Community Meeting Summary Clayoquot Alliance for Research, Education, and Training (CLARET) November 28, 2003

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Introduction

Between October 28 and November 12, 2003, CLARET conducted community meetings in Tofino, Ucluelet, Maaqtusiis (Ahousaht), and Hot Springs Cove (Hesquiaht). The announcement for the community meetings described them as follows:

Community meetings will be held to introduce and discuss the topics of this year's Clayoquot Symposium, which takes place November 25-28 at Tin Wis. The Clayoquot Symposium is an opportunity for members of West Coast communities to share their thoughts and ideas with each other and with invited academics and researchers. This year's topics are: **community health** (Nov 25), **understanding and managing tourism growth** (Nov 26), **marine protected areas and coastal zone planning** (Nov 27), and the **West Coast Vancouver Island Aquatic Management Board Workshop** (Nov 28).

In addition to introducing the symposium, the preliminary meetings will provide community members with an opportunity to make comments and ask questions that will be summarized and forwarded to academic participants so that they will have time to consider local concerns and respond to them at the symposium. The Clayoquot Symposium is co-sponsored by the Clayoquot Alliance for Research, Education, and Training (CLARET) and the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust.

Each community meeting was attended by between 12 and 20 community members, and the meetings lasted two to three hours. At each community meeting, CLARET staff briefly explained the purpose of the meeting, and then we opened the floor to comments and questions on each of three main topics in turn: community health, tourism, and coastal zone planning. The fourth topic, the West Coast Vancouver Island Aquatic Management Board workshop, is a discrete event in the symposium, and as such was seldom discussed at the community meetings.

As people spoke, their comments were recorded on a flipchart that was visible to all participants. CLARET resource people also took their own notes at the meetings. After the meetings, we compiled and integrated the notes and the flipcharts in a single set of proceedings. What follows is a general summary of those proceedings.

There are many benefits in sharing ideas, building mutual understanding and support, and discussing concerns with academic resource people. However, each community is unique and will require its own set of solutions. In addition, we acknowledge the concern expressed by some individuals that information from community meetings may be used in ways that are not helpful. For example, the information may form a basis for undesirable activities, inequitable wealth generation, or undermining community control of planning processes. The Clayoquot Symposium will allow people to address these concerns in an open forum. We encourage all community members to attend the symposium in order to ensure that the discussion takes account of their interests as effectively as possible.

NB None of the statements in this document represents the official position of the local governments of the communities visited.

Community Health

What are the status and trends of community health in the region?

Readers should keep in mind that our community meetings are limited in their ability to provide comprehensive information about the status and trends of community health in the region. Although the meetings were advertised and open to everyone living in and around Tofino, Ucluelet, Ahousaht and Hot Springs Cove, they did not include all individuals of the region. In addition, the factual information provided by community members at the meetings has not been verified. We report it here for the purpose of describing how some members of our communities perceive the elements of community health. We feel that many useful insights were shared, and these insights will serve well to spark further discussion at the Clayoquot Symposium.

What is community health?

In each community meeting, participants asked us what *we* meant by "community health". We turned the question back to them. No one offered a comprehensive definition; instead people suggested that community health is a big topic involving social, economic, and environmental factors that need to be integrated with individual health needs. A number of specific elements came up over the course of the discussions. These elements can be summarized under themes. In no specific order, community health includes:

- finding and keeping our culture(s) and cohesiveness
- maintaining our sense of place
- developing a diverse economy
- reducing the flow of profits away from the region
- acquiring independence and less reliance on government funding
- · regaining access to local resources and control over their management
- having a clean, healthy, productive environment
- establishing socio-economic equity within and among communities
- maintaining general security
- expanding the opportunities for gaining an education
- expanding the opportunities for recreation, especially among children
- stopping drug and alcohol abuse
- helping people in need through adequate health and social services
- having affordable and suitable housing

No matter how these elements are arranged or interconnected, they comprise a part of the picture of community health in our region. We hope that building a broader, more indepth discussion from this sketch will help communities to deal with the issues. We will organize the discussion at the Clayoquot Symposium to focus on these elements and to develop ideas and suggestions for actions to improve community health.

Culture, cohesiveness, sense of place, and security

Individuals are trying to identify, learn, and understand their cultures throughout our region. Balancing traditional Nuu-chah-nulth culture with modern-day culture is especially challenging due to residential school experiences and other time spent living

off the reserve. One person described this as "having one foot here, one foot there". Many First Nations identified the need for more guidance from elders in the traditional ways.

The question, "What is our culture?" was also raised by non-First Nations. One way of answering the question is to think about how we circulate and interact with each other on a day-to-day basis, and how this aspect of our communities is special to us.

The cohesiveness within small remote communities means that everyone is affected more directly by tragedies such as suicide, assault, etc. Cohesiveness also gives people a sense of place and a sense of security. Activities that bring communities together, such as the multi-cultural events put on by the community groups in the past, are seen as a good way to build cohesiveness.

A common concern is that external investment and development have and will continue to "dilute" our culture, cohesiveness, sense of place and security. (See more discussion under the section on how tourism development affects community health.) One participant explained that community health is about having roots and liking where you live, and there is much concern that current development trends put this feeling at risk.

Economic diversity and revenue flow

Several people from Tofino and Ucluelet expressed reservations about living in a oneindustry (tourism) town. In Tofino, meeting participants discussed the risks of a tourism focus: putting all eggs in one basket, the seasonal "boom and bust" in energy and time that makes people unavailable for community concerns, and the need to follow up on opportunities for building diversity (e.g., shellfish and value-added wood manufacturing). For Ucluelet, the shift away from logging and fishing in particular is seen to have caused a change in demographics, a loss of well-paying jobs, and loss of tax base to support key social services. A future healthy economy needs to be a diverse economy, including both old and new industries and preventing "leakage" of profits and other benefits out of the community. One person suggested that this can be done by encouraging "secondary industries" that build on our basic industries. Another person suggested that Ucluelet's future economy also needs to provide opportunities for those more oriented towards manual work such as building.

The idea of maintaining diversity and balance among employment sectors was less of a focus for discussion with Ahousaht and Hesquiaht community members. Instead, they emphasized the importance of gaining more control over and access to resources that offer economic opportunities.

Access to resources and control over resource management

A participant at the Ahousaht community meeting described over-reliance on government grants as a negative trend. Reserve communities are suffering under poor government services, yet they also depend on those services. A Hot Springs Cove resident describes this feeling as being on a life-support system. The question is: how can communities,

especially First Nations, become economically and socially independent? First Nations expect this to happen only if they can gain control over resource use and management in their traditional territories.

