



BC TREATY COMMISSION

**Join us for our 2008 Conference
October 29-31, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency Vancouver**

**Forging Linkages & Finding Solutions
A BC Treaty Commission Conference for First Nations**

\$250 Early Bird Registration and \$159 special room rate available until October 10 only!

Last year's event sold out before the early bird deadline so register today to avoid disappointment

Travel subsidies are available for those attending outside the Lower Mainland

About the Conference

This Treaty Commission-sponsored conference will bring First Nations together to forge linkages and find solutions to issues facing First Nation communities. Three days are planned to engage First Nations in facilitated and interactive discussions that focus on practical solutions, emphasizing ways in which we can work together to help First Nations achieve their goals of creating healthy, self-sustaining, culturally-vibrant communities. Keynote speakers and special sessions will complement facilitated and interactive workshops on governance, economic development and capacity building.

Keynote Speakers

- The Hon. Michael de Jong, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation
- Stephen Cornell, University of Arizona, Native Nations Institute, Harvard Project
- Grand Council Chief John Beaucage, Union of Ontario Indians
- Chief Kim Baird, Tsawwassen First Nation
- Grand Chief Andy Carvill, Council of Yukon First Nations

Workshops

Interactive workshops on governance, economic development and capacity building will focus on information sharing and generating ideas that will assist First Nations working to develop vibrant communities. Each workshop will be facilitated by subject matter experts knowledgeable on the topic, sharing examples from their experiences and encouraging discussion among workshop participants.

Governance

From negotiating treaties to developing a constitution to implementing a land or custom election code, leaders in First Nation communities have many governance issues to tackle. Discussion will focus on the challenges faced by First Nation communities addressing issues of governance and explore solutions and tools communities have developed to move forward.

Economic Development

First Nation communities in BC are diverse. Varied geography, territory resources, populations and community capacities mean First Nations need to be innovative in identifying ways to create

economic prosperity for their communities. There are many existing and new economic opportunities for First Nations to consider. The workshop will encourage conversation among participants about the economic development opportunities in their communities and identify available resources to help advance development.

Capacity Building

Treaty settlement land, cooperative management regimes, business opportunities and a solid governance structure mean little to a First Nation that doesn't have the people needed to make it all work. Identifying community members and supporting them to acquire the education and skills needed to be the community leaders of tomorrow is fundamental to building thriving communities. Participants will identify the resources their communities have now and those they will need in the future, including the processes to get there.

Facilitators

- Chief Sophie Pierre, St. Mary's Indian Band
- Chief Robert Louie, Westbank First Nation
- Larry Derrickson, Westbank First Nation Councillor
- Dr. Tim Raybould, Chief Negotiator, Westbank First Nation
- Sheldon Tetreault, Director, Governance Advisory Services, National Centre for First Nations Governance

Special Sessions

Community Engagement

The traditional consultation model has changed in the last century. It has moved from consultation to citizen and community engagement, recognizing that people need to be actively involved in the decisions that affect their communities. Chris Corrigan, Process Artist and Facilitation Expert will discuss community engagement strategies. What is community engagement now? What else could leadership be?

BC First Nations Political Leadership Panel

Leaders of BC's Key First Nations Political Organizations will share their views on issues of governance, economic development and capacity building, emphasizing ways in which we can work together to find solutions to help First Nations achieve their goals of healthy, self-sustaining, culturally-vibrant communities. The leaders will present their ideas and take questions from participants.

Presenters

- Grand Chief Edward John, First Nations Summit Task Group
- BC Regional Chief Shawn Atleo, BC Assembly of First Nations
- Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President, Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs

Registration

Visit the Treaty Commission website (www.bctreaty.net) for more information about the conference and to register. Reservations can be made online or by telephone at 604-482-9223 or 1-800-665-8330. Book early to avoid disappointment. Seating is limited and last year's event sold out.