

**Preparing for the Day After Treaty  
Economic Self-Sufficiency:  
Creating and Capitalizing on Treaty Opportunities  
November 14 - 16, 2007**

**Presenters: Chief Bill Cranmer and Michael Rodger, 'Namgis  
First Nation  
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**Presentation 1: Chief Bill Cranmer and Michael Rodger**

CHIEF BILL CRANMER: Hi, I would just like to start by telling everybody about the first written records of when the first sailing ships came up to our territory, 1792. Captain Vancouver met our Chief at Robson Bay in 1792 and travelled up to the village at the mouth of the river and he saw a very industrious, healthy community there. And same thing that was written in the journals was the Spanish ships that came around the northern end of Vancouver Island. Again saw very industrious people, healthy people. And what we're doing here is recognizing that in order to be a healthy community you have to have healthy economic projects to allow you that. We're here to share what we're doing and my colleague has created this presentation on behalf of the 'Namgis, so, Mike Rodger.

MIKE RODGER: Thanks, Bill. I think the first thing to understand, we we're asked to do a presentation on economic self-sufficiency: creating treaty opportunities and capitalizing on treaty opportunities. And what we have here is the 'Namgis approach.

Clearly each of you will have your own approach and we're not saying this is the best approach, this is the way we do it.

I would like to start off with a quote from a very famous president John Kennedy, "Let us never negotiate out of fear, but let us never fear to negotiate". And that I think is really the way 'Namgis, the 'Namgis leadership, their chiefs, their councils always approach business.

Briefly, where is 'Namgis in the treaty process? We've been in treaty negotiations for more than eleven years; we're in an advanced stage of agreement of principle negotiations. We anticipate, you know, so called dirt and dollars on the table in the next several weeks and months. We're not taking the slim AIP approach; we've taken a comprehensive approach so that we have every aspect of the agreement set out so that we know before we get into an agreement of principle, before we conclude an agreement of principle what the treaty is likely to look like.

'Namgis always works to get ahead of the curve. It sets its priorities based on a vision for cultural, environmental and economic self-sufficiency and sustainability. Always at the forefront of the discussion with our council is, you know, how does this affect our environment, our fisheries interest in particular, how is this consistent with culture and is it going to be a long term sustainable kind of activity. All initiatives must conform to those principles and those values. We never wait to be offered from a government, we never wait to be offered from a company, we never negotiate from a kept position of cap in hand. 'Namgis knows its priorities, it sets its own priorities and when there's a developer in its

territory 'Namgis is usually the one that's right out front saying hey, you're in our territory, we need to talk.

We do this through planning, as well we have very, very strong planning initiatives that go on, we understand what's going on in the territory, where the potential is, where the opportunity is. This is just a photograph of somebody working in the territory to actually set out an arborglyph. This is one of our local artists.

'Namgis sees itself as a regional player. It doesn't see itself as just a First Nation or just a small community on Cormorant Island or having just a territory. 'Namgis sees itself from an economic and a cultural and environmental point of view as a regional player. We understand the economic potential of the territory, and this map actually shows a number of projects that we've mapped and many of which we've acted upon to develop.

We plan for development. We have a complete planning department that looks at what's going on and understands what's going on. We meet developers based on the merits of individual proposals and we screen these guys, if they're coming to us and they've got great ideas and great plans well, you know, we want to know who they are, what they are, how they work. And we choose partners based on corporate capacity. We want to know what the balance sheet looks like. We want to know how much money they got in the bank. We want to know how many assets they hold, how deep are they. We want to know about the strength of their management as well. Are they just fly-by-

nighters or are they just breaking out or do they have a great idea and they've got good management or are they really -- do they really have a solid history of strong management.

We also are very interested in their environmental capacity and their community capacity. What is their response to communities? In fact, in recent negotiations with corporations, we've had major international corporations coming to us and saying after they've done deals with 'Namgis, this is the kind of deal that we want to make with everybody that we do business with.

'Namgis has identified a number of economic priorities in their territories and we've acted upon many of them, in fact we've acted upon all of them. We have interests that we're developing in mining, hydroelectric development, tourism, forestry, fisheries and government services.

