

**Aboriginal Peoples Family Accord  
Cariboo Friendship Center - Board Room  
Williams Lake, BC  
June 10, 2004**

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**Participants:** Faye Ahdemar, Pauline Terbasket, Deb Canada, Susan James, Gwen Phillips, Terrence Paul, Marg Ahdemar, Chief Bob Pasco, Debbie Abbott (chair).

**Staff:** Eliza Terbasket and Dan Odenbach

**Guests:** Chief Dewey Shackelly

**Regrets:** Donna Steeves, Donna Wright, Edna Terbasket, Robbin Lulua

**Recording Secretary:** Kim DuBrett

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**1. Chair Update – Debbie Abbott**

**a. Summit Meeting Update (June 7 & 8)**

- Miscommunication – did not receive any meeting information to attend the June 7/8 meeting. Invitations were sent out to the chairs to attend this meeting and present on the agenda. There was a lack of communication and the Delegated Agencies were frustrated the Aboriginal Chairs did not show up.
- **Action:** Debbie Abbott will follow-up with a letter of apology from the Interior Region to the Director’s Forum (re: not attending the June 7/8 Summit Meeting) and will find out where did the meeting information go?
- **Concern** - What role does the summit play in the regionalization process?
- **Clarification:** Eliza Terbasket followed up with Dan Ludeman and he has spoke numerous times with the Caring For First Nations Society asking if the chairs were required to go? They declined Dan’s invite. The directors are on a mission to get their Provincial Director and they have received a resolution from the Summit to support a Provincial Director. The relationship needs to be clarified regarding the Summit “are they supporting the Regionalization Process or the Director’s Forum?” There are a lot of mixed messages.

**Discussion**

- The relationships with the nations and delegated agencies are no different than the ministry and the Aboriginal Community. Inherent rights of those children need to be recognized.
- Need for an Interior Declaration so nothing will get pulled apart. Declare our interest in the process and all the players are together. This step has been missing and need to bring it back home and work on it back here in the Interior.

- Recommendation to send a letter to all of the delegated agencies in the province to remind them they are caring for children who belong to other nations.  
Example: When a child from another nation and a family is in crisis in another community how do we deal with this child?

**b. Audit Conference Call Update**

- Eliza Terbasket, Debbie Abbott and Julie Dacre participated on Conference Call with the Auditors on June 2, 2004.
- The Auditors recognized the Interior's financial management.
- The Ministry has a Phase "A" and Phase "B" and Vancouver Coastal was phase "A". Vancouver Coastal audit had some concerns, for example: One chair was getting honoraria and a salary and another chair reimbursed himself for the previous years honoraria.
- There were three recommendations were presented to the Interior Region from the audit: 1) regarding the Coordinator's spending authority 2) recommendation to re-word the financial policy because when the coordinator schedules a meeting it is automatically authorizing the travel, honoraria and meeting expenses, which is over \$5000.
- **Recommendation** to hold conference call with the board members when the audit results come in for the Interior Region.

**c. Political Committee Update**

- The political committee met in Kamloops on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004.
- The Interior Region Political Committee has made the recommendation to meet with the four political leaders, as soon as possible.
- The other recommendation from the June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting was for all of the Political Committee and board to attend the June 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting with Minister Christy Clark.

**d. May 31<sup>st</sup> meeting update at the UBCIC office**

- Joint Statement –A joint statement and press release was prepared by the Chairs and Technicians and was brought forward to the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting to be presented to the Minister that morning. Only two of the four political leaders were present and did not have the full compliment (Chief Stewart Phillip and Geroge Holm were absent). The joint statement and press release was supposed to be reviewed in the morning at a breakfast meeting but there wasn't time for the group to review it or make changes to the document. Debbie Abbott was disappointed because she thought we could at least present the statement by the four political leaders? We really need to organize our selves. The technicians and staff felt frustrated.
- Discussion tool place around the Roots project and the Safe Care Act, etc. The Ministry already had legislation for the Safe Care Act and was going to be finalized in spring of 2005.
- No real meaningful outcome from the June 1, 2004 meeting.

**Motion 1:** *Prepare an agreement for the Interior Region and the individual nations. A Definition from the Interior Region defining what the Tsawwassen Accord and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) means to us.*

**Moved by:** Marg Ahdemar; **Seconded by:** Gwen Phillips; Motion not Carried.

**Clarification to the motion 1:** Chief Stewart Phillip recommended drafting a resolution from this table to bring to the June 24/25 meeting in Vancouver. Hearing two different things, one drafting a resolution and the second creating an Interior Region Agreement? Our priority now is to figure out what the plan is going to be? Not going back and asking our Nations do you support us now?

### **Discussion**

- A resolution from the Interior Region is something the APFA board, political committee and our individual nations will be a way to have our inherent rights recognized. When the Interior Region agreed to the MOU we became apart of the Provincial level and now we have people debating, and they have other priorities etc. Would like to take the MOU back to our nations and ask what does it mean?

**Motion 2:** *To develop a draft resolution in response to the meeting with Minister Christy Clark (June 10<sup>th</sup>) signed off by the Interior Region Political Committee to be presented at the June 24/25 meeting.*

**Moved by:** Marg Ahdemar; **Seconded by:** Terrence Paul; *Question called; Any opposed; Motion carried.*

**Action:** Jim MacArthur will draft the resolution as recommended by Chief Stewart Phillip and provide a draft to the political committee and the board to respond to and a polished copy will be sent out before June 24/25 meeting and be brought forward to the June mtg.

**Resolution 1:** *That the Interior draft a statement for presentation to the June 24/25 meeting regarding the MCFD regionalization process defining the interior region nations collective understanding of the purpose of the MOU dated Sept 9, 2002 specifically the meaning of the terms: joint dialogue and decision making, collaboration, partnership, government-to government, commitment and further that the interests of the Interior Region Aboriginal Nations be respected throughout the regionalization process most specifically the inherent right as Nations to care for our children and the recognition that regionalization is viewed as an interim step in the transition to full jurisdiction under self-governance.*

**Moved by:** Marg Ahdemar; **Seconded by:** Gwen Phillips; *Question called; Any one opposed; Motion carried.*

**e. Executive Committee Update**

- The Executive Committee held a conference call on June 1, 2004 and due to financial constraints there has been a joint decision by the Executive committee to freeze all honoraria and travel with the exception of granting travel authorization to Debbie Abbott and Eliza Terbasket to attend provincial meetings.
- Note: Travel only will be reimbursed for this meeting (June 10<sup>th</sup>).
- It was suggested to send out Executive Committee meeting minutes to board to review after each meeting.
- **Action:** Email the Interim Board the previous Executive Committee Meeting Minutes (June 1, 2004) as soon as possible.

**2. Aboriginal Provincial - June 24/25**

- The meeting will be held in Vancouver at Tsleil-Waututh Nation Community Center. (Address: 3010 Tsleil Waututh Nation Community Center, North Vancouver).
- How do we support our board to attend? How do we re-work the budget? Maybe find another meeting to attend in Vancouver during this time through your work?
- Request to hold a board meeting during this time since most members will be present?
- **Follow –up:** Kim DuBrett will send out a memo to find out if there will be quorum during the Vancouver meeting.

**Adjourn meeting 2:15pm**