

Band Members Alliance and Advocacy Association of Canada 3560 Highway 21, South Creston, BC V0B 1G2 communications@bmaaac.org

October 15th, 2022 Langley, BC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National First Nations Advocacy Group- Raises Concerns about Langley BC Foundation:

The Band Members Advocacy Alliance Association of Canada (BMAAAC), a BC based non-profit organization which helps Band members get access to justice to hold Chiefs and Band Councils accountable. BMAAAC's mandate is to advocate on behalf of Band members in Canada that are experiencing poor governance by their Chief and Council. BMAAAC achieves its mandate by retaining lawyers to take cases to court and mediation hearings for and on behalf of Band members. It also retains lawyers to provide legal opinions for Band members.

Kwantlen Band Members briefed BMAAAC in early 2022 about serious concerns tied to the elaborate land deal between the "Eric Woodward Foundation" and the Kwantlen First Nation's "Seyem' Business Group" (Seyem) in 2020. In 2020, the Eric Woodward Foundation announced a deal with Seyem to transfer parcels of land in Fort Langley to the Kwantlen First Nation. These lands were intended to be added to the Kwantlen Reserve, and veer away from municipal regulations that would have favoured this Foundation.

Two years prior to BMAAAC's involvement, a chronological timeline of events that pertain to these matters were published by a Kwantlen First Nation Band Member, on Facebook on September 20th, 2020.

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02JHFPN8tsoDw9poEEDcQxqqgj8kTiwBNzku1LbCM UZmpbcuaUxqp8319qBoGiedLPl&id=100033722980502 This timeline and accompanying screenshots show deliberations between Kwantlen Band members, the Kwantlen First Nation government, and Seyem over a prolonged eight-month period. Meanwhile, the Eric Woodward Foundation was pushing demolition permits through in the Township of Langley on the parcels of land they were trying to deal to the Kwantlen. The same parcels of land that fell into further disrepair from previous years. Parcels of land, which were part of a stalled development called "Glover-Mary-Church", which are well documented in the media:

https://www.peacearchnews.com/news/dispute-over-demolition-permit-leads-builder-to-paint-housebright-pink/

During the eight-month period of the Kwantlen land deal, Kwantlen band members expressed their disinterest in working with the Eric Woodward Foundation, which included a press release, a Langley Advance Times article, and three rounds of publicly recorded band member voting assemblies.

It is of serious concern to BMAAAC, that we believe that published statements in the media, social media, and to Township of Langley Mayor and Council, which portrayed the Kwantlen First Nation as a consenting party, when disinterest was stated to the contrary. This is evinced in this document that show the Foundation succeeding in having the necessary permits approved, while Kwantlen government tables did not complete their deliberations, which tilted not in favour of accepting any deals.

We are long past the time when First Nations are expected to silently acquiesce to such promises over land. There is a long history in this country of Indigenous people being overburdened on land deals, and BMAAAC supports First Nation band members in opposing these.



TOL > Your Township > Mayor and Council > Councillors > Eric Woodward

Eric Woodward



Elected to office in 2018, Councillor Eric Woodward is currently serving his first term as a Township of Langley Councillor.

Growing up in Langley, Eric was part of the emerging internet industry at a young age, forming and selling several successful companies before committing himself to the community.

Current Community Service

Eric serves the community as:

- Director, Eric Woodward Foundation
- Alternate Director, TransLink Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation
 Member, Langley Supportive Housing Project Community Advisory Committee
- Member, School District #35 Liaison Committee
- Member, Recreation, Culture, and Parks Advisory Committee
- Alternate Member, Salvation Army Gateway of Hope Community Council

Past Community Service

Eric served the community as:

President, Fort Langley Business Improvement Association

· Vice-Chair, Langley Memorial Hospital Foundation

Member, Heritage Advisory Committee

Momber Economia Development Advisory Co

Since this land deal became part of public controversy, the CEO, and personnel in finance departments of the "business group" took leave or were assigned other roles, without explanation and have not returned to their job postings. As explained by Kwantlen Band Members to BMAAAC.

