



# GITSELASU TREATY OFFICE



Fall 1997

Volume 1 Issue 3

## TREATY UPDATE

OCTOBER 1997

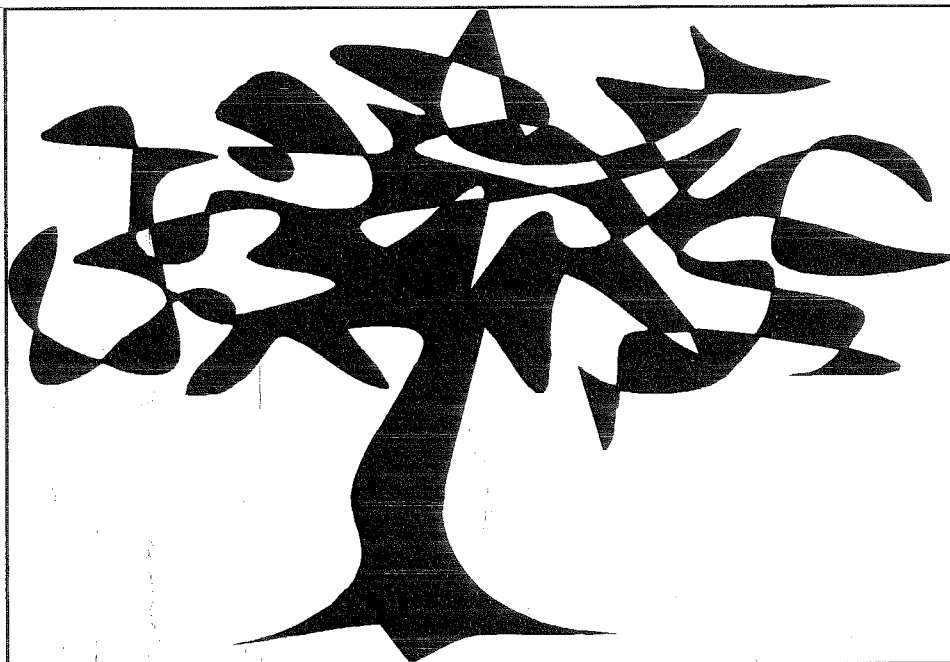
**G**reetings to the members, from Glenn Bennett & Mel Bevan. This office has been busy over the last couple of months. I and Mel would like to bring our people up to date on our activities.

I was part of an advance geographic information system training program held at the First Nation Education Centre in Prince Rupert. For those who would be interested in learning more about the GIS, please feel free in stopping by the office. I would be glad to give a demonstration. The treaty office is located in the back of the radio station.

As for Mel, he has been very busy working on the Treaty Process. He has dedicated his time to develop position paper along with the other community negotiators from the Tsimshian Nation. If you have any questions or comments, you are more than welcome to give either Mel or myself a call or just stop by the office.

*"Overlap" refers to when more than one First Nations has claimed to the same Territory.*

Each of the seven negotiator's along with representatives from each community were responsible to develop a position paper with their respective substantive issues for Mel. He is the chairperson looking after Governance which is one of the more detailed paper. Each paper was developed in the best interest of all Tsimshian people.



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The last Main table session was held in Vancouver, September 2-3, 1997, at the Federal Treaty Negotiation Office. All Seven Tsimshian Communities were at the table. The Fiscal Arrangement Committee presented their position paper for the discussion. This was Chaired by Mr. Harold Leighton of Metlakatla.

I would like to give some important dates to remember. The Tsimshian Tribal Council's Annual General Assembly is on **November 4-7, 1997 in Prince Rupert**. This would be a good time for the people to attend to hear first hand as to what is happening within the Tsimshian Tribal Council. And to hear reports from each community's Treaty Office.

Mel would like to have our own General meeting in November to bring the Kitse-las members up to date on our Activities with the Treaty process. As we are close with our neighbor, Kitsumkalum. They would also be participating in this meeting.

On September 15, we travelled to the community of Kitamaat village as they would like to begin their preliminary discussions on the overlap. The term "Overlap" refers to when more than one First Nations has claimed to the same Territory.

### inside...

- Tsimshian Annual Assembly
- Haisla Meeting
- Gitselasu Community Meeting
- "Post it Calender" of events-open to the public

# OVERLAP ISSUES

# NOVEMBER 1997

**F** or Gitselasu, we have to

look at the Haisla's to the South, and the Gitksan's to the East. While each First Nation is involved in Treaty Negotiations. The Treaty Commission requires the First Nation's to deal with the Overlap issues before they can proceed to a Treaty settlement with the two levels of government.

The meeting with the Haisla's are also involved with the Gitga'at (Hartly Bay) Heiltsuk (Bella Bella) and the Kitasoo (Klemtu). The first meeting was basically to get an idea as to where the other communities stand on the issue of overlap.

I have heard it said that this was never an issue between different nations as it is only when we had contact with the non native people did they force the native people to draw lines around their territory.

As I mentioned it awhile ago, our office needs your help in providing us with the address of your family members who resides outside the community. The McKenzie family has provided us with the names and address' of their family so we can include them on our mailing list. We plan to send out information packages regarding the Treaty Process and our Newsletters.

Newsletter from:  
Mr. Glenn Bennett

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2	3	4 Tsimshian	5 Tribal General	6 Council's Assemble	7 Annual	8
9	10	11	12 Main	13 Table	14 Meetings	15
16	17	18	19 Kitselas & Meeting Hall	20 Kitsumkalum @ our	21 General Community	22
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