The question though was always for us, is it a collision of values between ourselves and corporations, or can we find some coinciding goals. And much of our discussion, at least entering into a project with the developer, is finding where we share common values. And we're not afraid to understand that corporations are in it for making money, we're in it for that, but we're in it for a lot more than that as well. And can common ground be found sometimes between these opposing values. Sometimes it may seem that the corporate agenda is different than the community agenda, and we have to look at that and see if we can, we can somehow marry that or does it make sense.

This is one of our projects and in fact, this is the first ship load of sand and gravel that was sent to California from the Orca Sand & Gravel operation that 'Namgis is a partner in. Bill actually went down on the boat with the mayor. We were trying to build some relationships with the mayor of Port McNeill, who doesn't necessarily share our point of views, so we locked them on a gravel boat and sent them down the coast for three days. There wasn't much gambling on that boat.

So what does 'Namgis bring to the table? Leadership - most of all the leadership of 'Namgis know what they want and are very prepared to make the kinds of decisions that are required to get them there. And when we talk about leadership, we're talking about not only the elected leadership in 'Namigis, but also the hereditary leadership. The hereditary leadership plays a very, very important role in leading the community.

Vision - 'Namgis have a very clear vision, and that vision is backed up by solid planning. We also say that 'Namgis are the undisputed champions in terms of understanding all aspects of their territory. We take individual watersheds, we plan watersheds. We know what's going on there in terms of the resources. We know where it fits from a cultural point of view. We know what the economic opportunities in that are. We are the undisputed champions of that.

In the past year we've mapped probably two or three hundred different aspects of the territory. We spend a lot of time and a fair bit of money doing that. At any given day you

can go out in the territory and find 'Namgis working in the territory. They are either swimming down the river counting fish or they are out in the forest seeing what's going on and they are checking out different archaeological or cultural sites. People are always in the territory doing work.

The other thing that 'Namgis has is fiscal capacity. They've taken a very clear and important approach to understanding what their relationship with their community is from a fiscal point of view, making sure that they are always in the black in terms of money. And they also have very good relationships because of this with banks and other kinds of investors.

The other thing they have is strong management capacity. We have a number of highly qualified individuals who work at 'Namgis, either on a contract basis or as full time employees and when we pull our management team together, we have a management team that we think is second to none. And a track record of success. And that track record is building as we speak.

Most importantly, one of our very strong assets is our young and vibrant work force. 'Namgis has, as many First Nations communities have, a young population eager to find good quality jobs in good quality companies and 'Namgis likes to actually be partners in those good quality companies.

And then finally what we bring is clout. We know that when a partner joins up with 'Namgis, that with respect to the regulatory processes, with respect to how they operate with

banks, with respect to how they operate in the community and in the region, 'Namgis has clout.

An objective that we have is full employment and here's just an example of some of our folks who are working at the Orca Sand & Gravel project. In terms of capacity it's all about the team for 'Namgis. And one thing that 'Namgis does not do, is it doesn't create power silos. We don't have a treaty office over here doing one thing and an administration over there doing another thing and a financial management group over there doing another thing and the politicians doing something else.

When we look at 'Namgis and 'Namgis looks at itself, we look at it from how we are all working together and we work very closely as a team. The team includes the community, who have the ultimate say in what's going to happen in their territory, the hereditary leadership, the elected chief and council, the actual administrative or management capacity. And I think one of the biggest things that they have in terms, that 'Namgis has in terms of its capacity is its ability to make a deal.

If there's a deal to be had, and one that makes sense, and one that's going to be profitable and meet 'Namgis objectives, the people who make the decisions about those deals can make that deal. And that's very important.

So what do we look for in a proposed development? Environmental and cultural sustainability are at the top of the list. If they are going to destroy habitat that is important

to fish, for instance, and there's a direct tie back to 'Namgis culture, that's not going to meet the sniff test. And we'll push that business right out of the territory.

We also look for a strong business case, and the case is not based on some idea that, you know, that we have this social agenda, it's a strong corporate case that we look to. We also look to long term viability, we're not looking at projects that are flash in the pan, we're not about to build something, sell it and take a quick bit of cash and that's the end of it. We look at projects that have life spans of thirty-five, fifty, eighty and - eighty years and longer. And many of our investments over the past several years have been just those kinds of investments.

We look to economic and employment benefits for 'Namgis. My times up. We look for an equity stake. So, some of our active investments are Western North America's largest new Sand & Gravel operation, sixty megawatts of hydro power that are currently under development. We're currently accessing up to fifty more sites, not all those sites will make the test, but we're looking at them. We have a hundred megawatts of wind power on the table that we're accessing. We have four hundred thousand cubic metres of forestry under development. We have about eleven commercial fishing licenses and we have a proposal on the table for considerably more. We manage every park, we're into tourism development, commercial services, municipal and other community based services and building capacity.