The Eric Woodward Foundation is not a charity under Federal CRA registers. However, it is registered as a BC non-profit society. In addition to this, as of an October 12th, 2021, online BC Societies corporate search, it showed the Eric Woodward Foundation, to have been in non-compliance of Section 73 (1) of the BC Societies Act for not reporting finances or holding annual general meetings at the time the land deal was put on the table. (These findings are attached to this document).

Eric Woodward is a mayoral candidate in the 2022 Township of Langley municipal election, along with his municipal political party, "Contract with Langley", with a nearly full slate for Council and School Trustees.

Authorized by: The Band Members Advocacy Alliance Association of Canada.

President, Robert Louie, DipIPSM, BA, LLB, LLM, Email: president@bmaaac.org (ON LEAVE) Director of Communications, Brandon Gabriel, BFA Email: communications@bmaaacorg

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Photo by DAN FERGUSON, Oct. 12, 2017, 8:11 a.m., Langley Advance Times

CONTACT INFO:

Eric Woodward Foundation:

https://www.fortlangleyproject.org/board

Seyem Business Group:

9712 Glover Rd, Langley, BC V1M 2S4, Office: 604-888-5556

Kwantlen First Nation:

https://www.kwantlenfn.ca/

Band Members Advocacy Alliance Association of Canada

communications@bmaaac.org

Canada Revenue Agency- Charities Listings:

https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/charities-giving/charities-listings.html

List of online news and/or social media articles where the "Eric Woodward Foundation" pledged, donated money, land holdings, or other pecuniary interests in that name:

https://www.langleyadvancetimes.com/news/langley-builder-to-transfer-assets-into-charitablefoundation-worth-100-million/

https://www.fortlangleyproject.org/news/fl-property-holdings-to-charitable-foundation

https://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/developer-to-transfer-fort-langley-properties-tocharitablefoundation

https://www.pressreader.com/canada/the-province/20180813/281608126267487

https://www.tol.ca/your-township/mayor-and-council/councillors/eric-woodward/

https://Imhfoundation.com/our-donors/

https://www.aldergrovestar.com/news/eric-woodward-refutes-claims-his-charity-hasnt-made-good-ona-promise-of-1-1-million-for-the-langley-memorial-hospital-foundation-er-campaign/

https://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/downtown-fort-langley-development-proposed-aspartnership-withkwantlen-first-nation

https://m.facebook.com/401547160292351/photos/a.409466896167044/854367535010309/?type=3&

https://www.ericwoodwardfoundation.org/news/land-and-econommic-parternship-announced

https://youtu.be/DtgLBIvFejQ

https://thestarphoenix.com/news/local-news/downtown-fort-langley-development-proposed-aspartnership-withkwantlen-first-nation

https://www.mapleridgenews.com/news/controversial-fort-langley-land-to-to-become-part-ofkwantlen-firstnation-reserve/https://www.todayinbc.com/news/kwantlen-first-nation-opinions-mixed-on-township-councillorericwoodward-land-transfer/

https://portal.scholarshippartners.ca/welcome/EWoodward_EN/

https://www.fortlangleyproject.org/news/ewf-new-scholarship-program

https://www.aldergrovestar.com/community/500000-scholarship-fund-for-langley-studentsannounced/

https://www.langleyadvancetimes.com/community/eric-woodward-foundation-offers-scholarships-tohelps-kidsattend-keats-camp/

https://www.ericwoodward.com/about

https://www.langleyadvancetimes.com/community/500000-scholarship-fund-for-langleystudentsannounced/?fbclid=IwAR2r6XPrqepYIZN4EHquJK00COpWdNuT22VqonkieuE53_jtCYDAGV2mE-o_

https://www.sd35.bc.ca/students-parents/scholarship-information/scholarships-awards/

https://www.todayinbc.com/news/video-15-million-fundraising-goal-for-langley-hospital-shattered-thisweekend

https://www.langleyadvancetimes.com/home/video-langley-foundation-gives-boost-to-animal-andhuman-healthcare/ Redacted image of Request for registered charity information from a private email address- file No 374538- April 21st, 2022:



Thank you for your request for registered charity information. We apologize for the delay in responding.

