

# XCEDP PROJECT REPORTS

XAXLIP COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

DECEMBER 2010

## Jack Narcisse, Assistant



Since I started working on this project, I have learned a great deal.

Number one is the confidence in myself. Too many times I worry about what people think about me. Which is a laugh, because, who is who to judge who. Or is it whom. LOL. We all have our faults.

Now back to the job. Working with Pauline, Emerson and Colleen is an easy adventure. The things they have taught me, makes life a lot easier. Just being able to type this newsletter report and do anything

on the computer is now a little bit easier. Pauline has taught me a lot of office techniques which I didn't know before. Things like how to send out notices and messages for office to office, how to print out materials on the computer and how to copy material I need copying. Even just having to book myself in every morning and book out after work is different.

When we started, we did a brainstorming session on "What is Economic Development" and ideas on what can be done and where. Then we compiled a list of questions for the survey, ending up with a small list.

We've had two community meetings, the team introduced ourselves

and mentioned what our ideas are.

Emerson and I will have Drop-Ins at the Resource Room (Health Centre) where you can come in and chat, and see what we're doing. It will be good to see you there.

We've started delivering the surveys. I hope you've done yours bec

Going around and handing out the surveys and getting to chat with people, gives me a big rush. That's the way of our people. We all used to visit each other.

Like I said before, changing jobs is quite a challenge. Most of my working life has been outside, and now to work in an office is quite different.

There are many different aspects to this job but the one I like most— is getting to meet with people I haven't talked to for a while.

So if you see me on the streets don't be afraid to say hi and ask me what I'm up to. I'll let you know.

Hooo all my relations.

### Special points of interest:

- "We are the leaders, we have been waiting for."
- In order to progress into the future, we must look at the past.
- We must become the change we want to see.
- Many communities are constipated. Who will be the ex-lax to get things moving?



Hello everyone,

A month and a half has passed since I started with the XCEDP.

We have held a couple of community meetings in November.

A number of people completed the XCEDP survey. Thank you for taking the time to fill it out. We look forward to receiving more surveys and seeing you at future meetings. If you would like the survey sent to you by email, please call us at the office (250 256 4800), and if you're out of town, call our toll free # 1888 321-2711. We'll be happy to send you one.

Pauline, Jack and I attended the "Building Sustainable Communities" conference in

## Emerson Adolph, Assistant

Kelowna (November 15-18<sup>th</sup>). It was very insightful. There were speakers from communities throughout the Province. It appears we all face the same issues in striving towards living a sustainable lifestyle.

We heard from representatives from various levels of government, consultants, University level professors, energy sector officials, and from the T'Souke community (they installed solar panels on all their buildings in the community).

What left an impression with me is, there is going to be a "green" movement. This means more companies and communities are going to strive towards lowering their carbon footprint into the environment. This will be very appealing to people who research which companies to do business with, based on how environmen-

tally conscious that company is. It was stressed, we all need to lower our carbon footprint on the environment as the effects of global warming are currently being felt worldwide on an increasingly greater scale.

I was unaware of BC's new Ministry until this conference where the Minister was invited to speak. BC has a new Ministry, headed by the Honourable John Yap, Minister of State for Climate Action.

This Ministry is a year and a half old. A key quote we heard from the Minister, "We must demonstrate leadership and get our House in order."

No truer words could have been spoken. John Yap also looks forward to hearing about our challenges and victories in reducing our carbon footprint on the environment.

During the confer-

ence, I couldn't help but think, our ancestors lived a sustainable lifestyle throughout their lives. During their times, I assume money wasn't the economic driving factor as it is today but they did thrive in a fully functioning economy.

As time went by, Xaxli'p people, faced a challenge: To adapt or not adapt and face the consequences. Xaxli'p adapted to the current dominant cultures' state of economy to survive.

With that, I think we can make more adaptations to live within the current system of economics while making necessary adjustments to fit our long history of living a sustainable lifestyle.

I look forward to working with you to reach positive solutions to our economic predicament we are faced with.

## Pauline Michell, Project Manager

Hello Everyone:

The XCEDP project is well underway. In October, we did a brainstorming session on community economic development; planning and organizing of meetings and activities. Jack Narcisse is back on the project after a 2-week leave.

The Drop-in location changed to the Resource Room in the Xaxli'p Health Centre. The Drop-in day is for you to meet one-on-one with Jack or Emerson. Information about the project will be on display. You can ask for help with the survey. We encourage you to drop in, have coffee or tea and snacks.

We've held two community economic development meetings. Colleen did an introductory presentation—Economic Development is one of the five priorities identified in the Xaxli'p Comprehensive Community Planning (XCCP) document.

The next step is to create a Xaxli'p Strategic Community Economic Development Plan document. She reviewed the economic development section of the XCCP document. This will be used to guide the project.

The survey is in full swing. We will mail or send by email to off reserve members soon. The survey completion date is December 23<sup>rd</sup>. We appreciate your time in filling out this survey. It's important we have your input in the planning, development and future of Xaxli'p.

The XCEDP team attended a "Building Sustainable Communities" conference in Kelowna (November 15 – 18<sup>th</sup>). In the planning and implementation of economic development, we need to consider how sustainable our plans are.

The first day was "Championing Change: A Sustainability Planning Forum" for sustainabil-

ity planning.

The second day was "Pollution Prevention & Mitigation" and "Green Economic Development" in which we selected workshops to attend.

The third and fourth days—"Community Sustainability" which we again selected either panels or workshops to attend.

The interesting workshops for me, were—"Making Your Sustainability Dream a Reality: Small Steps Add Up!" This was based on the "Run for One Planet" experience of Steph Tait's & Matt Hill's 11,000 mile run across Canada and the United States. The run focused on "Inspiring Environmental Action, One Step at a Time!" Their message is – each of us in our own personal way can begin to make changes for the environment.

The other workshop was "Forging Green



Economics with & for First Nations," done by a panel of 3 First Nations facilitators. I liked their presentations of briefly talking about the history of First Nations people, and talked about how people can establish a relationship and communications in doing business with First Nations. They stressed building "trust" is important. At the end of the workshop, the participants had a better understanding of First Nations issues and the challenges faced.

Overall, it was an informational three and half days. Chief & Council governing is similar to Municipalities' Council. The organizer of the conference was glad to see our team.

In closing, we look forward to seeing you at our activities.