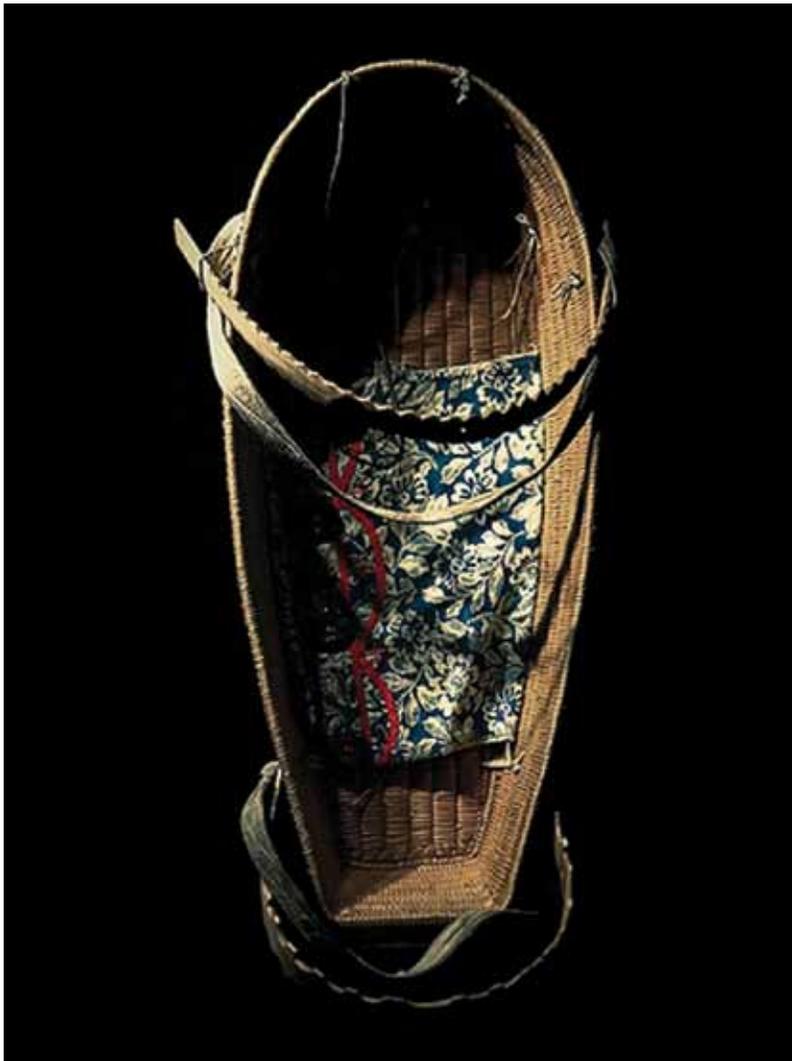


CULTURE



Community and Regional Gatherings

June, 2010



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



In-SHUCK-ch
NATION

1. Will heritage sites and artifacts be protected?

- Currently, land designations such as parks, conservancies, and cultural management zones exist on In-SHUCK-ch territory and offer a range of heritage protection.
- With Treaty, In-SHUCK-ch may make laws on Treaty lands to conserve, protect heritage sites and to regulate access to In-SHUCK-ch cultural heritage resources.
- Also, with Treaty, artifacts found on In-SHUCK-ch land will belong to In-SHUCK-ch.



2. Will we continue to practice our culture?

- Yes, the Treaty provides that In-SHUCK-ch has the right to practice In-SHUCK-ch culture. It is up to In-SHUCK-ch to define what culture means to us.
- With Treaty, In-SHUCK-ch government may make laws in respect of the preservation, promotion and development of In-SHUCK-ch culture and the Ucwalmícwts language.

3. Our values might not mesh with modern day life. How will we resolve issues that arise?

- Our values have sustained us for many generations and they will continue to do so.
- In-SHUCK-ch government law making authority will enable In-SHUCK-ch cultural values to be applied when resolving conflicts.
- In addition to law making authority, the In-SHUCK-ch Constitution provides authority for establishing dispute resolution bodies that fit with our culture.

4. Language plays a major role in who we are, so how will it be incorporated into our government? Especially for those raised without an understanding of it?

- Language is an important aspect of our future work.
- The goal is to support the spoken and written form of the Ucwalmícwts language.
- The Treaty provides that In-SHUCK-ch government may make laws in respect of the preservation, promotion and development of the Ucwalmícwts language.
- It will be up to the people to define how it is incorporated into our government and our people's knowledge base.



5. Will tradition somehow include writing our material in Ucwalmícwts?

- The primary goal is to increase the number of Ucwalmícwts speakers. With more fluent speakers, the written form of Ucwalmícwts can also be developed.
- The Treaty provides that In-SHUCK-ch government may make laws in respect of the preservation, promotion and development of the Ucwalmícwts language.

6. Writing the language is important since there are many methods used to try and write it. How will we decide which one we will use?

- The primary goal is to increase the number of Ucwalmícwts speakers. With more fluent speakers, the written form of Ucwalmícwts can also be developed.
- The Treaty provides that In-SHUCK-ch government may make laws in respect of the preservation, promotion and development of the Ucwalmícwts language.
- It will be up to the people to choose the written form of Ucwalmícwts language.

7. We have an oral history where we get our guidance from. Some aspects of our oral traditions cannot and should not be written down. How can we use something we can never fully write into our principles?

- In-SHUCK-ch acknowledges the importance of the Nxékmen and our respect of the Nt'ákmen.
- Through the In-SHUCK-ch Constitution, we can organize our government so people are consulted for guidance.
- Values are kept alive in daily life even if they are not written down.