Participants at the Ucluelet, Ahousaht, and Hot Springs meetings expressed a strong desire for more access to and local control over resources. Access to resources is seen to be the foundation for economic opportunity in these communities. People in Ucluelet feel that they have been cut off from fisheries, and even information about fisheries, by government policies and centralization of control. Hesquiaht people stated that every inch of their traditional territory is already zoned and managed by the government through parks and tree farm licenses, leaving little opportunity for community-based resource planning. Traditional and local knowledge is not valued sufficiently by government agencies, and instead bureaucratic processes reign. Members of many different communities feel that we need a local process that works better than existing forums, particularly the Central Region Board, for involving community members in planning and management. In Tofino, the subject of coastal zone planning raised the question about whether the political will exists in government agencies for meaningful public participation. It was suggested that we may benefit by looking at international examples of successful public participation.

Equity within and among communities

Tofino participants described an inequity between Tofino and First Nations with regard to the benefits and costs of tourism. A participant in the Hesquiaht meeting pointed out that "Tofino is not the center of Clayoquot Sound". People use First Nations' culture, territory, and patronage to acquire funding and to promote business. Yet currently the First Nations benefit little from the tourism economy. They also perceive that in many cases, tourist presence and recreational harvest of resources like clams and salmon has *reduced* their economic and cultural opportunities. In addition, government agencies provide little support in monitoring activities, enforcing regulations, or dealing with pollution from tourism. This leads to the question, "Are we on a one-way street or a two-way street?"

Inequities among communities may be aggravated by differences in culture and attitude to the environment. One member of the Hot Springs community noted that nonaboriginal people have a difficult time understanding that First Nations "look after" all parts of their traditional territories, and their definition of community goes beyond a town or reserve boundary. The Hesquiaht community includes people "on" and "off" reserve.

In light of these concerns about inequity, each of the community meetings identified the need for a regional approach to development and management of resources and development.

One participant in Ahousaht suggested that money coming into the Reserve community is not circulated properly. This leads to questions about inequity within communities as well as between them.

A clean and productive environment

People at the meetings in Ahousaht and Hot Springs Cove clearly stated that community health requires a clean environment. In Ahousaht, a number of things need to be cleaned up, such as derelict boats in the harbour and the garbage dump. Hot Springs Cove recently moved their diesel generators and dealt with garbage problems, but only after people got sick. Hesquiaht First Nation also has moved their sewage outfall outside of the Cove, where better flushing action can occur. At the same time, garbage from other communities collects in Hesquiaht Harbour after storms. Medicinal vials from the Tofino hospital have been among the items washed ashore.

People in all the communities mentioned that tourism negatively impacts the environment. People also suggested that these negative impacts could be reduced through proper management, education, and partnerships. Part of the discussion in Ahousaht was focused on the imbalances brought about by policies to protect sea otters and sea lions, animals that tourists love.

A participant in Hot Springs Cove mentioned the need to better understand the farreaching effects of fish farms, which may affect shellfish, ducks, and wildlife.

Opportunities for gaining an education

Each of the community meetings included a discussion about improving educational opportunities. A recent needs assessment done for the West Coast Women's Resource Society indicates the need for adult education and family counseling services in local communities. At the Ahousaht meeting, it was suggested that parenting courses may help address drug and alcohol abuse, because parents are the teachers of their children.

Government support for schools is declining.

Children from Hot Springs Cove face the challenge of boat transportation to school during severe storms. Safer access to the school in Ahousaht is desired.

Both Ahousaht and Hesquiaht members spoke strongly about the need to learn and use their own languages. Current school programs are not sufficient in this critical issue.

At the Tofino and Ucluelet meetings, people raised the idea that the community needs mentoring programs for youth. This could include job-shadowing or exposure to the range of skilled people who work in our communities – for example, people involved in woodworking, fisheries, technology, and tourism.

Opportunities for recreation

In all communities, people suggested that recreational activities, such as soccer and hockey, are important for children and youth. One person commented that children do not participate as much in many of the activities of the region that are featured for tourists, such as kayaking and surfing. Supporting more local involvement in these activities

would be beneficial for personal development in general, and would better prepare youth for future employment in the tourism sector.

Drug and alcohol abuse

The greatest focus on drug and alcohol abuse occurred in the discussions in Ahousaht and Hot Springs. Someone mentioned that drugs are substitutes for tradition. Several people emphasized that guidance is needed from elders in this matter. Sometimes the problem starts at home with the parents, so parents need help as well.

Lack of law enforcement and involvement of the Ahousaht community in law enforcement was discussed. Government services that are needed to help deal with the drug and alcohol abuse are seen to be declining. Youth no longer hide when they are drinking underage. Drinking and drug abuse is too easily accepted and goes uncorrected too much of the time. Furthermore, people perceive that tourism tends to increase the amount of drugs and alcohol brought into the communities of Ahousaht and Hot Springs Cove.

Health and social services

The current trend of government funding cuts is an issue in all communities with respect to health, especially as it pertains to hospital services, health specialists, services for children with special needs, services to deal with drug and alcohol abuse, and social services. These aspects of community health are seen to be declining as a result of decreased government funding for these services.

People at each of the community meetings described their dismay at the lack of services provided for special needs children and other special health and social needs. Government cutbacks continue to reduce the availability of these services to our communities. A participant at the Ucluelet meeting suggested that we need to find a way to better share resources and facilities across the region.

Affordable and suitable housing

Tourism development was discussed at length as the factor creating the rise in housing costs and land prices in Tofino and Ucluelet. Many of the people who are buying property have no intention of living here and thus do not support the community (see the discussion below for more on how tourism affects community health).

In Ahousaht, much of the housing is not suitable because of poor construction, thus it leads to problems such as mold, dampness, high heating costs, and poor living conditions.

Tourism

How does tourism affect community health?

Every community in the region has been affected by tourism. Participants at the meetings were most vocal about the negative impacts of tourism. Some benefits were acknowledged, however; people pointed out that these benefits are not shared equally within or among communities. We have divided the topics discussed into three sections – how tourism affects local economies, how tourism affects the environment, and how tourism affects the social health of our communities. Ideas within the three sections interconnect.

How tourism affects local economies

In Tofino and, increasingly, in Ucluelet, tourism results in increased prices for land and housing. The desirability of vacationing on the West Coast inspires wealthy people from outside the area to buy property here. Many of these people rent their properties as "vacation rentals" when they are not using them. This use negatively affects local neighborhoods and the availability of long-term rental housing. Thus, many of the property owners do not live in the region and do not support the community beyond paying property taxes and some small business activity. People believe that much of the money made through property rental flows out of the region. In Tofino, it was acknowledged that some of the larger resorts have helped to support the Tofino elementary school.

