

Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte Islands Economic Development Accord

The communities of Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte Islands are facing significant change over the next several years as the result of changes in patterns of traditional forest resource utilization. We are concerned about the future economic development opportunities that will be available for our children and our families and for the preservation of our core values and way of life..

It is herewith resolved that:

In order to help address these concerns, we agree to coordinate our efforts in areas of mutual economic development interest for the betterment of the whole of Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte Islands. The principle objectives of this action will be to:

- Revitalize the economy of Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte Islands
- Develop a transitional plan, including funding provisions, to mitigate the job losses that will occur with the implementation of the proposed new Land Use Plan.
- Organize, promote and obtain community support as well as Provincial and Federal government support for the priorities and initiatives proposed under this Accord
- Preserve and enhance the unique environmental, heritage and other qualities and values of Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte Islands, which are important to the well being of the community and its inhabitants.

Priorities will be given to establishing the following initiatives.

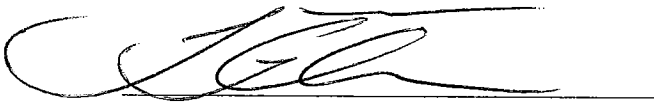
1. Create a regional economic development organization to provide leadership for the revitalization effort and to represent the common aspirations of residents from all the communities for a viable and rewarding economy.
2. Champion and promote the formation of a Community Forest for Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte Islands that will offer employment opportunities, fibre supply and economic returns to the communities' residents.
3. Secure the allocation of Crown Land for use by each community as catalysts for development and growth.
4. Secure funding to allow for the review of opportunities associated with containerization and particularly with the development of the Prince Rupert container port; and, undertake a resource inventory and opportunity identification study of the agricultural and non traditional forest product sectors.

The communities of Haida Gwaii/Queen Charlotte Islands pledge to apply their best efforts to the implementation of this accord, recognizing that resource and financial constraints will need to be addressed in order to attain these goals.



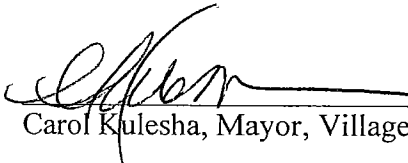
Ian Hetman, Electoral Area Director "D"
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District

21 Sep 2007
Date




Travis Glasman, Electoral Area Director "E"
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District

25 September 2007
Date



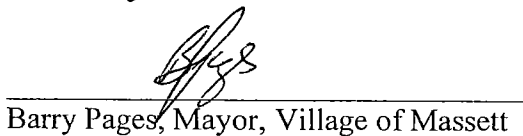
Carol Kulesha, Mayor, Village of Queen Charlotte

21 September 2007
Date



Cory Delves, Mayor, Village of Port Clements

21 Sept 07
Date



Barry Pages, Mayor, Village of Massett

21 SEPT 07
Date