



HAISLA NATION

Economic Development Corporation - Sip n Chat

Date: October 10, 2023

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

HNC Participants: Lisa Grant, Kailee Gardiner, Kim Robinson

Community Participants: A total of 12 participants logged into the meeting

Location: Teams Meeting

Meeting commenced at 6:02 p.m.

Presentation (Lisa Grant)

- Lisa Grant opened the meeting and thanked all those who have joined the Sip n Chat.
- Lisa Grant shared a brief presentation that provide an overview of the new EDC, the process undertaken to design the EDC, the governance and board structure, and the reporting structure.
- Lisa also outlined next steps, including opportunities for the community to learn more through online channels and the upcoming AGM.
- A short video was played about the formation of the new EDC.
- Lisa Grant opened up the chat for Questions and Answers.

Question & Answers (Summary of Q & A, not verbatim)

The following section provides a summary of the questions asked and the responses provided (note this is not a verbatim transcript).

Question. Will the AGM be streamed, and will there be an agenda shared in advance?

Answer. The AGM will allow online participation. The agenda is currently being finalized and will be shared in advance.

Question. Do you have to reside in Kitimat to be considered for the Board of Directors?

Answer. No.

Question. Will the Board of Directors be working on a hybrid system of trustees?

Answer. The EDC board of directors would be separate to the new hybrid system. The EDC role will be to generate the revenues, and HNC (Gúk^welut People's Trust) will determine how the revenues are distributed. The EDC would have nothing to do with the Trust. The EDC Board of Directors will oversee the operations of the EDC only.

Lisa Grant provided an overview of the roles and responsibilities to clarify the purpose of the new EDC Board, Haisla Nation Council, and others, vis a vis existing structure.

Question. Have there been many submissions for the Board of Director positions?

Answer. We have received several submissions for all positions.

NOTE: Lisa Grant shared the link to the application for the BOD with the group in the chat.

Comment. A request was made to have meetings take place at times that maximized involvement, noting evening times were better for most, and afternoon meetings not ideal as people have to work or pick up children from school, etc.

Question. How long after the BOD application closes will we hear the results?

Answer. It was noted that with our plans to launch the EDC in Q1 of 2023, the board will need to be in place. We would aim to identify the board by end of 2023.

Question. Who are the two Councillors already identified for the Board?

Answer. Greg Smith and Byron Olsen-Grant

Comment. It would have been a good idea to include Greg Smith and Byron Olsen-Grant in this meeting.

Answer. Lisa indicated that would have been a good idea and will discuss about having them available to share information at the AGM.

Question. Are Haisla members being considered for the CEO positions? These positions provide an important opportunity for our members and continue to employ our people.

Answer. We encourage all interested members with the applicable qualifications to apply.

Question. How would the EDC be able to better support our members to access employment opportunities? How can we remove the barriers as the demand for jobs of all levels increase, for example our members should be qualified to serve as CEO, Board of Directors of the new EDC, and other positions like this.

Answer. The AGM will be a great opportunity to expand on this discussion. I truly believe the new EDC will allow us to raise important revenues to invest in the support systems required to better support our members obtain the skills and education to access these opportunities.

Question. Comments regarding notification for Sip n Chat, noting that the notice was only posted on the afternoon prior to the meeting.

Answer. Notification for the Sip n Chat was provided through the dútił (both September and October editions), as well as online at www.haisla.ca, and on Facebook on October 10.

Comments: Several comments were provided about lack of communicate, including that current dútił newsletters are not available online, and the people have not been received them by email.

Answer*. Lisa Grant committed to look into this with the Communications Department and identify ways to improve notification of community events and information.

**Postscript response from Haisla Communications Department: Currently the dútił is circulated via a mailout and email distribution list as well as posting on the HNC Facebook group page. With the introduction of the new website in October 2023, the monthly newsletter will also be posted under the tab “dútił”. To receive an e-copy of the newsletter directly, Haisla members can email mgrant@haisla.ca. As more individuals moved toward the preference of viewing an electronic copy of the newsletter, the mailout list was offered to those 55 and over who preferred to view a hard copy version.*

The meeting concluded at 6:50pm and participants thanked the EcDev team for the session and the information shared.

Resources:

1. Sip n Chat Presentation (PowerPoint Presentation – Oct. 10)
2. EDC Video
3. [EDC Update](#)