According to our records, Eric Woodward Foundation is not, and has never been, a registered charity under the Income Tax Act. Consequently, we have no document to provide you. All registered charities are listed on the CRA's List of charities webpage at <u>Canada.ca/charities-list</u>.

You can find the public sections of a





You can find the public sections of a charity's information return, contact information, and a description of the charity's general activities for the most recent five years on our List of charities webpage at <u>Canada.ca/charities-giving</u>.

If you are a member of the media, we invite you to contact a CRA Media Relations representative directly for any future inquiries.

If you have any questions concerning the content of this letter, please call our Client Service Section at <u>1-800-267-</u> <u>2384</u>.

Sincerely,

Client Interface and Service Division Charities Directorate

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- September 21, 2022 10:29 p.m.
- Screenshot_20220921-222926_Outlo ok.jpg

332.50 KB 1080x2400 /Internal storage/DCIM/Screenshots

October 12th, 2021, BC Corporate Registry Search Screenshot:

Date and Time of Search: Currency Date:	October 12, 2021 11:16 AM Pacific Daylight Time September 13, 2021				
Paper filings received at the Corporate Registry after the currency date may not have been filed.					
	Active				
Number:	S0071577				
Name:	ERIC WOODWARD FOUNDATION				
Type:	Society				
Business Number:	783916331BC0001				
Member Funded Society:	No				
	vith the following section(s) of the the Societies Act:				
Section 73 (1): Society is <u>not in good standing</u> for failure to file annual reports.					

Kwantlen First Nation and Eric Woodward Foundation Land Deal Chronology 2020

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Rachelle Cashato ► My Fort Langley

Mar 4 at 6:46 PM •

As a resident of Fort Langley I can't express enough how excited I am at the news released today by the Kwantlen First Nation regarding the significant land and economic development partnership with the Eric Woodward Foundation and Fort Langley Properties Ltd. I am looking forward to hearing more details in the coming weeks and am finally optimistic about a strong future for Fort Langley.



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Write a comment...





Very excited about the return of ancestral lands to the Kwantlen and to see downtown Fort Langley move forward with development!



THE VANCOUVER SUN • 4 MIN READ
Downtown Fort Langley development
proposed as partnership with Kwantlen ...



Press Release: LAND AND ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCED

Leanne Richardson · March 5, 2020



PRESS RELEASE EMBARGOED FOR March 5, 2020 12:00AM

LAND AND ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCED

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Downtown Fort Langley development proposed as partnership with Kwantlen First Nation

Proposal would see prime downtown properties added to Kwantlen reserve lands then leased back for development.

Derrick Penner

Mar 05, 2020 • Last Updated March 5, 2020 • 4 minute read





The property, valued at \$13 million to \$14 million, is less than a kilometre away from the Kwantlen's existing 181-hectare IR 6 lands. Knights said the First Nation previously had property from within that reserve expropriated for the old Albion Ferry and is going through the process to have that returned as well.

Read unlimited articles for a limited time. A little good news, del Fred b 00% Corpdian Wry Brown's Chicken





"Kwantlen has been growing tremendously in capacity and working tirelessly to promote meaningful partnerships within our territories for our next seven generations.

Relationships mean everything to us. This is an amazing step towards reconciliation, helping to strengthen the Kwantlen First Nation and promote ourselves as a key partner and leader in our regional economy".

-Chief Marilyn Gabriel, Kwantlen First Nation

"B.C. is the first province to pass legislation on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, providing a framework for reconciliation that will give us a path forward, creating clarity and predictability for all people in British Columbia.

