

Highlights (in point form) of the Presentation given by Chief Roger William of the Xenigwet'in First Nation Government at the Tsyl'os Advisory Group Meeting on Nov 24, 2006

- **Thank You all for coming**
- **I have been chief for Xenigwet'in First Nations Gov't since 1991**
- **1988 met with Jack Woodward**
- **Develop Declaration for Nemiah in August 1989**
- **Our membership is close to 400 people**
- **Filed for Aboriginal Trapline Case**
- **Former Chief – Marvin Baptiste – formulated a trapline**
- **Concerns of logging issue**
- **2000 just put phones in**
- **Carrier Lumber agreed not to log in trap line for at least five years as out of court settlement.**
- **1991 – Chilko Study**
- **Media attention to Declaration (Nemiah)**
- **Involve in local people was very interesting**
- **Tough – this study team, land use plan, its under the government...had to get a letter from government, saying that this process is not prejudicing our aboriginal rights and or title.**
- **1992 had several meetings with Logging companies to create a joint venture, too address logging in the Brittany Triangle to deal with pine beetle epidemic**
- **We didn't know the Henry's crossing bridge was being repaired until we got a phone call. Move to Henry's Crossing for 2 months. Met with the logging company, governments and different lodges within our area, met around the campground. We had support from:**
 - ❖ **Carrier First Nations**
 - ❖ **Xenigwet'in**
 - ❖ **Local Lodge owners**
- **Develop Brittany Lake Forest Management Plan**
- **1992-1997 – develop BLFMP and Strategic Forest Man. Plan**
- **Joint Venture with Lignum Logging Company.**
- **Changes of logging would affect our ways of hunting, fishing, etc**
- **Required to always involve our people, take minutes, have meetings, so people are involved**
- **Chilko Study – 2 year process**
- **Protected Area is Tsyl'os Park**
- **Taseko Management Zone was for management process.**
- **A lot of people are not quite involved because of the land question**
- **Voted on Parks, our people wanted to protect our area, so they voted on making it a Park. Protecting area using Parks is one thing, but if we can't use it traditionally because of Parks is another. Through our Woodward & Company Law Firm we made and signed MOU with BC government.**

- **Our Goal is to get our land back**
- **1998 understood and really believed that logging was going to happen in the Brittany Triangle**
- **Rights of First Refusal, was reason why our people voted a very close yes to log in Brittany. After MOF revised their decision in agreement that they can't give us Rights of 1st Refusal, members voted "no".**
- **Title Case – Filed – adding Brittany Triangle to our Trapline.**
- **Court Case area is about 80% of Caretaker Area**
- **As you know were not rich, we won court case cost in 2002...where BC & Canada had to pay our court case costs...starting at cover 50% to begin with and going up to 70% to 80% and back down to 70% through out.**
- **Chilcotins testified regarding who we are**
- **We are only one of the 6 communities**
- **We had to deal with the Government and also to deal with our own people of our court case.**
- **We get referrals or letters of interest from the Government and we don't have staff or people to deal with this**
- **Xeni Gwet'in, BC and Canada have done their witness's by October 2006.**
- **Earliest date Xeni Gwe'tin Tsilhqot'in court case will be finished will be in May 2007. Earliest Judge will decide on case would be November 2007.**
- **Through out the whole court case we had support from TNG(All Tsilhqot'in), FONV – David Williams, David Suzuki Foundation, Western Canada Wilderness Committee, Tourism Operators, and other 1st Nations.**
- **David Suzuki Foundation, 1998, Partnership with Xeni Gwet'in, Looking at Economic, Looking at housing structure, Power.**
- **M.O.U. Agreement with Chilko Resorts**
 - **A lot of elders and family have worked with tourism operators people**
- **We want to work with people who are using our lands and resources**
- **The Wild Horse Documentary 2002 by CBC**
- **Eco System Base Plan. Be able to use this land forever. Impacts: environmentally, culturally.**

Traditional Village:

- **Working with BC Parks**
- **Interpretive Tours**
- **Create an area where people can come in**
- **Have people living our traditional way**
- **Ways of hunting and fishing culturally would be part of our package**

First Nations Rangers:

- **Parks work with us since 1993**
- **Started with 2 Rangers and ended up with one**
- **1993 hired Harry since then. He has a good knowledge of the area.**
- **Have 3 Pack Horse Trips per year with Harry. Look at counting wildlife, Land Use, and Management.**

- **Bring all info to Xeni Gwet'in members**

Wild Horse Ranger:

- **Counting wild horses and monitoring is population and uses.**
- **Xeni Gwet'ins have been paying Ranges Fees to Xeni Gwet'in 1st Nations Government since 1991.**

Concerns:

- **ATV use and Trail Cutting with in our August 23, 1989 Declarations and with in our Care Take Areas, therefore changes the land value**
- **Dealing with issues at community level and the TNG level.**