



SHUSWAP NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL
304-355 YELLOWHEAD HWY KAMLOOPS, BC V2H 1H1
TEL: 250.828.9789 FAX: 250.374.6331

MEDIA RELEASE

(Kamloops) PROTEST DOES NOT ADHERE TO PROTOCOL

It is expected that anyone speaking in traditional native territory that the traditional communication protocols be respected; the groups involved in the planned protest at Sun Peaks Resort have purposefully ignored this tradition.

While the Council of Canadians may be excused from this understanding, being that they are not a Native organization, the Union of BC Indian Chiefs certainly cannot. Moreover, both groups should have made the effort to educate themselves on traditional Secwepemc protocol before attempting to act on any Shuswap leaders behalf.

“Secwepemc people will speak for Secwepemc people,” clarifies Chief Ron Jules after confirming that he was not contacted by the UBCIC regarding the planned protest. This sentiment was echoed by Chief Felix Arnouse of the Little Shuswap Indian Band as well as Chief Art Anthony of the Neskonlith Indian Band.

After consultation between the Chiefs of the Lakes Area (Neskonlith, Adams Lake and Little Shuswap Indian Bands), supported by the Kamloops, Whispering Pines and North Thompson Indian Band, it was confirmed that they do not appreciate individuals from other territories to enter their traditional territory and claiming to speak on their behalf.

Protesting is largely regarded as a poor means by which to move forward serious matters of governmental proportions as they pertain to specific land claims. Neskonlith, Adams Lake and the Little Shuswap Indian Bands have developed informed and feasible strategies to address land claim matters not unique to the Sun Peaks area.

This is Exhibit " D " referred to in
the affidavit of Jarvis Alexander
Sworn before me at Kamloops
In the Province of British Columbia
this 1 day of September 2004

A Commissioner for taking Affidavits
for British Columbia



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“It is insulting when outside groups attempt to compromise our efforts in dealing with issues that affect our people in our territory,” says Chief Felix Arnouse.

One would expect that an organization the size of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs would have researched further into the history of the land claim interest in the Sun Peaks area.

If that research would have taken place, they would have learned that the three Indian Bands involved in the Douglas land claim, as it that pertains to the Sun Peaks area, have a strategy in place that does not include protesting and deals directly with the federal government and not corporations.

The fact that they are still supporting a protest proves that they indeed do not understand the feelings of majority of the Shuswap Nations.

Kamloops Indian Band supports the preservation of traditions with regard to hunting and fishing but believe that First Nations need to be mindful that such preservation needs to be addressed within contemporary realities.

“Protests such as this continue to have a detrimental affect on our economic and tourism developments that will be long lasting,” warns Chief Richard Lebourdais of the Whispering Pines Indian Band.

Protesting seems to be accomplishing nothing more then compromising the relationships of neighboring Indian Bands who continue to work towards meaningful ways to settle land disputes.

The Council of Chiefs will be formerly addressing the protest at their meeting on September 1.

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For more information contact Chrystie Stewart, Kamloops Indian Band at 250.314.1596 or Bob Moody, Director of the Shuswap Tribal Council at 250.828.9874