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It's great to see partnerships like this one demonstrating the real benefits of reconciliation – that by working together, we get better outcomes that benefit First Nations, governments, and the communities and people they serve."

- Hon. Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

"This is a monumental step forward in adding the Kwantlen First Nation as a true economic partner within the commercial core of the village of Fort Langley.

It will provide a great legacy for future generations within Langley."

- Eric Woodward, Co-founder & Director, Eric Woodward Foundation

Contact Us: kwantlenflp@seyem.ca

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economic partner within the commercial core of the village of Fort Langley.

It will provide a great legacy for future generations within Langley."

- Eric Woodward, Co-founder & Director, Eric Woodward Foundation

Contact Us: kwantlenflp@seyem.ca



KWANTLENFLP.CA

Kwantlen First Nation seyem - Fort Langley...

Kwantlen First Nation, ("KFN"), seyem and Fort Langley Properties Ltd ("FLPL") along with the Eric Woodward Foundation ("EWF") are jointly annou...



Comment



Mayor Jack Froese (seated) spoke with Coun. Eric Woodward before Woodward recused himself from discussion about demolition of properties in downtown Fort Langley. (Matthew Claxton/Langley Advance Times)

Demolitions possible for some vacant Fort Langley storefronts

The buildings are to be transferred to the Kwantlen First Nation in the near future

MATTHEW CLAXTON / Mar. 9, 2020 8:15 p.m. / LOCAL NEWS / NEWS



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	nesses that minimal details w at the time of the release.	vere provided to th	e current Chief	and Council about			
	2) Their knowledge was limited due to a confidentiality agreement between Brenda Knights and Eric Woodward's subsidiaries in early stages of development of this project proposal.						
disclosed by band mem the project proposal eli Kwantlen First Nation E Advisory Committee. O	3) At the monthly Elder's Council meeting on March 5- 2020 in the Kwantlen First Nation. It was disclosed by band members present at that meeting that nobody in the community was informed about the project proposal either. Contrary to the information provided in the press release. This includes the Kwantlen First Nation Elders Council, the Kwantlen Land Code Committee, and the Kwantlen Land Advisory Committee. One elder said "We cannot go into business with this guy. Not after all the things he has said and done in Fort Langley. What happens if he doesn't like what we do? Will he paint our						
	4) Support for the project and what it means for the future of the Kwantlen Nation was a big question among community members.						
of families of the Kwan	5) At a Kwantlen Lands Advisory Committee meeting held on March 10- 2020, with broad representation of families of the Kwantlen First Nation. Members spoke at length in a round table discussion about their concerned interest about working with Township of Langley Councilor Eric Woodward, and his subsidiaries.						
Fort Langley. Yes, we have	One band member commented "Yes, Kwantlen deserves representation in the business community in Fort Langley. Yes, we have waited for land to be on the table. But at what cost? It's the right deal, but not with this guy. Not with all the things he has said and done in the community."						
	6) Over the course of the week many members spoke about their own accounts of his treatment and lack of respect for local businesses, other townspeople, and other government afficials.						
1005 5 1 (ACCOUNTS) - 15 7 (ST 11) - 1	"I see how this guy has treats people in Fort Langley who oppose him. It does not look good. It will not look good for us if we shake hands with him." An attendee at the meeting explained.						
7) Many members also	7) Many members also expressed their concern over an existing BC Supreme Court claim between one of their community members and Mr. Woodward. They view this as another matter of great importance						
AT 15 HELDER STOLEN AND A DURING STOLEN.	"That day he painted over that mural. Was the day he spit on our community member. He spit on all of us on that day. We deserve better. Our community members deserve to be treated right."						
8) Only a handful of sup were mitigated following	8) Only a handful of supporters wished to engage further in these discussions. However, their positions were mitigated following other concerns and relationships with other community stakeholders that are being deemed as far more valuable to the community than the current proposal and its merits.						
	"I would like to know more. But it looks like we know where we stand, and we stand together as a family." Said another commenter who did not want to be named.						
these accounts are imm	accepting any overtures by K ninent, casting doubt onto the ed through with according to	e merit of the land	deal in its entire				

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8) Only a handful of supporters wished to engage further in these discussions. However, their positions were mitigated following other concerns and relationships with other community stakeholders that are being deemed as far more valuable to the community than the current proposal and its merits.

