the Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement, British Columbia’s first urban modern-day treaty. The purpose of this amendment agreement is to correct five appendices of the final agreement.”

These appendices contain the legal descriptions of the Tsawwassen lands as of the effective date of the treaty, April 3, 2009. These appendices have some inconsistencies with the legal descriptions of the Tsawwassen lands as registered in the land title office on the effective date. In this treaty, land was transferred to the First Nation both by passage of the law — it’s called statutory vesting — and by land title office registration. The legal descriptions of the land in each must be identical.

The amending agreement will correct this discrepancy and is considered a housekeeping item among the treaty partners. The Tsawwassen Legislature unanimously ratified the amending agreement during its session on November 9 of this year. I’ll take this opportunity to congratulate Tsawwassen First Nation on its ongoing efforts to create a powerful, sustainable economy that benefits its members with jobs and with opportunities.

This treaty is the foundation for the incredible work Tsawwassen is doing to create a healthy community, improve the social well-being of their people and uphold their culture and their language. Tsawwassen demonstrates the power of treaties, and that’s why it’s part of my mandate to re-energize treaty negotiations. Treaty First Nations have increased opportunities for participating in the economy, law-making authority and clear jurisdiction over lands, resources and the wealth and well-being of their communities.”



LEGISLATURE

The Tsawwassen Legislature convened for its Fall Session from November 7 to November 14, 2017. Video recordings of the Fall 2017 Legislature sessions are available for viewing online at <https://livestream.com/tfn>

Amendments to Treaty Appendices

At the Fall 2017 session, the Tsawwassen Legislature passed a resolution consenting to the amendment of five appendices to the Treaty. The amendments updated the legal descriptions and parcel identifiers in the Land Tenure Office to accurately reflect Tsawwassen Lands as of the Effective Date of the Treaty. The amendments were also needed to address outstanding issues from the negotiation of the Treaty, such as the process for adding future accretions to Tsawwassen Lands.

Business Planning

Executive Council and Legislature took part in Business Planning sessions with managers in October. The purpose of the sessions was to provide elected officials with detailed information on TFN's financial position and to present proposals for new programs and projects. Managers will incorporate feedback from the sessions in the preparation of their budget documents. The proposed budget for 2018–2019 will be deliberated upon and approved (with amendments, if required) by Legislature at the Spring 2018 session.

Dual Roles

In response to a resolution of the Tsawwassen Legislature, Executive Council directed staff to arrange for a study to look at whether employees of Tsawwassen Corporations should also be allowed to serve as elected officials.

Economic Development Amendment Act

Executive Council approved Bill 005-2017 the *Economic Development Amendment Act* for introduction to the Legislature on November 7th, 2017 and it was enacted without amendment on November 14th, 2017.

The Bill amended the *Economic Development Act* to:

- remove the requirement that the majority of the TEDC Board of Directors must not be Tsawwassen Members;
- change the requirement for “expert” TEDC Board members to include one board member with significant financial expertise and one board member with significant expertise in land economics or real estate development;
- remove a redundant section and make such other clerical adjustments as were necessary to accommodate the above amendments.

Tax Exemptions

In response to resolutions of the Legislature, Executive Council directed staff to review TFN's distributions given the upcoming end of income and property tax exemptions for Status Members. The possibility of bigger distributions in the future will depend on several factors, such as the value and use of the remaining industrial lands and changes in tax revenue. Staff are also working on other options to support the transition to paying income and property taxes, which will be presented to Executive Council for review and decision.

Resolutions Passed

The following resolutions were passed by the Legislature during the Fall 2017 session:

- R.005–2017 Resolution to implement a TFN mentorship program
- R.008–2017 Resolution to review the development regulations for TFN Members within the TFN Community Housing Area