Tourism places heavy demands on local infrastructure, including water, sewage treatment, and road maintenance. People expressed doubts about whether tourism revenue pays for the infrastructure that supports it. One person asked whether tourism revenue balances the opportunity costs (in lost logging or other activities) of protecting aesthetic resources.

Ahousaht recognizes that tourism can be good for raising money and becoming more independent if it is developed carefully. They have ideas for various tourism-related developments, such as a marina. The Hesquiaht currently see some small economic benefits of tourism, including jobs associated with the Hot Springs Lodge, the campground, and the Matlahaw water taxi. Some Hesquiaht are concerned that their territory is dominated by B.C. Parks that were established largely to accommodate tourism. It is costly and difficult to get permits to run tourism businesses in these Parks.

How tourism affects the environment

Tourists witness what people are trying to protect and join environmentalists to campaign against logging pristine watersheds (aesthetic resources). People opposed to these campaigns ask whether tourism leads to a "Not in My Back Yard" attitude to protecting the environment.

In Ucluelet, it was suggested that money for tourism development may come from unethical sources or sources that sacrificed environmental integrity in other parts of the world.

In Ahousaht, people mentioned that many elders feel that sport fishing (catch and release) is disrespectful, especially when fish are killed but not eaten in the process.

The killing of wolves on Vargas Island is blamed on the behavior of uneducated tourists. The wolf attacks occurred after the wolves became habituated to people. The wolf killings were devastating to Ahousaht people, many of whom consider themselves Wolf people by heritage.

Some of the Hesquiaht see tourists harvesting their traditional foods (clams, crabs, mussels, octopus, fish) on a recreational basis, without regulation. Similarly, sea otters are perceived to be depleting traditional food stocks, but some suggest the otters are protected mainly because tourists think they are cute. Furthermore, tourists pollute the traditional territories of Ahousaht and Hesquiaht with human waste and garbage. Sewage is dumped by numerous boats that moor within Hot Springs Cove over the summer.

People from Hesquiaht emphasized that they are using particular places within their territory even when it appears that they are not occupying them. Tourists see remote beaches and forests as "wilderness," and help themselves to fish, crabs, clams, mussels, etc., without understanding that this food belongs to someone else. Tourists fail to see that these "wild" places are part of First Nations' *Ha Huulthle*, and that the environment and food sources are in fact being carefully managed.

One person believes that harmful exotic plants are often introduced in an effort to improve aesthetics for tourism development.

How tourism affects social health

Locals feel that tourists usurp their access to beaches and recreation sites. People from Ahousaht and Hesquiaht believe that tour guides often make up stories about their culture. Children from Hesquiaht have been told that they do not belong in the hot springs.

Tourists also are seen to invade the privacy and private property of local people. People from Ahousaht and Hesquiaht were very upset about the fact that tourists and tourism developers do not respect sacred places. First Nations participants felt that they had little control over where and how tourist activities and tourism development happened in their traditional territories. They also stated that tourists steal cultural artifacts from burial caves and beaches in traditional territories.

It was suggested that tourists bring disease into communities, as well as drugs and alcohol. The sense of security dissolves as tourists invade and the rate of crime increases.

Tourism also is perceived to "dilute" local culture and to divide the population into the elite and service classes. Most of the jobs in a tourism economy are unskilled, seasonal, underpaid, and inadequate for supporting local families. Increasingly, these jobs are done by migrating seasonal workers, leaving locals wondering just how tourism jobs benefit the local community.

Tourism drives long-term residents away as a result of the higher cost of living (especially in terms of accommodation and land prices) and overcrowding of cherished local places. There is a sense that the gap between the average wage and the average mortgage is widening, with potentially devastating consequences for long-term residents.

Tourism is seasonal, and seasonal work is stressful for people. After working intensely to raise money during the five months or so of operations, residents who work in tourism have little energy or desire to give time to volunteer for their community. Volunteerism is believed to be lower in Tofino than Ucluelet.

Some locals feel that tourists mock their poverty.

What are suggestions for tourism management in the region?

The need for various forms of tourism management and control was expressed at each of the community meetings. Currently, tourism is seen to drive the agenda for development. People would prefer to see the communities drive the agenda. Overall, tourism is seen as a good thing only if it is understood, managed and controlled by the locals.

People expressed a need to keep track of indicators of the costs and benefits of tourism to our local communities. There also is a need to determine the carrying capacity and set limits on the number of people allowed at the hot springs, the number of whale watching boats in Cow Bay, the number of hikers in wilderness areas, etc. Without limits, the impacts of tourism are expected to be equal to the impacts of past clearcutting. Several people suggested that it is more difficult to monitor and regulate tourism than logging or fishing.

Many believe that tourist training and education should be mandatory. Educational videos could be useful for making people aware of the environment and the culture, and teaching them how to behave in other people's homes. Low-impact tourism, such as education, research, or volunteer-based tourism, could be helpful to our communities.

There is a need for low-cost tourism and recreational opportunities for locals and the nonelite, such as young families and youth. We need to leave space for community members.

People suggested that there should be greater control of tourist access to communities. A shuttle bus from the junction would alleviate parking problems in Tofino. Tourists could be licensed and tracked when they enter communities. Signage would help direct and control tourists better within the village of Maaqtusiis (Ahousaht).

Ahousaht wants to control tourism development in their community. Hesquiaht people suggested that the Interim Measures Extension Agreement provides an opportunity for Management for a Living Hesquiaht Harbour to be involved in developing a tourism management plan with the Province.

A regional approach that involves First Nations and local businesses was suggested in all community meetings. The benefits of tourism need to be spread more widely, thus we need a regional perspective to address the inequity in planning.

A conference on tourism for Clayoquot Sound was suggested. Tourism operators and First Nations could discuss their concerns. Protocols need to be developed for all communities involved in tourism, so that it becomes culturally and traditionally acceptable. Tourism would be a good thing if tourists came to learn about First Nations' culture and to help improve the health of our resources. The need for good leadership in addressing this issue was recognized. It would be useful to look at examples for tourism regulation in other parts of the world, e.g. the Quebec Biosphere Reserve near Montreal, Costa Rica's ecotourism certification processes, etc.