"I would like to know more. But it looks like we know where we stand, and we stand together as a family." Said another commenter who did not want to be named.

9) Calls to disengage in accepting any overtures by Kwantlen band members with Mr. Woodward on these accounts are imminent, casting doubt onto the merit of the land deal in its entirety. Those concerns will be followed through with according to Kwantlen First Nation protocols.

BACKGROUND

About Kwontlen

The Kwantlen First Nation is a progressive, and prosperous First Nation in BC's Lower Mainland. It has 305 registered band members with nearly 100 on the McMillan Island reserve, opposite Fort Langley. Kwantlen is undergoing a government reform process, to develop a new system of government, in place of its current hereditary system.

About Seyem'

The Sevem Business Group is a private corporation owned by the Kwantlen First Nation. According to business registry information Chief Marilyn Gabriel is listed as the President, with Brenda Knights listed as the CEO. Sevem operates at arm's length from the band and manages IT, security, and retail businesses among others.

About Eric Woodward

Eric Woodward is a Township of Langley councillor and former internet tycoon. He has been a controversial figure in Langley and the object of frustration and outrage in the township. Woodward has bought up several large parcels of land in Fort Langley, with the goal of redevelopment. Many see his redevelopment plans as a move to turn the quaint birthplace of BC, into a glossy "Pottersville" (the fictional alternate reality town in It's a Wonderful Life) in the tycoon's own image.

After his development plans were stymied by the city's development process, Woodward moved the lots into a charitable foundation.

Recent media reports about Woodward:

- https://www.timescolonist.com/news/b-c/buildings-boarded-up-in-tourist-dependent-fortlangley-1.23212883
- https://bc.ctvnews.ca/bright-pink-home-plastic-flamingos-part-of-property-owner-s-protest-
- 1.3630493
- https://rock101.com/news/5468326/fort-langley-development-concerns/

The Kwantlen First Nation Community

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Comment

😃 Jasmine Jordan and Soo-Jean Yee



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George Butch Otty I'm so sad things must be so

Write a comment...



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April 16, 2020

Dear: Kwantlen Members

From: Kwantlen Chief and Council

Re: Follow-up on Fort Langley Land Development Opportunity

The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted our ability to ensure prompt follow-up on this important matter within our community, but at this time we wish to provide the following updates in writing to membership.

Most community members are aware of a press release and subsequent media article appearing in the Vancouver Sun/Province on March 5, 2020 regarding a proposed land and business opportunity for Kwantlen to receive two land assemblies in Fort Langley from the Eric Woodward Foundation. The preliminary discussions to date regarding this opportunity have involved having these lands added to Kwantlen reserve land and working to determine a mutually agreed upon business arrangement to co-develop the lands.

The media release created significant concern for many members and families within the Kwantlen community, and our Council sincerely apologizes for the way this has unfolded and the concern and stress it has caused within our community and directly to many of our families.

A second media article also subsequently appeared in local papers stemming from a press release issued by a group of Kwantlen members indicating their concern and strong opposition to this proposal.

These matters were discusted at length with the Kwantlen Elders Table on March 5, 2020 and the Kwantlen Lands Advisory Committee on March 10, 2020. Council acknowledges that dialogue needs to continue and we are working to confirm how best to engage during this time of Covid-19. To this end, we would appreciate any feedback on how best to proceed, including whether continued dialogue should wait until in-person meetings can be held again, or held via video or telephone conferencing, or whether feedback should be provided in writing or verbally to a neutral party to document, or through other means.

