

Member of the Nuu Chah Nulth Tribal Council

Uchucklesaht Tribe



Uchucklesaht Members Pass Treaty

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 21, 2007

Port Alberni- The Chief and Council of the Uchucklesaht Tribe is pleased to announce the ratification of the Band Assets and Treaty of the Uchucklesaht Tribe.

Ballots of those Uchucklesaht people eligible to vote under the Maa Nulth treaty spoke loud and clear that the last major steps in ratification of the Maa Nulth Treaty has been taken with their support.

By a vote of 94 of 114 eligible voters with 1 spoiled ballots (a 96.8 % “Yes” vote), they approved the Dissolution of Band Assets and by a vote of 120 of 137 eligible voters with 2 spoiled ballots (a 96.7% yes vote), they approve the Maa-nulth Treaty of Uchucklesaht.

Chief Charlie Cootes expressed his excitement at the participation and satisfaction at the result. He said, “Our people have spoken loud and clear, it is time now to gather our community together and get down to work to implement this wonderful treaty. Our work is just beginning to make our dreams into realities”

Martin Sam, one of the Uchucklesaht Hereditary Chiefs (Hawiith) and Councilor for the Tribe stated “I am looking forward to our next steps after treaty is ratified. This is a positive step forward for our next generations”

Carla Halvorsen, treaty assistant and communications worker active in working on Treaty said “We’ve come this far in negotiations because of our membership, I believe in the decisions the membership makes on behalf of their first nation, this is a great day for our people”

Phyllis Halvorsen, member of the Uchucklesaht Tribe states “It’s always been important to our people to protect our lands, resources and the well being of our members and its about time we’re able to be in control our own future through the signing of treaty”

The vote on the “Treaty” document and the vote on the “Transfer of Band Assets” from the Indian Act Band to the Uchucklesaht Government is completed and has been successfully ratified. Our membership has spoken.

For more information check out the Maa-nulth website at www.maanulth.ca

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