Coastal Zone Planning: a tool for dealing with factors that affect Community Health

Several regional organizations are interested in developing an integrated coastal plan for Clayoquot Sound. CLARET resource people presented some background on the potential for coastal zone planning to improve information, involve communities, and clarify opportunities for sustainable development. We also asked for community members' ideas about how a coastal planning process should be structured and what issues it should address. Many of the comments raised after the introduction of the coastal planning topic have been inserted in the Community Health and Tourism sections above; those sections should be consulted carefully in thinking about appropriate design of a regional coastal planning process. Responses to the idea of a coastal plan itself were mixed.

The original symposium plan included a focus on marine protected areas. In line with this, CLARET raised the topic at several community meetings. However, due to time constraints, this topic was dropped from the agenda, except as one element of integrated coastal planning in general. Many community comments on the marine protected areas topic are integrated with other sections in this summary.

In Tofino, people expressed a concern that there had to be a good process and political will for community members to become engaged. A good process would include a clear process for decision making and clear goals that elaborate on the need to make good decisions, to live sustainably, and to keep the environment healthy. It would also draw on the lessons from other communities that have implemented successful community processes.

In both Tofino and Ucluelet, some were concerned that a coastal plan would introduce new environmental protection, making it more difficult for local communities to make a living or to recreate. Others noted that aquatic environmental protection can be flexible and target specific problem activities in specific areas, while allowing others to go forward. In addition, carrying capacities for specific activities should be established to limit damage. Similarly, in Ahousaht, someone stated that if we make ourselves aware, we won't have more parks created under our noses. However, several people in Tofino and Ucluelet did express a belief that some protected areas were necessary in order to protect and rebuild the ecosystems and resources that we value.

In all communities, there was cautious interest in the potential for better information to improve management of coastal resources, particularly in encouraging sustainable economic development. However, this interest was also tempered by a concern that existing power relationships cannot be remade. One person asked, "If treaty negotiations are not making progress on these issues, what makes you think a coastal planning process can?" In addition, the power question applies to those who hold the information – knowledge is power. In Hesquiaht, people feel that they already have the information needed to make good decisions – but their information is held to be inferior to scientifically produced information.

Tofino and Hot Springs Cove people expressed a need to clarify the relationship between a coastal plan and aboriginal rights and title. First Nations still have rights and title to their entire territories.

The Hesquiaht meeting noted that every inch of their traditional territory has already been zoned in tree farm licenses, marine protected areas, mining claims, parks, leases, and so on. These need to be removed and traditional rights reaffirmed. One concern that was emphasized was that the goal of planning is to divide the coast up permanently into areas for this or that particular use. People were skeptical that these permanent arrangements would actually benefit Hesquiaht. They felt that a greater reliance on traditional management approaches, such as in the Management for a Living Hesquiaht Harbour, would be more effective. They also questioned the standard practice of having "representatives" of the community in a multi-party planning process.

TOFINO COMMUNITY MEETING

Conducted by the Clayoquot Alliance for Research, Education, and Training (CLARET) Tofino Community Hall, October 28, 2003

The purpose of this meeting was to generate comments and questions from community members about the topics of the Clayoquot Symposium, November 24-28, 2003.

1. Topic: Community Health: What is it? What are the status and trends of community health in the region? What are some of the key factors that affect community health?

- Last month's marine mammal viewing guidelines meeting was a good meeting for community health. The topic was rules and bylaws for wildlife viewing—very important considerations for certain businesses. Self-regulation is an empowerment process. It is non-adversarial and people can share information and consider the concerns of the community. Other industries may learn from this process as well.
- There is a risk with tourism: putting all the eggs in one basket. People in Tofino work so hard for only 5 months a year. No energy/ time left to do something else. In winter, they either gear up for next year or leave the community. The sense of community, the value of participation and sharing are disappearing. There is less "community" in Tofino than in Ucluelet.
- Are we really a one industry town?
- Diversity is important. Kelly Vodden's study [available at http://www.focs.ca/reports/cgeocontents.html] shows some opportunities out there, i.e. shellfish, value-added wood. We need to follow up on this.
- We need a year-round thing. People are crazy busy during summer. Again, the economy (tourism) is the concern!
- Winter is not that bad: you can storm watch in winter, and surf. These are healthy activities.
- There is concern about the fact that expensive pieces of property are being bought by people who have no intention to live here. They will not show up and be part of our community.
- The "benefactor class" is absent.
- How do we know if our community is healthy and vibrant? We need indicators. We can maintain that health is measurable. We need a systemic study. We have to put human health and community health together.
- Back in 1988, Tofino had indicators to measure community health. 30 years ago, the same seasonal phenomenon was happening in Tofino: summer fishing, hibernate or go away in winter. Currently, some businesses stay open. It is getting better.
- Some high-end hotels help the school here. They are willing to fund local schools this year. We should encourage businesses to help the community.
- Extreme seasonal shifts cause stress. Mental health workers need to identify this powerful force.
- Children do not participate in our feature activities: kayaking, surfing, etc. The community needs to mentor the children.

- Poverty is an issue. Not everyone is doing well. First Nations communities have different problems. We must acknowledge the differences between Tofino and First Nations.
- We need activities and events to bring the "two solitudes" together.
- Poverty, sleeping in parks, begging...need to find a way to deal with these things. We can't just kick them out. Some people live in tents on local trails and there are issues of drugs and crime, pollution.
- We need a regional citizenship and a regional approach to poverty and development.
- We cannot just market our town as a dynamic and world-class place. We all share this resource. We cannot just ignore other communities.
- Three overlapping circles: social health, economic health and environmental health. We should integrate them all together.

2. Topic: Tourism impacts on community health: How does tourism affect community health? What are the specific concerns and needs for tourism management in the region?

- Tourism could be worthwhile. Every tourist is a witness and they will see what to protect and why. But without criteria, responsibility, and regulations, it will be equivalent to clear-cutting.
- How many people can use the hot springs?
- How shall we define eco-tourism?
- Eco-tourism is lacking criteria. Going to wilderness is not eco-tourism. We should set up limitations for the amount of people and limitation for reservations.
- Enjoying the environment without responsibilities is a bad thing.
- What is the carrying capacity for tourism? We risk environmental damage if we do not pay attention to this question.
- What is the proper relationship of people to nature?
- There should be mandatory tourist training. There are good examples from the US: You can not visit certain beaches without viewing an educational video.
- There should be rules for kayaking, too. Otherwise, tourists are competing with locals. Locals cannot use their own beaches without having to compete.
- We need to ensure access for locals and leave a space for community.
- The tourism industry is growing fast. How much room is left for surfing and kayaking? What shall we do next? Control is needed regarding whale watching, for example. How do we keep the rules up to date with changing activities?
- The situation in Tofino is awkward. We need regional tourism planning. We need an inventory of tourism data. We need to find out what the tourists want and move them around more widely. But we also need to establish limits. And we need to ensure that the benefits are spread around fairly.
- There is concern regarding the water supply during summer peak time. We need to establish limits.
- Ahousaht has a problem with the Walk on the Wild Side trail. Tourists cannot be on every sand beach. If they are, there is no privacy for locals.
- What about a user-fee solution to water and other resources?
- We need to study the costs and benefits of tourism. Possibly using indicators, both financial and non-financial.