## **Presentation 2: Edmond Wright**

Thank you, good morning again. I have a few notes here. I usually develop papers and get real organized, but some reason nobody told me to do that, so I didn't do it. They have to tell me before I do it. I make a lot of presentations.

The topic is quite interesting, Economic Self-Sufficiency: Creating and Capitalizing on Treaty Opportunities. In our case, as you are aware, we've been implementing our treaty since 2000. What we have been doing is the development of Nisga'a Government since the effective date, and we believe that development is an investment in our Nations future. We had a lot of opportunities to throw our money around, I guess you could call it, but what we decided to do was move slowly forward.

Nisga'a Nation carried out its strategic priority planning, envisioning through workshops held by Nisga'a village governments and by Nisga'a Lisims Government. These workshops included elected members and their respective administrators. We have also held [native language] Nisga'a, which is our legislative house round tables on sustainable prosperity and self-reliance that continues to move us in the direction that includes economic and business development, along with a strategic priority planning envisioning workshop. We have completed a risk budgeting analysis on the investment of our treaty funds. And we have adopted the Nisga'a settlement trust investment strategy that will ensure that future generations of

Nisga'a will benefit from the treaty funds for their continued development.

I'll touch back on this particular issue later. Before you create and capitalize on treaty opportunities, you must develop a plan, you must also start to undo the years of dependency under the *Indian Act*. That in itself is a major task, that dependency. Also, the first several years of implementation of a treaty is very busy and, as I stated, in the development stage, developmental stage.

The recent strategic plan that we adopted includes legislative amendments. We undid the ties on village government to be able to go to financial institutions to borrow and lever money and we made amendments to our *Financial Administration Act*. We also made amendments to our *Land Act*, we are making amendments to our *Land Act*. *Land Acts*, so that the individual holdings will be fee simple estates.

Today we have village entitlements and nation entitlements. We are now going to a fee simple estate that will be by individuals. This is deliberate so that we can challenge the financial institutions to move away from forever asking guarantees from the Nation, from mortgages on residential housing and so on, businesses within the various villages.

We have to make some changes in our *Economic Development Fund Act* to be able to allow our administrators to higher

approval levels. And also on the groups that we will work with, we will be having contributions and loans on that particular fund act.

Our plan also includes funding. And I talked about the risk budget analysis on our treaty funds, our investment in the Nisga'a settlement trust. We have been clipping along at about an expenditure level of about four percent of the earnings of the trust.

Only recently we've had some bumps. It got started with China's market's messing up some of our earnings. But I think it's important to note that even with a huge amount of money that we're repaying for our loan, and our loan to conclude our treaty was fifty million dollars, after we pay that out in fourteen years, that's eighty four million dollars. Our capital transfer was one hundred and ninety million. That converts to two hundred and eighty four million dollars at the end of fourteen years. So already today we have eighty four million dollars in our settlement trust.

We have decided for a five-year period to provide funding from the trust at an eight percent level, for a five year period. And then move back to a four percent expenditure. This is very important to us, to have that little jump in funding. We want to do some investments, and we've unravelled some of our legislation that will allow that. And our risk budget analysis indicates to us that at the end of twenty-five

years, even with the increased expenditure for a five-year period that we will still have at the end of twenty-five years, three hundred and nineteen million dollars in that particular settlement trust, that our future generations will have. And if they stay within the great planning that we've been doing, that will help.

So, this year in our provisional budget we provided business support funding. We provided employment initiative funding, and in the final budget on the end of October, we provided more funding to go into our *Economic Development Loan - Fund Act*. So all together we're putting about 3.7 million dollars there to help development.

Our business model, you heard our president say yesterday, those that were there, that we have made a policy that we would be arms length from business and economic development. We are involved as political groups, both at Lisims Government, village government levels in the initial stages to initiate a project and then we turn over the business operation to the various corporations. And today under Lisims government there is a Nisga'a commercial group, and that commercial group consists of Nisga'a Fisheries Ltd., Lisims Forest Resources, enTel Communications Incorporated, we have our commercial recreation and wilderness eco-tourism and we have a new hydroelectric proposal - project that they will take over.

