

# First Nations-SFAB meeting on Spring Chinook Conservation

**Date:** Friday April 16, 2010

**Location:** La Quinta Inn Main Boardroom, Vancouver Airport

(Directions and coordinates attached)

**Time:** 10:00 – 12:00 (Meeting room is booked for entire day if folks wish to stay on)

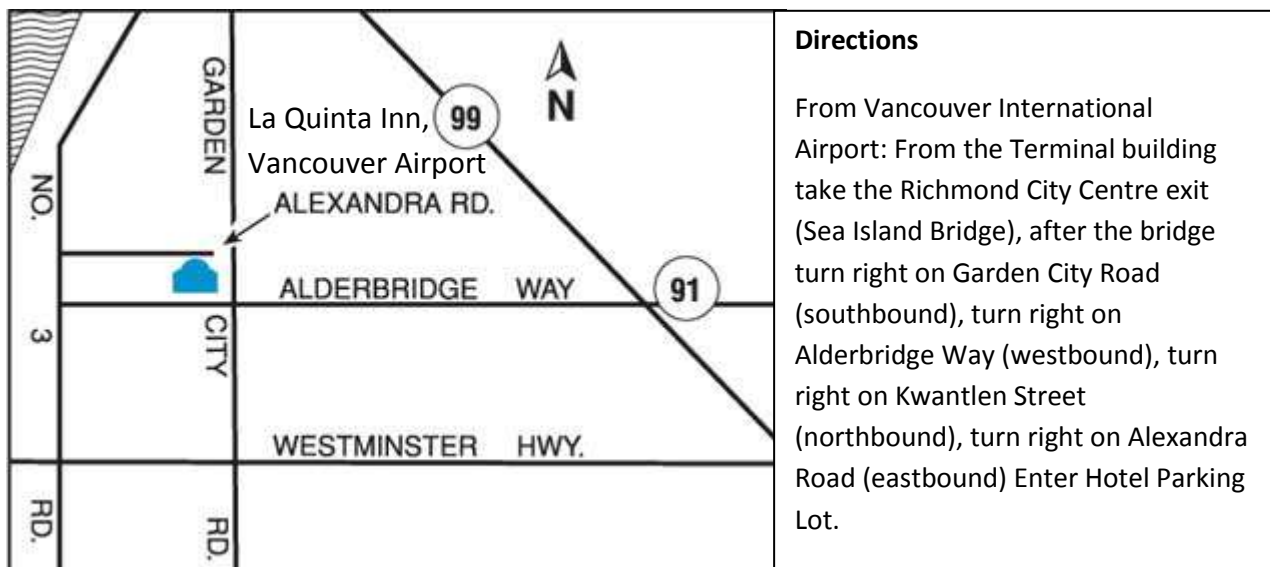
**Background:** Arising from a recent First Nations forum involving Fraser and approach First Nations on conservation and harvest planning for early timed Fraser Chinook, First Nations have requested a face-to-face meeting with the recreational sector in order to discuss political strategies to address severe conservation concerns together. Due to the poor returns of early timed 4<sub>2</sub> Chinook (spring Chinook) and the continued declines in productivity, First Nations believe more needs to be done to protect these vulnerable stocks and have proposed to meet with the SFAB to explore options available to the organizations to achieve some long term rebuilding goals for these stocks. It was decided to use the Salmon Table as the host organization to bring together these diverse and potentially competing fisheries. Terry Tebb, VP Operations from the Pacific Salmon Foundation and Participant/Observer with the Fraser River Salmon Table has been asked to facilitate.

## **Draft Agenda**

1. Welcome and background to this meeting: Terry Tebb
2. Introductions and house-keeping (i.e. rules of engagement and instructions on travel re-imbursement for the SFAB reps, thanks to FRAFS for paying for room and hospitality)
3. Brief overview of the First Nations working group and the SFAB: Ken Malloway and Frank Kwak
4. Proposed moratorium on fishing spring Chinooks proposed by First Nations: Chief Fred Sampson
5. Other

## La Quinta Inn, Vancouver Airport

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\*Note for out of town guests - A hotel special April rates are \$70/night – quite reasonable.

Bi-Lateral Meeting  
First Nations – SFAB  
Summary Notes  
La Quinta Hotel, Richmond  
10:00 am, Friday, April 16, 2010

Attendees:	<u>First Nations Representatives</u>	<u>SFAB Representatives</u>
	Susan Anderson-Behn	Gerry Kristiansen
	Chief Allan Claxton	Jeremy Maynard
	Chief Fred Sampson	Frank Kwak
	Chief Ken Malloway	Sandy MacDonald
	Councilor Dave Antoine	Christopher Bos
	Pat Mathews	
	Mike Staley	
	Neil Todd	

Moderator: Terry Tebb, Pacific Salmon Foundation

Introduction: Terry Tebb provided a short introduction during which he explained how the Salmon Table became involved in setting up this meeting and stated that he had been asked to moderate the meeting. Ken Malloway then explained his role as a FN representative to the Salmon Table and Frank Kwak explained his role as a SFAB representative to the Salmon Table. After all the meeting participants introduced themselves and the area they represented, it was agreed that in future, a neutral third party was probably not necessary to organize a meeting between SFAB and First Nations.

All parties agreed this type of meeting between First Nations and SFAB was long overdue. SBAB reps stated that in the past they had held many discussions with the BCAFC, but since that organizations' collapse and the changing governance structures in the First Nations community, the meetings never got arranged. The First Nations representatives described the new First Nations Fishery Council approach and all agreed that the FN Fishery Council would probably be the correct forum to meet with SFAB in future, once all the representatives from the geographic zones had been appointed. In the interim, it was agreed that while dealing with the conservation concerns currently on the table, that it would be appropriate to continue meeting with the people present today that came together out of the FRAFS meetings.

The First Nation representatives then addressed their concern for early timed Fraser Chinook and a number of the representatives spoke on behalf of the concern in their territories. A technical presentation followed by Mike Staley and Neil Todd. They confirmed to the group that the data from all the slides came from DFO presentations.

A discussion ensued about the stock status of various stocks and the SFAB representatives confirmed that the technical data just presented by the FN representatives was consistent with the data SFAB had seen. It was agreed that the slide presentation would be shared with SFAB. (The presentation has been shared electronically)

The FN representatives above Hells Gate indicated that they are prepared to not fish to protect the early timed Chinook. The FN's below Hells Gate have not yet fished but admitted to being a bit frustrated that DFO had not yet tabled what steps they were contemplating to protect early timed Chinook, yet at the same time, seemed to be encouraging the FN's to agree to a fishing plan.

SFAB representatives advised that DFO had now requested an SFAB Chinook Working Group meeting for April 20 but there was insufficient advance notice for people to free their schedules so the meeting has now been scheduled for Friday April 23. The Chinook Working Group meeting will be followed by a 2 day meeting of the Full SFAB Board.

The SFAB members acknowledged that they too have concerns about the status of Fraser Early Timed Chinook but there are other stocks of concern as well, i.e. Cowichan Chinook. The SFAB members agreed that they would consider actions to minimize the impacts on Fraser Early Timed Chinook.

All the representatives agreed that they would like to meet again after the SFAB has an opportunity to work within their community to consider options to minimize impacts on weak Chinook stocks. **It was agreed that the group would meet again to discuss possible actions on May 3 in Abbotsford.**

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.