



**Memorandum of Understanding on
Cooperation and Communication
Between the
City of Prince George
and the
*Lheidli T'enneh Band***



WHEREAS:

1. The City of Prince George and the Lheidli T'enneh Band have a common interest in the successful and timely conclusion of treaties, which will benefit all B.C. communities;
2. The Parties also have shared interests in cooperative Intergovernmental relationships, including those between First Nations and local governments, both before and after treaties are signed;
3. The Parties also believe that cooperative working relationships between local governments and First Nations are built on effective communication and trust. Collaborative action in areas such as economic development and natural resource management contribute directly to the health and well being of all communities;

THEREFORE:

This Memorandum of Understanding represents a commitment by the City of Prince George and the Lheidli T'enneh Band to work together to promote cooperative relationship building.

PRINCIPLES:

The City of Prince George and Lheidli T'enneh Band will recognize the following principles in dealing with one another:

- Mutual respect for each Party's mandates, policies and areas of jurisdiction and that the Protocol on Cooperation and Communication does not fetter the individual mandates of the parties;
- Cooperation in the exchange, development and distribution of information that is relevant to on-going projects of mutual benefit; and
- Collaborative action in the development and implementation of projects of mutual interest; and
- Acknowledgement that good relations between neighbours are required for all citizens to benefit.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES:

The Lheidli T'enneh Band and the City of Prince George have the following mutual objectives:

- Promote understanding of the interests of First Nations and local governments in a province-wide context, including participation in each other's events wherever appropriate; and
- Provide opportunities for relationship building between First Nations and local governments, such as through annual Community to Community Forums, which allow dialogue between community leaders on areas of common interest. This includes economic development, natural resource management, efficient and affordable service delivery, and cooperative land use planning; and
- Encourage and promote effective methods of dispute resolution between First Nations and local governments.

IMPLEMENTATION:

The Lheidli T'enneh Band and the City of Prince George agree to continue to support the existing Joint Action Committee to further the objectives stated in this agreement. This group will meet to review joint initiatives and projects, as well as the general progress on goals and objectives.

SIGNED this 16th Day of July 2002 on behalf of the LHEIDLII T'ENNEH BAND by:

Chief Barry Seymour

Councillor Vanessa West, Lheidli T'enneh Band, Witness

SIGNED this 16th Day of July 2002 on behalf of the CITY OF PRINCE GEORGE by:

Mayor, Colin Kinsley

George Paul, City Manager, City of Prince George, Witness