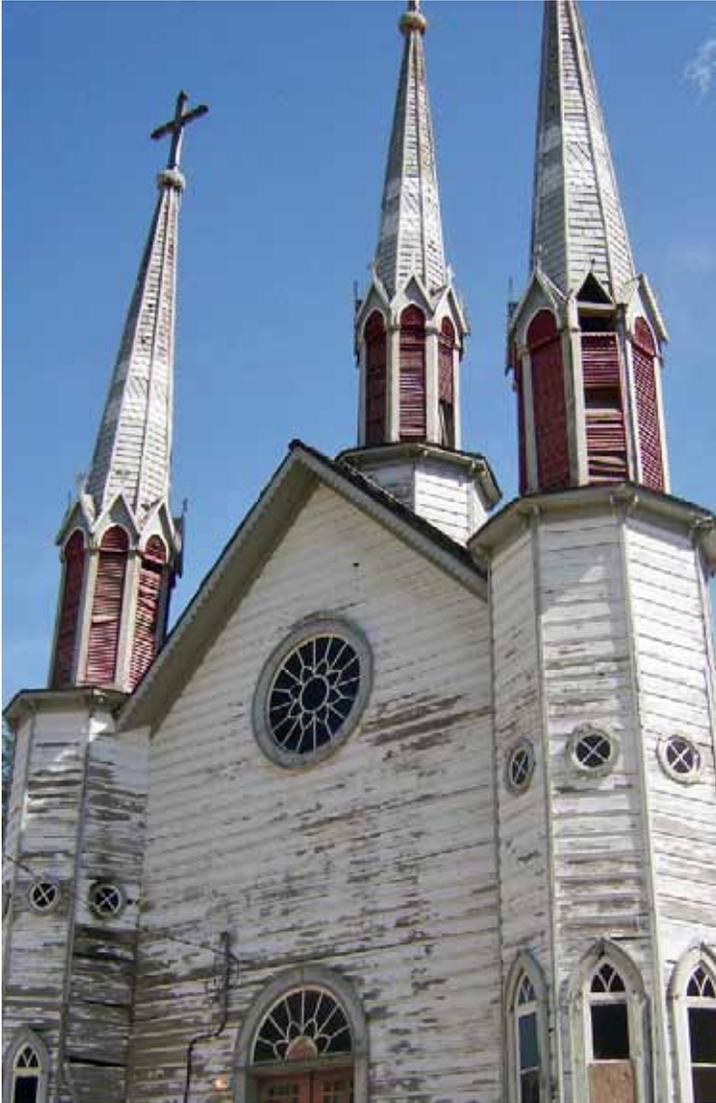
8. Traditionally, we look to our Elders for guidance. How will this tradition be continued?

- Elders work together to provide guidance and a common voice.
- The In-SHUCK-ch Constitution recognizes the importance of guidance from our Elders through establishment of an Advisory Council.

9. Past hurts exist in our communities. Are there plans to heal the members while we pursue Treaty?

- Community and community members' well being is an on-going goal and is the responsibility of all of us.
- The first step in healing is to recover our respect and identity. We can do this as we move forward as a self-governing people.
- Healing occurs in multiple ways at many levels.
- Participation in community life is healing in itself.
- The three communities are preparing for a 'Bright New Days' workshop that is focussed on healing within the collective (In-SHUCK-ch).





10. Ceremonies: Any time resources are taken from the land we must include an offering to show respect.

- Through the In-SHUCK-ch law making authorities, respect for resources taken from the land can be built into all aspects of government.

11. How are Watchmen, respect and ceremonies going to be involved?

- Watchmen, Watchwomen and ceremonies can be incorporated into cultural practice by way of In-SHUCK-ch law making authority.

12. We have our famous church in Skatin, but what are the possibilities of other churches being built?

- Churches can be built.
- It is up to church membership to pursue these initiatives.

13. If you belong to a different religion, how can you get a church for your services?

- Religious services can be held in a variety of venues – new or old buildings.
- Churches can be built.
- It is up to church membership to pursue these initiatives.

14. In the past when you approached a person with knowledge and asked to be taught, gifts were given rather than money, can we realistically return to this simpler time?

- It will be up to the people involved to determine the form of acknowledgement.
- The sentiment in this exchange is always the same: 'Kúkwstum'ckacw' or a 'thank you'.



15. We are building a Nation, how can we get our neighbouring First Nation to go along with something they had no part in/or have no desire to travel the road we took?

- We are all on our own road – there's no need to take the same route.
- As a Nation, we respect other First Nations views and hope they respect ours.

16. Meeting rules: Traditionally, there were an unwritten set of rules of conduct used by the people. How do we to get back to that?

- The In-SHUCK-ch Constitution and government law making authority will enable Nt'akmen to be incorporated into our processes.



17. Adoption: Will there be the ability to adopt a child who lives away from their real family?

- With Treaty, In-SHUCK-ch will have law making authority in respect of adoptions in British Columbia, providing that the best interests of the Child determine if an adoption will take place.
- There will be the ability to adopt an In-SHUCK-ch child who lives away from their real family.
- There will also be the ability to adopt a non-In-SHUCK-ch child residing on In-SHUCK-ch Nation Land.

18. Fish: Traditionally, there was a proper disposal of guts and other pieces we don't use; how do we get back to that?

- The In-SHUCK-ch Constitution and government law making authority will enable Nt'akmen to be incorporated into our processes.



19. Hunting: Traditionally, there was a correct way of ensuring proper respect for our harvest: For example, cleansing to ensure proper respect shown, need to give away first catch, and time of hunt. How do we get back to that?

- In-SHUCK-ch Constitution and government law making authority will enable Nt'akmen to be formally incorporated into our processes.



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