

# Toquaht Nation People's Assembly

Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Virtual Video Conference

APPROVED Meeting Minutes

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**Chair: Anne Mack**

People's Assembly convened 11:00 a.m.

## Welcome by taayii ḥa?wił Anne Mack

- o Anne welcomed everyone and provided an opening address

Agenda adopted (moved by Brittany Morgan, seconded by Kelly Johnsen)

Approved September 17, 2022 meetings minutes approved (moved by Noreen Frnak, seconded by Kelly Johnsen)

Presenters: Anne Mack, Angela Polifroni, John Ingram (ECOPlan), Rick Shafer

Council Members: Anne Mack, Kirsten Johnsen, Naomi Mack, Kevin Mack

**First Door Prize winner** – Sheryl Tate

## 1) Introduction

**Angela Polifroni, Director of Operations**

## 2) Official Community Plan Amendment Project

**John Ingram ECOPlan**

- a) Toquaht Nation is undertaking a project to update our Official Community Plan
  - i) An OCP is a policy that guides how we steward, develop, and manage Toquaht Lands that is guided by our Vision and values
  - ii) The current plan was enacted in 2016
- b) The plan will include current and future potential uses for Toquaht lands
- c) There have been several advances since 2016 so the new plan will include new community facilities, housing and infrastructure and will incorporate the additional lands we have purchased over the last few years
- d) Project timeline (now to November 2023)
  - i) Background research<determining land use priorities and direction<citizen engagement<draft plan presented to citizens and leadership<modifications as necessary<final OCP
  - ii) Watch for project updates at <http://www.toquahtocp.ca/>
  - iii) For more information contact Brett Freake at [brettf@toquaht.ca](mailto:brettf@toquaht.ca)

**Q** Will be a community meeting solely for citizens to discuss and provide input?

**A** Yes, ECOPlan members will be at Macoah in January and Port Alberni in late spring/early summer. They would especially like to meet with knowledge keepers.

## 3) Update on Toquaht Businesses

**Rick Shafer (for Noah Plonka)**

- a) Toquaht Developments: recently purchased a firewood processor and a wheel loader/Forklift. Keep an eye out for employment opportunities in 2023
- b) Barkley Sound Shellfish: still managing scallop, oyster and beach tenures, the geoduck tenure is still being developed. Keep an eye out for marine training opportunities

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- c) Secret Beach Marina & Campground: campground is gaining popularity each year, the boat launch has more slips, the bike park and trails are well on the way to completion, opening again on May 15, 2023
  - d) Hayu Fishing: will be offering more training opportunities; marine emergency, small vessel operator, radio, first aid, navigation, dive training, work experience on vessels
  - e) Contact: Noah Plonka Toquaht Manager of Business Operations 250-522-0201

**Second Door Prize winner** – Alicia Harry

#### **4) Update on Capital Projects**

**Rick Shafer**

- a) Secret Beach Off-Site Services Progress
  - i) Bowerman Construction has completed approximately 95% of work outlined in their contract to install the off-site sewer and water lines.
  - ii) \$1M in funding through the Community Opportunity Readiness Program (CORP) in support of this project.
  - iii) New Hydro line between Macoah and Secret Beach should be completed by summer 2023.
- b) Secret Beach On-Site Services Phase 1 Progress
  - i) will service the new government building, the kayak launch & approximately 34 residential lots.
  - ii) Designs are complete for the sewer, water and roads, and for the onsite underground hydro system.
  - iii) Phase 1 construction will begin early in the new year.
- c) Government Building on Toquaht Land Progress
  - i) The new Government Building will be constructed next to the kayak parking area at Secret Beach.
  - ii) Conceptual Design features 15,000 sq ft split between two levels.
  - iii) Various engineers (mechanical, electrical, structural etc.) will now be engaged.
  - iv) Work underway to determine “order of magnitude” cost per square foot.
- d) Outdoor Playground and Gym Equipment at Secret Beach Progress
  - i) Outdoor facility offering a playground and gym equipment to attract more visitors
  - ii) Will focus on natural elements to blend into the natural beauty of the area.
  - iii) Multiple funding opportunities are being explored
- e) Secret Beach Coastal Trail Progress
  - i) First phase construction, completed Fiscal 21/22, runs from Secret Beach to the middle (Mag 132 road) of Section 38 property next to Macoah.
  - ii) Construction resumed Fiscal 22/23
  - iii) \$350,000 grant received from the BC Active Transportation Fund
  - iv) Construction of a timber bridge deck and crushed gravel capping over a creek will begin early in 2023.

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- f) Secret Beach Cookhouse Progress
    - i) \$435,375 was approved from the Western Economic Diversification Canada - Tourism Relief Fund in support of the Cookhouse construction.
    - ii) Foundation and concrete slab was poured in the fall. Toquaht sawmill will be cutting all the timbers, beams and siding required.

**5) Announcements**

- a) Toquaht Nation Christmas Luncheon hosted by the Community Services team
  - i) Friday December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022
  - ii) Noon to 4:00 p.m.
  - iii) Barclay Best Western in Port Alberni

**6) Question Period**

**Angela Polifroni, DOO**

Q Is the Firewood processor mobile?

A It is but for smaller amounts of wood it would be easier to haul the logs to the machine for processing.

Q Any info on the new housing at Macoah?

A The three new houses are coming along nicely and should be to lock-up stage by June of 2023.

Q Can Toquaht provide more supports and other services for children in care as well as children within their families, health issues, drug and alcohol addictions etc.

A Toquaht is committed to providing this through the Community Services department staff. Please contact Christy [christyb@toquaht.ca](mailto:christyb@toquaht.ca) Noreen [noreenf@toquaht.ca](mailto:noreenf@toquaht.ca) Lisa [lisam@toquaht.ca](mailto:lisam@toquaht.ca)

Q Any info on cultural practice?

A We have practice every other Monday at Macoah. Anyone is welcome to attend. Contact the Community services department if you want to set up anything in Port Alberni.

Q Where can I learn the language?

A Our relative Jeneva Touchie is on YouTube. We also have a site on First Voices. [https://www.firstvoices.com/explore/FV/sections/Data/Nuu-chah-nulth/Nuu%C4%8Daan%CC%93u%C9%AB/Nuu-chah-nulth%20\(Barkley\)](https://www.firstvoices.com/explore/FV/sections/Data/Nuu-chah-nulth/Nuu%C4%8Daan%CC%93u%C9%AB/Nuu-chah-nulth%20(Barkley))

Q Is there still copies of the Potlatch in 1984 available?

A We will look into this.

**Draw for Grand Prize – Gloria McKay**

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The next People's Assembly will be held virtually on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Showed a clip of some Toquaht singers and dancers from the 10-year anniversary video.

[https://www.youtube.com/clip/Ugkxl0M26rtMbFuVvw7KZO29XrhQKQq7wp\\_Z](https://www.youtube.com/clip/Ugkxl0M26rtMbFuVvw7KZO29XrhQKQq7wp_Z)

**Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.**

Minutes prepared by K. Johnsen

**Law Clerk**

*Kirsten Johnsen*

**Date**

2025-03-27

**Attendees:**

Sheryl Tate  
Colleen Mack  
Kelly Johnsen  
Angela Mack  
David Johnsen  
Brittany Morgan  
Alicia Harry

Jimmy McKay  
Charlotte Carpenter  
Gloria McKay  
Randall Mack sr  
Randall Mack jr  
Noreen Frank  
Kathy Waddell