

These notes were approved by the Main Table (conference call December 5, 2016) – for general sharing with First Nations.

SUMMARY: of the bi-lateral meeting of November 24, 2016 between the negotiating teams of the Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans, and the Fraser Salmon Management Council.

The FSMC Negotiating Team met with DFO's team at the DFO office at 401 Burrard St, Vancouver on November 24, 2016. This was the first meeting of the negotiation process as outlined in the Framework Agreement to Guide the Negotiations for Managing Fraser River Salmon.

FSMC: Brenda Gaertner (Lead Negotiator), Victor Isaac, Dominic Hope, Tina Donald, and Darren Haskell (alternate for Thomas Alexis). FSMC support staff Walter Quinlan and Neil Todd also attended this inaugural meeting.

DFO: Angela Bate (Lead Negotiator), Kent Spencer, Ashley Dobko, and Chad Rudiak

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

1. Introduce DFO and FSMC Negotiation Teams
2. Identify and agree on deliverables/outcomes desired by March 1, 2017.
3. Identify a schedule/timeline of meetings between now and March 31, 2017.

After an opening prayer by Darren Haskell, FSMC President, each member of the two negotiating teams introduced themselves with a few short autobiographical notes.

Discussions resulted in the Parties agreeing on:

1. Priority topics for negotiation, consisting of the first four topics as listed in the August 30, 2016 Framework Agreement. These topics are:
 - a) development of collaborative decision making processes, structures, and resources;
 - b) linkages to Tier One (First Nations), Tier Two (First Nations and DFO) and Tier Three (First Nations, DFO, and stakeholders) processes;
 - c) clarifying roles and responsibilities for Fraser River salmon fisheries management, including policy, operational, and program planning and science;
 - d) First Nations' priority allocation and access for food, social, and ceremonial purposes.

The first three topics are Fraser Salmon management and governance decision making structures; and the fourth is identifying agreements which the Parties can reach to better address First Nations priority for allocation and access to meet FSC needs.

2. Schedule of meetings until March 2017 (four meeting dates this fiscal year – one each month starting December 16.)
3. Initial deliverables: Concept papers collaborative developed on priority topics: development by the Parties by March 1, 2017 of two draft concept papers that will reflect proposed approaches for moving forward on the governance issues and the priority access issue.

Overall the day was productive and both Parties expressed keen desire to engage and move forward into the negotiation process as quickly as possible while recognizing that the issues would be complex and not solved overnight.