

NLAKA'PAMUX NATION

RESOLUTION ON NATURAL RESOURCES

AND

THE PRINCIPLES OF THEIR MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS the Nlaka'pamux Nation is an Aboriginal nation, the traditional land territory of which is located between the present day communities of Ashcroft and Spuzzum including the Nicola Valley and includes the watersheds of the Fraser and tributaries, the Thompson and Nicola Rivers and the Skagit River;

WHEREAS we, the Nlaka'pamux, as a nation have aboriginal title and rights to our traditional lands and resources, both renewable and non-renewable;

WHEREAS Nlaka'pamux territory is comprised of ecosystems supporting natural resources which include, amongst other things, the land, the water, the salmon and other fish, the animals, the trees, the plants, the minerals and supporting environmental factors;

WHEREAS the Nlaka'pamux territory was once rich in natural resources but these resources whose sustainability has been jeopardized by the actions of governments and third parties who denied, ignored and infringed our aboriginal title and rights;

WHEREAS we accept that inherent in our title and rights is a responsibility to protect, manage and conserve our territory and its resources and to care for the land and resources for future generations;

WHEREAS the aboriginal right to resources includes the right to the resource in its natural state and the right to manage, harvest and base our economy on the resource;

WHEREAS aboriginal title and rights are exercised by individuals, they are communal in nature;

WHEREAS the leadership of some of the Nlaka'pamux communities are committed to initiating new ventures based on the development of the hydro electric, mineral, fishery, forestry, range and other natural resources of the traditional territory in order to create new employment and income for their membership; and

WHEREAS we the leaders of the Nlaka'pamux Nation recognize those people who have dedicated their efforts to protecting the resources of our Nation including the work to save the Stein Valley, manage the Nahatlatch Valley, and protect the fishery from the impacts of developments along the migratory corridor (eg: railway double tracking);

THEREFORE as leaders of our Nlaka'pamux communities we resolve:

THAT we will do all that is within our power and ability to protect, exercise and promote the aboriginal title and rights of the Nlaka'pamux Nation;

THAT we will recognize and respect that aboriginal title and rights are collective rights of the Nation;

THAT the Nation and individual communities will act in mutually beneficial ways in relation to natural resources and will act always with respect for each other;

THAT the best interest of the Nation is paramount to the interests of individual communities and where those two interests may be in conflict, the leaders will act in a manner which recognizes and confirms the interests of the Nlaka'pamux Nation;

THAT individual communities and their leaders are at times best able to manage certain resource within their local area and will be expected to do so in accordance with sustainable resource management principles;

THAT the Nation will support individual Nlaka'pamux communities in their natural resource initiatives which are in keeping with the principles set out in this Resolution;

THAT efforts will be undertaken to increase the role the Nlaka'pamux have in directly managing the resources of our Nation so as to ensure their continued existence and ensure the well being of our Nation; and

THAT all new economic initiatives of the individual communities which utilize the natural resources of the Nlaka'pamux territory will be developed in a manner which benefits the local communities and also must provide recognition, monetary or otherwise of the collective aboriginal title and rights of the Nation to those resources. Monetary payment to the Nation will be held in trust and used for the benefit and development of the Nlaka'pamux Nation.

COMMUNITIES PARTICIPATING IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE RESOLVED TO  
ADHERE TO THESE MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES







LITTON FIRST NATION

Alvan Phillips

BOSTON BAR BAND

J. M. J.

Skappah Band

Robert E. Campbell

Brothrod Band

James Johnson

Spurgum Band

James Frank

Kane ka Bar Band

Cyrel Spence

Mason, Band

Joe Boomer

Ashcroft L.C.

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