- How do you declare that a place is wilderness? We have to work with First Nations; we cannot do it by ourselves.
- A regional strategy-making process requires the involvement of local businesses.
- We need a needs assessment—to help identify business opportunities.
- We need to work on slowing down the traffic and other infrastructure needs that result from tourism.
- Tofino has become a service provider for tourism. Tourism sets the agenda. This is different from community-driven processes.
- How is tourism different from other industries in its challenges?
- We have been dealing with lots of people. Not just one big company. We need to work with local people to diversify the economy.
- We should look at other sectors, for example, an educational institute. We should not depend on the tourism sector.
- We have become a single-industry town that is based on a resource industry tourism
- We should think creatively.
- Ma-mook has been studying opportunities.
- Examples elsewhere: Quebec biosphere reserve, near Montreal. They set up regulations. But there are concerns of limitation of capacity and conflicts of interests.
- Threats to the community and environment need to be explored.
- We should work on expanding the core reserve area to include the remaining pristine valleys.
- What will be the impact of Working Forest legislation on the tourism economy?
- We should respect First Nations.
- We need to re-visit the Biosphere reserve theme.

3. Topic: Marine Protected Areas and Integrated Coastal Planning

- We don't mind processes, as long as they have results. We need reasonable, meaningful actions. Not just a report. We need to arrive at allowable limits: specific levels and uses of marine and terrestrial resources.
- Why should we participate in this conversation?
- Does the political will exist for public participation?
- We should look at international examples of successful public processes.
- Who is the planner? The body of authority?
- There is uncertainty at the political level. There are so many agencies that it is difficult to see who is responsible, who is in control
- We need to consider First Nations' interests, such as their traditional rights to fish and hunt.
- People will get involved when you threaten their livelihood.
- There is a need to have marine protected areas. For example, herring habitat protection, fish farm limitations. How it will be designed?
- The marine mammals viewing guidelines meeting is a good example: local inputs make differences.
- Our situation is similar to the provincial agricultural land issue, if you threaten the community, people in the community will get engaged. People need to believe in the process and to see the results of involvement.

- We need examples of good coastal planning.
- What is the carrying capacity of Clayoquot Sound?
- In the 1994 planning for Barkley Sound, limitations were set up, but not many people know about it and Land and Water BC ignored this effort.
- What is it that we are trying to achieve with Coastal Zone Planning?
- An Official Community Plan for the Clayoquot Sound area,
- Good decisions,
- To live sustainably,
- And to keep the environment pristine.
- What is the offshore limit of a coastal plan? In Pacific Rim National Park, for example, it is the 10 meters depth line.

UCLUELET COMMUNITY MEETING

Conducted by the Clayoquot Alliance for Research, Education, and Training (CLARET) Ucluelet Courthouse, October 29, 2003

The purpose of this meeting was to generate comments and questions from community members about the topics of the Clayoquot Symposium, November 24-28, 2003.

<u>1. Topic: Community Health: What is it? What are the status and trends of community health in the region? What are some of the key factors that affect community health?</u>

- Some people questioned the bias of speakers currently scheduled for the symposium. There was a feeling that this meeting should have happened earlier, in order to give community members a chance to influence the speaker list.
- Community health is a big topic, involving economic, social, environmental, and individual factors.
- There is currently a lack of support systems and infrastructure for special needs children in the communities. There is also a more general problem with capacity to support children's health. Many perceive that these trends and many others are due to decline in the tax base.
- We are losing people and losing families. This contributes to the decline in the tax base.
- Changes in the demographics of the communities are partly due to the lack of affordable housing, and partly due to the lack of work opportunities. Young people, young families and seniors can't afford to live here, and that is a problem.
- The increased number of vacation rentals also causes housing prices to rise and decreases the volunteer base in the community.
- Problems due to the lack of affordable housing are compounded by the loss of wellpaying jobs over the past decade or more. The shift away from logging and fishing in particular has led to a change in demographics, a loss of well-paying jobs, and a loss of tax base to support key services.
- There is a need to build the local economy by finding a proper balance among industries. A health economy supports a healthy community.
- A healthy economy needs to be a diverse economy. A diverse economy should include both old and new industries.
- A healthy economy prevents "leakage" of profits and other benefits out of the community. Where does the revenue flow to?
- We need to think about the encouragement of "secondary industries" that build on our basic industries and reduce leakages.
- We also need to ensure local access to the local resources as a basis for economic opportunity. This may also help to reduce leakages.
- One big issue in community health is equity in opportunities to benefit. How are costs and benefits distributed across different groups in the region?

- Much of the above raises questions about the role of larger provincial and global trends in supporting or eroding local community health. What are the ways that we can account for these trends or influence them?
- Community members should note that two recent studies may be useful in grappling with questions of community health: (1) the Community Needs Assessment by the Westcoast Women's Resource Society and (2) the Green Economic Opportunities study by Friends of Clayoquot Sound in association with Ecotrust and the SFU Centre for Coastal Studies.
- Preliminary findings of the WWRS community needs assessment include the need for adult education and family counseling services in the local communities.
- One way of improving our situation regarding key social services may be to look at ways of sharing facilities and resources to reduce redundancies.
- We need to think regionally about these questions and about community development overall.
- We also need to consider whether "all development is created equal" that is, what kinds of development are *healthy* development?
- What is the role of culture and community cohesiveness in promoting community health? This raises the question, "What exactly IS our culture?" This involves thinking about how we circulate and interact with each other on a day-to-day basis.
- Does investment and development by external parties tend to *dilute* our culture and cohesiveness?
- Youth need opportunities to learn & be mentored by a range of skilled people who work in our communities e.g., people involved in woodworking, fisheries, technology, tourism, etc.
- We need to create opportunities to learn new things from each other, both as part of tourism/recreation development and as a part of our resource management systems as a whole. This is one function of the proposed Community Forest Centre.
- But Ucluelet's future economy also needs to provide opportunities for those more oriented towards manual work, building, etc.
- "How would I feel not healthy?" And answered "if the community gets too large, I might lose my sense of place & sense of security. I'd feel we were unhealthy if we were unable to reach out to others in the community who are in need."

