



Community Report

Building a robust fishery for all, forever.

May 11, 2016

Mandate to Negotiate Achieved.

50 Council Resolutions received.



Bobbi Peters presents Chawathil's Council Resolution approving FSMC Mandate #1. (L-R): Pat Matthew, Ray Silvey, Bobbi and FSMC Main Table members Dominic Hope and Robert Leech.

50 FSMC member nations have sent in Council Resolutions approving Mandate to Negotiate #1.

"Our strength comes from the communities," said **Darren Haskell, President, FSMC.** "We go right out to the communities, because that's where we come from."

FSMC has built support in the both the watershed and Marine Approach area.

"It's better to be working together with the watershed," said **Victor Isaac ('Namgis).** "We can make headway and get work done. That's why we joined FSMC."

It's important to remember that the Mandate to Negotiate is just what it says it is. FSMC is not at this time seeking approval of an agreement with DFO.

"The Main Table has now completed all of our tasks on the *Preparing to Negotiate* timeline," Darren said. "Once DFO completes its review of the *Framework to Guide Negotiations*, we expect to soon make our way to the table."

"We're ready," said **Thomas Alexis.**

Cheam First Nation joins FSMC.



Councillors Andrew Victor, Dionne Shaw and Chad Douglas with Chief Ernie Crey.

"The benefit we see in joining FSMC is that it gives Cheam a voice in the broader Mandate to Negotiate," explained **Andrew Victor (Member Delegate).** "Cheam's issues will be addressed and we'll have a say in how they're addressed."

In 2011, it was Chief Crey who proposed a Letter of Understanding between First Nations and DFO, so that both parties could prepare themselves for negotiations on an Agreement.