We also, at this time, wish to confirm to Kwantlen membership that there has been no formal deal or agreement reached regarding land use/development nor any efforts made to have the lands added as Kwantlen reserve lands. What has been presented to Council to date is an opportunity to pursue discussions on those matters, subject to defined Kwantlen community

> PO Box 108, 23690 Gabriel Lane, Fort Langley, B.C. V1M 2R6 Phone: 604-858-2488 Fax: 604-888-2442 Website: www.kwantlenin.ca

engagement and ratification processes governing addition of any lands to reserve through. Federal Additions to Reserve (ATR) Process. If the land is added as reserve land, Kwantien's Land Code also requires that certain decisions regarding use of such land (such as a lease) are approved by Elders Table and the Lands Advisory Committee. Also relevant to any Federal Additions to Beserve Process is necessary dialogue and engagement with the Township of

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engagement and ratification processes governing addition of any lands to reserve through the Federal Additions to Reserve (ATR) Process. If the land is added as reserve land, Kwantlen's Land Code also requires that certain decisions regarding use of such land (such as a lease) are approved by Elders Table and the Lands Advisory Committee. Also relevant to any Federal Additions to Reserve Process is necessary dialogue and engagement with the Township of Langley.

The media announcement about this land opportunity was intended to reference the potential opportunity, the interest of the Foundation in transferring these lands to reserve land and in working jointly on developing these properties, and the work of exploring this opportunity further, which includes required community engagement/ratification.

We further confirm that while Kwantlen lands and Seyem' Qwantlen staff have been involved in some preliminary discussions about this opportunity in the beginning months of this year, any work of potentially adding any fee simple lands as Kwantlen reserve land is work that Council directly needs to lead, with support from its lands staff and through adherence to the Federal Additions to Reserve Process for such land transfers, which involves a referendum of Kwantlen members to approve the transfer and any related terms of the transfer. To this end, Seyem' Qwantlen economic development staff may assist Council with negotiating any joint business arrangement associated with this land opportunity, but they would not lead this work independently from Council and we want to repeat that land use decisions would be subject to Kwantlen Land Code approval processes described above.

Acknowledging the complex circumstances surrounding this land opportunity, including Kwantlen member Brandon Gabriel's personal defamation lawsuit against Eric Woodward, and the significant concern that this matter has caused within the community, Council has carefully considered several options and suggestions moving forward. We know there is no option that sits well with everyone, however at this time we are formally directing that no further work on this opportunity proceed by staff of Kwantlen or Seyem' until important follow-up dialogue takes place at the LAC and Elders tables and Council receives guidance from those tables on next steps. We further acknowledge there is work ahead to revisit the terms of reference, processes and roles of both the LAC and Elders Table, which will be a part of upcoming agenda items at both tables.

We encourage feedback from our membership on this topic and suggested approach forward, and particularly on ways to improve communication with community about future Addition to

> PO 8ox 108, 23690 Gabriel Lane, Fort Langley, B.C. V1M 2R6 Phone: 604-888-2488 Fax: 604-888-2442 Website: www.kwantlenfn.ca



Reserve land opportunities. Comments or questions can be shared directly via email to all Council through Tumia Knott (<u>tumia.knott(@lkwantienfn.ca</u>) or by phone.

We thank you for your attention and consideration to the above.



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This is consistent with Council's direction from their correspondence to Kwantlen membership dated April 16, 2020 stating that **no further work on this opportunity proceed by staff of Kwantlen or Seyem' until important follow-up dialogue takes place at the LAC and Elders tables and Council receives guidance from those tables on next steps**.