2. Topic: Tourism impacts on community health: How does tourism affect community health? What are the specific concerns and needs for tourism management in the region?

- Tofino's current situation demonstrates the risks of negative social and environmental impacts from tourism.
- There is a problem with the seasonality of jobs associated with the tourism industry.
- Tourism-oriented developments also contribute to the rise in land values that is identified as a problem in the community health topic.
- Tourism brings visitors, and that raises the question of dilution of our community culture (see community health topic).
- Tourists also exert a strong influence on the direction of community development this is probably not a good thing. Tourism also taxes our infrastructure water, sewage, road maintenance, etc.

- Tourism tends to encourage a strong divide between elite and service groups.
- How much tourist money comes from unethical sources? We don't know do we want to invite "dirty money" into our towns?
- Tourism tends to drive long-term residents away from the communities.
- Where does tourism revenue flow to? Usually elsewhere. This is the question of equity and leakage, as also raised in the community health discussion.
- Equity questions also come into play when we consider the fact that a large amount of tourism activity makes use of the rural resources and attractions, yet the revenues accrue mainly to Tofino and Ucluelet. We need to think about the pollution, conflicting uses, and ecosystem damage that is occuring outside the towns and villages due to tourism. We need to think about the costs of infrastructure, monitoring, planning, and maintenance that accrue to the region, and how to pay those costs. That is, we need a regional perspective in our management of tourism.
- Regional planning of tourism and other activities is a priority. And there needs to be good public involvement in that planning.
- We need to encourage the kind of tourism activities that are low-impact these may be activities that focus on education and research. Several local initiatives are seeking to develop the kind of research activities in the region that will bring spin-off benefits for a sustainable economy. A regional research institute is needed to attract this kind of benefit.
- We should also think about the need to provide low-cost tourism opportunities for locals and for the non-elite. For example, the interpretation services at Parks and elsewhere are becoming more expensive and less available.
- We also need to protect recreation opportunities for locals, young families, and youth.
- The phenomenon of "volunteer tourism", where people will volunteer to do work in places that they want to visit, might be a way of overcoming many of the problems in tourism impacts discussed here.
- The proposed Community Forest Centre would help to explore some of the directions discussed above.
- Does tourism income repay the opportunity costs of protecting aesthetic resources?
- Does the protection of aesthetic resources in this region encourage unsustainable economic activities in other regions? Does tourism lead to a "not-in-my-backyard" outcome?
- How many exotic species get introduced to this region in order to make it more aesthetically pleasing to tourists?
- Tourism may be much more difficult to monitor and regulate than traditional industries like logging and fishing. However, there are also some examples of apparently successful monitoring and regulation for example, Costa Rica's ecotourism certification.
- Does tourism pay for the infrastructure that supports it?
- What are the *benefits* of tourism, besides just the financial revenue?

<u>3. Topic: Integrated Coastal Planning: a tool that can be used to address community concerns about community health and tourism impacts.</u>

- There is much interest among local governments and communities in developing an integrated coastal plan for Clayoquot Sound. The Central Region Board and the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District have direct mandates around this issue. In addition, the West Coast Vancouver Island Aquatic Management Board provides a way of addressing the jurisdictional issues around federal agencies like Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Over summer 2003, the Clayoquot Alliance has been facilitating discussion among these various parties, including local First Nations and other communities, to explore the potential for a coastal plan in Clayoquot Sound. This plan would involve pulling together information and interested parties regarding the various resources and activities in the coastal zone, so that we can make better decisions about the activities from a regional perspective. The potential for such process. At present, no terms of reference or workplan exist for the process.
- There is concern that a coastal plan might introduce new environmental protection that makes it more difficult for local communities to make a living.
- Integrated coastal planning should focus on developing and securing opportunities for economic and social development. Some people think protected areas should not be a big part of future coastal planning.
- Some people do not want to see any Marine Protected Areas.
- How will local communities ensure that a coastal plan meets community needs and priorities?
- Concern: the crab fishery in C.S. will be wiped out by sea otter recovery.
- All relevant parties need to be at the table in order for a coastal plan to work. This includes provincial bodies, federal bodies, first nations, and municipalities.
- The role of CLARET should be to help compile information that will enable better decision-making by the bodies that hold jurisdiction.
- The use of marine areas needs to be planned according to the unique qualities and values and potential of each area.
- Other issues that should be addressed in an integrated coastal plan include:
 - ➤ the importance of developing community culture.
 - diversification of the economy
 - protection of all existing values
- There need to be careful provisions around the political and power issues. Even an organization that just collects information still has the ability to exert power over a process. Agendas need to be brought into the open.
- Many people's fears about coastal planning need to be put in the context of the fact that coastal planning happens every day, as the various governments make decisions about land use, tenures, and so on. But right now these decisions don't have an adequate information base for those decisions. A deliberate attempt to do integrated planning would improve that information base, for everyone's use.
- How can regular folks participate meaningfully?

- There is confusion over the role of CLARET. The Central Region Board has already begun the process of developing a coastal plan, and it has a lot of the relevant jurisdiction how does CLARET fit with this activity?
- How will a coastal plan deal with overlapping jurisdictions in the coastal zone?
- The coastal planning process should try to see the problem freshly, and to consider new models of doing it. We have a lot of experience to learn from in this region.
- What are the implications of Bill 48 (passed in late October 2003) for our ability to develop a community-based coastal plan? [Bill 48 designates fish farms as protected under the "right to farm" legislation, thus removing some of local communities' power to refuse such developments.]
- We don't have a good sense of who is doing what out there. We need to get this information together.

4. Marine Protected Areas: a tool that can be used to address community concerns about community health and tourism impacts.

- The Biosphere Reserve networks of Canada and at an international level are interested in exploring the needs and potential for creating a marine protected areas network along the entire west coast of the continent. This initiative would focus on the needs for protecting migratory paths of several endangered species.
- Marine protected areas need to account for the importance of terrestrial habitat loss in creating endangered species.
- Will MPAs really save endangered species? The bigger problem is simply that the human population is growing and consuming more and more of the earth's resources. So there are fewer resources for other species. How do we deal with THAT?
- How will this biosphere reserve initiative dovetail with DFO intitiatives in MPAs?
- What information do we have about the socio-economic impacts of marine protected areas?
- What implications do MPAs have for limiting local access and use of the marine areas?
- Fishermen have concerns about losing access to resources, but they also understand that MPAs can help to regenerate stocks.
- Overprotection of marine areas can seriously harm community health.
- There are many options for MPA design it doesn't have to just be a question of completely fencing it off or not you can have specific limitations on specific activities, while letting other uses go forward.
- We need to educate ourselves about the potential benefits and costs involved.
- DFO has indicated to some of us that the costs of establishing and enforcing MPAs may need to be paid from the local tax base.
- A lot of the information about marine activities is difficult to get from DFO. We pay for it, but we don't get access to it. This is a big problem.
- We need a voice in the process, and we need the information to make good decisions.
- We should note that protected areas are not "healthy" they are an indication that our activities across the landscape are unsustainable.