The Nisga'a lands are two thousand square kilometres. The Nass area, for our fishing is twenty six thousand square kilometres. The Nass wildlife area is sixteen thousand square kilometres.

These are the areas, not only where the developments under our commercial group can happen but also individuals that want to create opportunities. Our future challenges of course, another sawmill is shut down in the Terrace area and we hear that all over the province. The regional economy continues in a downturn in forestry and in fisheries.

Our future benefits will include our five year expenditure from the settlement trust and increase. We have now joined, asked to be joined on the sharing of transaction taxes so that the revenues will come to us, the PST, fifty percent like others that are entering into the treaties today, will come to the nation. That will be decided on how that distribution will happen within our nation.

The future developments that are happening in our area that we have interest in, the Northwest Transmission line construction proposal will go through about two hundred and forty kilometres of not only Nisga'a lands but Nisga'a wildlife area and Nass area. Now we are getting ourselves involved in discussions on it. One of our villages has been moving along on a mining aggregate operation and continue to do sampling and I've - each of the villages have developed many opportunities

on their own through their own village government, and that, we try to assist. I believe I've used up all my time, I see our facilitator keeps looking at his watch. I'm looking at mine over here.

Definitely, the land issue is very important and we're going into fee simple ownership. All our people, corporations and so on, have opportunities within the two thousand square kilometres to make proposals for licences of occupation and so on, leases you name it. There are restrictions in our constitution on the total volumes of land on who approves, it can be approved in the legislative house, the executive and if it gets a little bit too large it has to go to referendum of the whole nation.

Thank you.

### **Presentation 3: Valerie Cross Blckett**

Hello and welcome to all the guests, elders, conference participants, hosts, speakers, everyone, welcome. I'm excited to be here. I'm particularly excited to be participating in this group, after listening to the wonderful and exciting and encouraging stories from these other speakers here. I would like to thank the BC Treaty Commission for inviting the Tsawwassen First Nation to speak at this conference and on this panel and also their partner the Nisga'a Lisims Government.

I'm just going to add that I've only done this public presentation stuff a couple of times, so I'm a little nervous. So please bear with me and be as supportive as you can be and don't boo until later.

I would also like to thank the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsliel-Waututh First Nations for allowing us to have this conference in their traditional territory. I'm honoured to be here to speak on behalf of my own First Nation, my chief and my council. There is much information to share and I've always been a proponent of sharing our lessons learned, our experiences. There's much blood, sweat, and tears to share. There's much experience to share, our lessons, our successes.

Success, the Tsawwassen Treaty, I'd like to think that it's a success, and I'm really excited about our treaty. And I'd like to share all the different things that we've experienced with all the other First Nations that are considering the BC Treaty process, or are involved in the BC Treaty process or who are not. And we can still share those experiences.

What's the value, our purpose of the journey's that we experience if not to learn from the lessons ourselves or to share those lessons with others. As I mentioned earlier, I too am a Tsawwassen band member. I've been working for my First Nation for five years. Actually about twenty years ago, when I was very young, I worked for the First Nation then and I came back. It's one of those things that you just can't get away from your people.

My grandfather, he was a chief, my uncles, they were chiefs. So it's in my blood to come back and help my people. I lived on the reserve until I was about ten and then I moved away and came back about five - twenty years later and continued to serve my people.

My grandfather, Isaac Williams, he was raised in the long house. He became chief when there was only one dirt road in our small reserve that was oiled maybe once or twice a year to keep the dust down. He and his family used to follow the berry harvest from Delta to Seattle to earn money so that they could put food on the table.

I wonder - where was the economic opportunity for our people then. Grandpa also farmed fields, the non-native farmers across the ditch, they had all this great big fancy equipment. Do you think my grandfather could get that equipment, no, he wasn't allowed to get a loan to get that equipment. So the best he could do was maybe hire those non-native farmers with their fancy equipment to farm his fields. I wonder - where was the economic opportunity for my people then.

My uncles, Uncle Russell and Uncle Benny, worked many jobs and eventually turned to fishing. Fishing with expensive licences were also a challenge to obtain. What happened to our aboriginal right to fish and to barter? The non-natives again were able to get -- purchase these large gill netters and expensive licences when our people were not allowed to get

loans to do the same. I wonder where - was the economic opportunity for our people then.