This email constitutes the voting package in lieu of mail-outs and in-person voting due to Covid-19 challenges, and we thank the Committee for their flexibility in this regard. In providing your response, we strongly encourage LAC members to carefully consider the question and review all information provided, and please bring any questions or comments you may have on this topic/process to the attention of myself or Tumia. **Elders are encouraged to vote, but please note that Elder's votes will be counted with the Elder's tally.**

The Question: Is there is an interest in having Council and staff further pursue this Fort Langley ATR opportunity and confirm options in a

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Crews were on scene on Tuesday, May 26 demolishing buildings at Glover Road and Church Street in Fort Langley. (Matthew Claxton/Langley Advance Times)

Buildings demolished in Fort Langley core

The site at Glover and Church street has been proposed for eventual development

MATTHEW CLAXTON / May. 26, 2020 12:30 p.m. / LOCAL NEWS / NEWS



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Hello Committee Members,							
The votes have been counted and witnessed by myself and Tanner Timothy and we report the following results:							
The question: Is there is an interest in having Council and staff further pursue this Fort Langley ATR opportunity and confirm options in a business arrangement going forward for these properties (with continued engagement with the LAC and Elders and ultimately to be ratified by Kwantlen membership)?							
Yes: 0 No: 13 Abstained: 2							
Thank you everyone for your consideration, your patience, and your vote. The next step will be to hold a meeting with the Elder's Advisory Committee. We are still determining the date and logistics, but intend to hold it soon.							
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The KFN would acquire the land cost only, and then continue to receive annual payments that would increase over time as property taxes do, estimated \$500,000 per year (for both sites), to start. Over 100 years that is easily over \$65M or so just in income, at today's dollars. And at the end they own the land and improvements, all theirs. There is no upfront cost or risk at all to the KFN to own the land, they "buy it" with cash flow would not have anyway, and receive significant return with no investment at all. It truly is a "win-win" for all. We also reviewed the possibility of the KFN being partners in the improvements too.

We also offered to consider a share of ownership in all properties to be controlled by the Foundation, including Coulter Berry, but that has been declined for now due to attacks with fake press releases, and some other complications, quite sad really. As we said, we want to include the KFN as true economic partners in the village. It really was about that, reconciliation, and moving forward as a true community.

There is a process from here to go through, things take time, and it is good to not be in a rush. And there is no need to be with good, positive interim uses now being put in place. It will take as long as it takes.

2 hrs Like More



Jennifer Armstrong

Eric Woodward so if I read that properly Fern Nucks comment that they KFN was supposed to pay

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Via Mail

September 3, 2020

Chief and Council Kwantlen First Nation 23690 Gabriel Lane Langley, BC V1M 2R4

Dear Chief and Council,

Re: Freedom of Expression

It has come to the BCCLA's attention through Robert Jago and the Kwantlen Reform Committee that members of the Kwantlen First Nation ("KFN") have received a demand from your office that they cannot speak about KFN governance in public or on social media.

Section 2(b) of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms outlines the fundamental freedom of thought, belief, opinion and expression, including freedom of the press and other media of communication. This fundamental freedom is subject only to reasonable limits as may be justified in a free and democratic society.

The BCCLA provides direct assistance to individuals who request information or have complaints about civil liberties violations by government agencies, employers or other organizations. The BCCLA is a non-Indigenous led organization and we respect and affirm the inherent right of Indigenous Peoples to be self-determining. We are not in a position to determine whether or not KFN Band Council is an expression of Stó:10 law or is a customized governance structure. We are, however, aware that the KFN is a Band within the meaning of the *Indian Act* and derives authority to govern and regulate persons and activity on reserve pursuant to the *Indian Act*.

Canadian courts have decided whether First Nations people are protected by the *Charter* on a case-by-case basis. We respectfully present a few publicly accessible cases for your consideration.

In the Gitwangak Indian Band¹ case at the BC Supreme Court, members of the Gitwangak First Nation ("GFN") occupied the Band Office in response to a decision that was made by

1 Gitsungak Indian Band v. Davis, 2017 BCSC 744

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