- MPAs have the potential to create fear in local communities, and when that happens you get polarization. Someone has suggested that we need to provide better security to people who are forced to change employment.
- Finally, there was a fear expressed about how research & education has led to policy reform, in the past, which has threatened and changed the way of life for many in the region. This was suggested as an explanation for why some of the community members/political leaders want to be involved in determining the speakers to be invited, and subject areas to be addressed in the upcoming symposium. There ensued a discussion about the role of political, community and academic interests in setting/controlling the research and educational agenda for the region. What are the appropriate levels of engagement for each and what is a feasible way to allow for academic freedom and relevant research. How do we build trust and open mindedness?

AHOUSAHT COMMUNITY MEETING

Conducted by the Clayoquot Alliance for Research, Education, and Training (CLARET) Abousaht Band Office, November 5, 2003

The purpose of this meeting was to generate comments and questions from community members about the topics of the Clayoquot Symposium, November 24-28, 2003.

<u>1. Topic: Community Health: What is it? What are the status and trends of community health in the region? What are some of the key factors that affect community health?</u>

- Many members talked about drug & alcohol issues, especially youth.
- Ahousaht is my home. I would like to see changes before I die. We need 2-3 communities to work together to solve these issues.
- People live in different places. Elders live in different places. Communities need guidance from elders. Chiefs and elders should get together. We need know where we should go.
- The impacts of residential schools are still affecting us. We need to take a look at ourselves.
- We need to address community health as a whole tribe. We have meetings. Some really affect some people. But we are not clear if the leaders decide to do something, when, and how. One tribe cannot cure this thing alone (drugs & alcohol).
- We have been talking about this for a while. We need some solutions. Last week, I saw those troubled kids. The police sent them back...we need action. *There are no tears left*. We have talked about it too much. It is a problem. Lots of frustration.
- It is awkward when people try to help those kids get off drugs and alcohol while at the same time parents help their children to do drugs and alcohol. Already existing powers within community should be brought out, like elders.
- We need control. We need to use traditional tools to deal with things like drug and alcohol abuse.
- Sometimes people trust outside experts, but it is hard to talk with someone when there are no proper facilities.
- There are bad influences from parents. I have welcomed them to meetings but they will not come. We do have workers here, but the result is discouraging.
- We need government support. Government should open their ears and listen to people from Canada. We need support for our language.
- Police issues: maybe effective law enforcement will help. If people living here want better policies, we should have them. Respect for elders is very important. We need to let outside people know that it can be done if we work together, i.e., work with RCMP. Get permits from both outside and inside. We need to enforce bylaws.
- We need to review *Indian Act*.
- Everything is related to our health.
- We are trying to tie something together that is hard to tie together. We have the challenge of knowing who we really are. I have struggled with this for years. If you have ever gone through everything that I have been through then you will understand

me. You will understand why I said that I have one foot there [in the outside world], and one foot here [in Ahousaht]. We try to find the balance. Without this kind of balance our community is not healthy. The strength we get is from our culture. I went to the forest, I felt empowered. I know why we are unhealthy. I need to find a way out.

- I need guidance. Residential school affected me: drinking, drugs. Now I quit them. We need help to stop those abusing. Tough experiences made me stronger.
- Tofino is different from us. We are very close to each other here. One suicide may cause another suicide. We need our culture back. We need to bring back respect. My grandfather told me all those nice traditions. We need to respect each other; and we need the courage to admit mistakes we have made. We should be responsible to kids in other families. The community should be responsible for all the kids.
- Parents are the teachers of their children. Parents need to be responsible. Nobody else but yourself is influencing your children. Drugs and alcohol, we need to address these problems, or we will lose our culture and our children.
- Gambling is another issue. Children go with their mothers to play Bingo. We need activities like soccer, hockey for kids.
- Communication comes from your heart, within your hands. Communicating with kids is very important.
- Talking does nothing. We need some action and some money to solve this problem [alcohol and drugs]. Or it will be too late.
- Teens are not even hiding their bottles anymore: they sit near the road and drink.
- So many things need to be done: there are derelict boats polluting the harbor, garbage, fish farm waste, and in summer our kids swim there.
- Health, education, roads...we are controlled by the government. We are not ourselves. The dump is in our reserve, so there are rats in our town. This is not healthy. It will take years to clean up the dump.
- Conditions are crowded. There is no more room for us to grow. Drugs and alcohol are just a part of it. Living conditions are an important issue.
- We need our own language.
- The Tofino hospital is reducing services. The service is minimal, and there are no specialists. We have to go to Port Alberni.
- Health is a broad issue to talk about.
- We are being squeezed.

2. Topic: Tourism impacts on community health: How does tourism affect community health? What are the specific concerns and needs for tourism management in the region?

- I love my job in Forestry but now I have to look at tourism. I saw tourists touching the secret places of our people. Tourists do not respect our sacred places. I cannot stand that they built a resort (Clayoquot Wilderness Resort) on our sacred place.
- Lack of regulations of tourism here if we compare it with the forestry/fishing industries.
- We should learn from examples elsewhere, i.e., Australia.
- Tours of First Nations places are happening without regulations. Burial caves and sacred places are being spoiled by tourists. This is very upsetting to me.

