



THE FIRST NATIONS OF MAA-NULTH TREATY SOCIETY

Huu-ay-aht First Nation | Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations
Toquaht Nation | Uchucklesaht Tribe | Ucluelet First Nation

PO Box 453 ♦ Port Alberni, BC ♦ V9Y 7M9 ♦ tel: 1-877-876-3122 ♦ Fax: (250) 723-4646 ♦ email: info@maanulth.ca ♦ web: www.maanulth.ca

August 8th, 2006

Open Letter to Members of the Maa-nulth First Nations

Re: Maa-nulth First Nations Treaty

Dear Member,

We are pleased to take this opportunity to inform you of the status of the Maa-nulth First Nations Treaty. Maa-nulth First Nations believe that the need for enhanced communications exists now and will be addressed in order for the citizens of each of our communities to make an informed decision on the proposed Maa-nulth Treaty. As such, communication activities have been prepared (see attached Bulletin No. 1) to fully inform you before it is time to make a decision on a *Maa-nulth First Nations Final Treaty Agreement*.

You may be hearing in the media or through various other information channels that we have reached a “handshake” with the federal and provincial governments on our treaty. Although a “handshake” is not an official stage of the treaty process, it does mean that we have reached an understanding on most of the major issues. There is however, still much work to complete prior to bringing forward a Final Treaty Agreement for your review and approval.

As we move forward through the treaty process it is our commitment to ensure that you are provided with timely-fact-based information every step of the way.

It is important to note that the treaty has **absolutely no powers or impact on our people** until such time as **membership from each First Nation votes and accepts** by referendum, a *Maa-nulth First Nations Final Treaty Agreement*. This is an important undertaking that will require the attention and meaningful decision of all members from each of our communities including youth and elders.

...over



Huu-ay-aht



Toquaht



Ucluelet



Uchucklesaht



Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' Nations



Over the next several months, you will be provided with written materials, internet website updates, and information meetings to update you on the status of the Maa-nulth treaty development.

We have provided the first of several update “Bulletins” to assist you in understanding the full scope and impact of a Maa-nulth Treaty on our people. We look forward to discussing this process with everyone over the next several months.

If you would like more information on this process, please call 1-877-876-3122 or email us at info@maanulth.ca.

Respectfully yours,

Tom (Mexsis) Happynook, Interim Chief Negotiator
Huu-ay-aht First Nation

Peter Hanson, Chief Negotiator
Ka:’yu:’k’t’h’/Che:k’tles7et’h’ First Nations

Bert Mack, Chief Negotiator
Toquaht Nation

Chief Councillor Charlie Cootes
Uchucklesaht Tribe

Robert Joseph, Chief Negotiator
Ucluelet First Nation