In the early 90's, as I mentioned, I moved back to the reserve and I saw growth in the surrounding Tsawwassen and Ladner areas. The coal port expansion, BC Ferries, George Massey Tunnel, town houses in Ladner and Tsawwassen, row houses in Ladner, Trenant Square Mall with more and more businesses, Safeway, Save-On, London Drugs, Tsawwassen Mall, Thrifty's, Starbucks, Shoppers Drug Mart and we got Tim Horton's. Expanded City Hall, improved recreation centres, golf courses the list goes on. Yet we were denied water for our development, Tsatsu Shores. Delta it seemed wanted to maintain and control their growth. They wanted to control Tsawwassen; they wanted to manage our affairs. We had no power, no authority over our own affairs and no opportunity. It was simple; no water, no development. There was no economic opportunity for our people.

Our reserve is approximately two hundred and ninety hectares with very little communal land, very little land for development, for growth, for housing, for all of our needs, very limited. So our dilemma is no water, no land, no resources, and no authority over our own affairs, no economic opportunity.

So what did Tsawwassen do to turn the tides of opportunity for our people, what could we do. Everywhere we turned we were denied, everything we tried, we were rejected. So how can Tsawwassen First Nation capitalize on economic opportunities?

For years we were unable to develop our lands because we were refused municipal services, water and sewer from Delta. This is not new news for anybody. Our relationship with Delta has always been stressed over the years.

For years and generations we had little or no control over our land and resources. For years and generations our people suffered the effects of colonialism. Our ability to create wealth on reserve under the impressive *Indian Act* is greatly hampered. There are few economically successful First Nations who operate under the *Indian Act*, to my knowledge. And the nations that are successful have overcome great odds and have leaders that have dedicated their lives to making those successes.

Great economically successful First Nations such as Osoyoos Nation under Clarence Louie's leadership are the exception on reserves, not the rule. Tsawwassen First Nation decided to use the treaty process to make change.

Our collective objective, as a First Nation is to have the tools to become self-sustaining. We wanted our treaty to provide us with enough land, cash, and resources to rebuild our wealth, and it will. More importantly, we have a need for autonomy, so we can end the cycle of dependency that the *Indian Act* has perpetuated. That autonomy will come only from self-governance. The treaty provides us with these tools.

There's also a need to develop better relationships with the governments of BC and Canada and I see the treaty as a mechanism for a government to government relationship that has

been lacking since European contact. It's also an important objective of ours to reconcile our rights and titles with the Crown. The treaty box, to me it's a book of opportunities. It's a tool box that will help my community rebuild itself to its traditional wealth.

As a Coast Salish Nation living at the mouth of the river, traditionally we were very, very wealthy people. The decision, the vision, this journey, this community decision, community mandates with lots of community participation and direction, it was a decision that cost lots of money, as my esteemed colleague here has alluded for his treaty as well.

To maximize our treaty opportunities, to maximize our resources, to maximize our funding we access different types of treaty related measure funding that we used to create analysis of economic opportunities for the future, population growths, program and services development. In the room over there this morning they mentioned about planning now, planning during your negotiations for implementation. Our leadership and our treaty and our people had that vision and we used those funds to try and maximize our treaty to capitalize on it as best we could. This type of funding helps us to manage the high cost of the treaty loans that we were engaging in.

Our community has participated and has been engaged in all aspects of our treaty process from stage one to stage five, where we are today. Almost three years ago our members met twice a month for two years to develop a constitution, again when you want to prepare for implementation the best time is to

start preparing now. And having our people participate in the development of the constitution has saved us two years of work that we would be doing now until effective date. We now have a constitution. And the thing that I find most exciting about that is that my people sat down and they developed their own constitution. How many people can say that they have an opportunity to develop a constitution? I just think it's remarkable, and I'm really excited about that. What a fantastic opportunity.

We had a very high and consistent participation rate in all of our consultation efforts, in fact during the ratification process our members were highly involved and contributed a great deal to our treaty process. Now we have more consultation work to do. We are now working from ratification to implementation. We need to plan for implementation; we've got over twenty-one strategy and planning projects slotted on our plate, a lot of work. And as, it's been said before, we have a small capacity of people that are working on this plan. With all the success so far we really want to keep up the momentum and the excitement that our community has participated in. We count on them for their feedback, their guidance, their cultural experience and their support. Talk about maximizing your treaty investment and capitalizing on your treaty is using your people and getting the direction from them.

