



WATERSHED TALK NEWSLETTER

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FSMC Update

The Main Table of **Fraser Salmon Management Council (FSMC)** added new members to bring it to a full complement of nine First Nations representatives: **Robert Leech** (T'it'q'et) and **Thomas Alexis** (Member Delegate for Nak'azdli Whut'en).

2014 was a year of accomplishment and the new Main Table has set objectives to achieve over the time to come. As **Ken Malloway** put it: "This thing is for real."

Increase membership

2015 has just started and we've already answered two invitations: **Darren Haskell** (Chair, Main Table) attended a joint Chiefs meeting of Nlaka'pamux Nation TC and St'át'imc Chiefs; and **Pat Matthew** met with IMAWG members. View their presentations at this link: [FSMC Ppt.](#)

Confirm Annual Strategic Plan

The Annual Strategic Plan determines where the organization is going to go over the next year and how it's going to get there. The FSMC plan will cover operations, budget and communications.



Winter fishing. (Photo: Walter Quinlan)

Conclude the Negotiation Framework

The Negotiation Framework will be the "rules" for both parties when negotiating an agreement.

Develop a Negotiation Mandate

The Main Table will develop a Negotiation Mandate. This has to be approved by the Member Delegates, who'll then secure confirmation for it from their respective First Nations.

For more details: [FSMC - Questions and Answers](#)

Also in today's paper:

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A Letter from Anika Bird, Age 11, Seabird Island

Lower Fraser First Nations are working with a group of organizations to express concerns about a proposed hazardous waste facility to be located by the Fraser River near Chilliwack. For information, please contact Sto:lo Grand Chief Clarence Pennier: Kat.Pennier@stolotribalcouncil.ca

Seabird Island community member Anika Bird wrote to the Hon. Mary Polak, provincial Minister of the Environment.

Honorable Mary Polak
Victoria, Bc.

Dear Minister,

Please don't let these people build this toxic recycling plant. There are animals and fish that live and drink that water, I want a good, healthy place for me, my family and other kids. I don't want them or anyone poisoned by all the garbage. I am very disappointed that people would consider this idea. I suggest if you have to build these things, build it on flat ground or in a valley. If you build it by water the toxins are going to leak into the water, which is going to go into



Anika's letter *(continued)*

the grass, which animals eat, we eat the animals and there will be P.B.S and mercury in them. The animals that would be affected are eagles, hawks, falcons, bears, deer, salmon, cougars, mountain lions, moose, and many others. so please not doing this. I want to have a good, healthy life and I'm sure other people do also.

Sincerely,
Anika Bird
Age 11



A Note from Neil

Hello everyone,

I'd like to clarify the situation concerning my impending departure from the position of FRAFS Operations Manager. This takes effect April 1, 2015. The recruiting process has started and we hope to have a new Operations Manager in place by March 1st so that I have a month to assist with the transition.

I'm not "retiring" in the general sense of the word, but the time has come when I have to reduce my workload in order to spend a bit more time on some long-delayed personal priorities. I'll be continuing to work with the Main Table of the Fraser Salmon Management Council, likely well into the new fiscal year, as that organization's part-time Operations Manager. Additionally, I'm interested in continuing to assist the Nicola Tribal Association and its fisheries department in whatever part-time role seems appropriate – whether that be at the policy advisory level, or at the field project level. The FRAFS Executive Committee is aware that they can call on me any time to help out on an as-needed basis.

I still very much enjoy my field(s) of work and the people that I am engaged with. When circumstances in the future force me to actually retire, I will have more to say on how privileged I have been, and am, to have the opportunity to do the work that I do.

Neil Todd



Neil sharing a laugh with Mike Staley.