On July 7, 2007 the Tsawwassen First Nation ratified their treaty, our economic future changed. We finally have economic

opportunity. We have an opportunity to rebuild. Tsawwassen First Nation used the treaty to create and capitalize economic opportunity, how you may ask. Well let's look at the barriers that we faced in the years passed that prevented us from moving forward with economic development, we had no water, no large land base, no resources and no authority over our own affairs.

Let's explore why the Tsawwassen First Nation -- let's explore why the treaty provides Tsawwassen First Nation on those items, and these are just general highlights of our treaty in general terms.

Water, our treaty provides us with a position on the GVRD, also known now as Metro Vancouver, with the legal, the legal ability to access water, so no longer will water be a barrier for us to pursue economic development opportunities. We will be a member on the board, a First Nation member. That in itself is a remarkable asset for us.

Land, our treaty provides us with an increased land base. Without land there's no opportunity for develop. From two hundred and seventy-three hectares to seven hundred and twenty-four hectares plus the land will own -- the Tsawwassen will own all lands in fee simple. We will continue to have our land management powers as we do now, but the lands will be now -- will be registered in the Provincial Land Title Office. In fact the *Land Title Act* has been amended to recognize the distinct nature of TFN lands as aboriginal lands. Do you know what this means for investors? I mean the security that they now are finding a sense of comfort, perhaps with investing with

Tsawwassen, do you know what this means for people in our community that want to get mortgages? We no longer have to wait years for ministerial guarantees, and the hassle and the things like that, it's remarkable.

Resources, currently undefined aboriginal rights, which are not protected, can potentially be limited in future court cases. Now, under our treaty they will be defined rights within our traditional territory. We have improved economical access to our sockeye fishery as a result of the treaty. Authority over our own affairs, this really is the coup de grace for me.

We will be a self-governing nation, with law making powers, the right to deliver services to our people in a manner that we know suits their needs, not how according to INAC whether they be status or non-status, to all our members, all the powers of a government, a self government. No interference from anyone anymore.

Sounds pretty good doesn't it. Steven Cornell, who's has been involved with the Harvard project on American Indian economic development at Harvard and conducted considerable research to determine necessary conditions for successful economic development among indigenous nations in the US. Cornell describes how First Nations have not been allowed to govern themselves and set institutions that could exercise power effectively. Although, there have been some forms of governments and they do a few things that governments are

supposed to, he states that under these conditions self-government is a little more than self-administration.

The major decisions are made somewhere else, let's see, INAC and well, the First Nation or American Indian Nations simple just gets to implement them, sounds familiar doesn't it. In fact, he found that the key to economic success was self-governance. Even the Secretary General of United Nations, Kofi Annan's comments that good governance is perhaps the single most important factor in eradicating poverty and promoting development. I agree.

I think it's important to add that all of our rights under the Tsawwassen Treaty are constitutionally protected and TFN will be a government, a First Nation Government with a variety of powers, some municipal in nature, some provincial, and some federal. Without treaty -- our current outlook without treaty is not bright. There would be some port related opportunities, but they would pale in comparison to the economic power the treaty provides us. Without treaty we maintain status quo, we'd be looking at about two million dollars a year to sustain our nation with no economic opportunity.

With the treaty we will no longer be fighting for opportunity but will be choosing what the opportunity is for us. We have a lot of planning and strategy work ahead of us. Our future band meetings will no longer be about where will we get the money to fund that youth program or expand the elders program or how will we manage to find money to finance next year's operations. But instead our discussions will be about

how do we want to invest our money, whether China is a good market or not, how to manage our wealth. Those are excellent discussions that I think our people will be looking forward to have. With this treaty the Tsawwassen treaties future is bright.

Ten years from now, ten years from effective date, conservative estimates - conservative estimates have TFN making about ten million dollars in profits annually. Indian Affairs transfers would be far less important. We'll be able to fund our own capital projects, programs and services that will make a difference to our members. Now that is self sufficiency that is self government.

We don't want to waste another generation on negotiations; we want to get to the task of the next generation rebuilding our community. The work to come is overwhelming and it will take time to overcome our problems, and we're not naive about the work that's to come, but we were anxious to get on to making a difference, instead of talking about making a difference.

Ever wonder how your life will be the day after treaty, well I do and I'll be living it. Thank you.