- Where do we fit? What is our identity in this modern world? We are searching for our place.
- We need strong, healthy leadership.
- I know tourism: you cannot find a parking spot!
- Whale watching should be regulated. We respect whales.
- Sports-fishing is not respectful.
- Everything is one.
- Outside people should respect our territory. We need more control.
- Whale watching is a big industry. Therefore, whales are protected. But herring that feed on the same food are not protected. Herring are starving. Sea lions eat herring too. The issue of the sea otter is the same. Tourists love them and they are protected, but they are wiping out other species: urchins, clams, crabs. The possibility of an unbalanced food chain worries me.
- Commercial fishing guys blame loggers for destroying the environment. We should stop pointing fingers at each other. We need sustainable resources of all kinds.
- "Catch and release" sports-fishing is really "catch, kill, and release." The impact of sports-fishing is equal to the impact of commercial fishing.
- The negative impacts of tourism need to be addressed.
- Tourists do not like to see the impacts of gooseneck barnacle harvesting. They influence the decision-makers. DFO was overreacting to this industry. Now things are changing: there is a society formed in Tofino. We should join it. Many licenses go to outsiders to harvest goosenecks in our territory; we need to bring those licenses back.
- Tourists have nice experiences of Clayoquot Sound, but then what? Is there any way we can educate tourists?
- How have First Nations lived here for millennia without affecting nature very much? Why is that changing now? We try to manage the resource but not ourselves. We need to find connections. Need to bring back the feeling of belonging.
- Setting up parks is not the best way to manage resources. You cannot tell a group of teens not to touch one thing in your home while they have a party there. You single out only one place. What about the other places that surround it?
- Diseases are brought by tourists.
- Crime is associated with tourists.
- But tourism can be a good thing. We rely on the government funding welfare. We need other ways, such as tourism, to raise money by ourselves. We need control, so we can prohibit tours of burial caves. We need laws to protect us. We may have to engage in tourism but we need to be careful. Our culture is not for sale.

3. Topic: Coastal Planning

- We need to control local issues. Our problem on the map in Ottawa is so trivial. We need to express our concerns. The control should be here not out there. We need to teach people. We need to let them know that all of us are part of the natural ecosystem.
- A shuttle from the junction would alleviate the parking problem in Tofino.
- Ahousaht has one of the best harbours on the coast. The waters are calm and sheltered in any wind. It would be a good place for a marina.

- We need good leadership to take advantage of opportunities we lost _ million to clean up the harbour because of poor leadership.
- I visited sites in Alaska and saw the negative impacts of cruise ships, as well as benefits in terms of money.
- Remember the wolf attacks on Vargas Island? Locals knew about people feeding the wolves, but the media didn't talk about the ill-informed tourists who were feeding the wolves. It devastated many people that wolves were killed this is the Wolf territory.
- It is strange that Parks are being created when so little is done to build infrastructure to manage them. It is not a healthy sense of responsibility or management to create one place where nothing can be touched and to destroy other places.
- We can't live on welfare and government assistance all our lives.
- In former times it took 8 months to prepare to get a whale. It may take 8 months to prepare to look into tourism. It takes time to learn about all the different aspects of tourism we have to get educated.
- Money put into the reserve is not being circulated properly the rich are getting richer, the poor are getting poorer.
- There is no guidance or education or signs on roads for tourists to find their way around the village. There are lots of tourists coming in but not many people to guide them.
- It is sad that there aren't more people here to comment tonight, the meeting announcement should have been circulated earlier.
- We need a tourism conference in Clayoquot Sound that would be open to the tourists, operators, and guides for discussion about FN concerns.
- My grandfather tells a story about a fisheries officer asking him if he has a license. He told that fisheries guy to go ask the bear if he has a license. If we have to tag fish and buy a license to catch them, can we tag the tourists and make them buy a license to visit our area?
- Coastal Zone Planning if we make ourselves aware we won't have Parks created under our noses. Also Bill 81 should be addressed. [WHAT BILL IS THIS? I found on the web a federal bill 81 that is "An Act to provide standards with respect to the management of materials containing nutrients used on lands, to provide for the making of regulations with respect to farm animals and lands to which nutrients are applied, and to make related amendments to other Acts"]

HOT SPRINGS COVE COMMUNITY MEETING

Conducted by the Clayoquot Alliance for Research, Education, and Training (CLARET) Hesquiaht Community Hall, November 12, 2003

The purpose of this meeting was to generate comments and questions from community members about the topics of the Clayoquot Symposium, November 24-28, 2003.

<u>1. Topic: Community Health: What is it? What are the status and trends of community health in the region? What are some of the key factors that affect community health?</u>

- Our community health has declined ever since Europeans came. There have been dramatic influences, such as religion, disease, fish farms, the devastation of the ocean, and the loss of the Hesquiaht language.
- People who want to do research here should have an orientation with the Hesquiaht people; they should live here and have a background on Hesquiaht history and culture.
- We need government grants to help. Will there be any recommendations as a result of this meeting? What will CLARET do with this input?
- Outsiders need our help, not the other way around.
- We need to see beyond this conference. Where will it go? What are you going to do after this?
- Our community is on life support, and it is being shut down due to government cutbacks. The health care workers that come here may not even be qualified, and essential services are disappearing.
- We need to be noticed and we need to know them (researchers). We need answers. UVic is so far away. It would be helpful if they knew what we are doing here on the ground.
- Research should not focus on generating wealth. We need research that will help the community, not just new ways of fish farming, and logging.
- Why do people send psychiatrists to our community? Do they understand our language? The government sent us to residential schools. We have our traditional ways and own languages. We are surviving here today. We don't need to be manipulated. We need to grow. We are different from other communities. We need positive solutions.
- We need access to the resources around us. We started with few resources, now we have even less.
- We have recently dealt with big problems with our diesel generators and garbage dump. But it took people getting sick for changes to happen. We still have a long way to go. We are responsible for these environmental problems too. As community members we should realize our responsibilities. We should create our healthy community environment. Garbage makes my daily life stressful. We have pollution. What's going on in this community affects my health the environment, jobs. My health will affect people around me. It goes on and on...I try my best to keep everything balanced; but sometimes it does not happen. A balanced environment is crucial to community health.

- What are the far-reaching effects of fish farms? The government does not know; it is hiding behind the corporations. People who benefit from fish farms are not interested in research on these issues. We know that fish farming impacts clam beds, ducks, and other wildlife. We need some real efforts. I'm disappointed with the way things are going. We don't see the government's involvement.
- The government is not interested in our community health.
- Garbage from other communities collects on the shorelines of Hesquiaht harbour, sometimes even hospital waste such as medicine vials.
- Our territory is threatened. The environment we depend on includes many things: a clean ocean, clean streams... We need to keep the environment stable.
- We have rarely needed police here, even though there are sometimes issues such as abuse, alcohol and drugs. But when they are needed, police in Ahousaht and even the coast guard will not come here if the weather is bad. With the new development in Hesquiaht Harbour, our community will grow, and a greater police presence may be needed.
- Our children's future depends on education. Our elementary school kids have high failure rates. Traveling to high school in Ahousaht is a safety risk. The travel risk is stressful to both parents and kids—we need peace of mind.
- We are a young community, only 30 years in this location. We are facing growth issues, housing issues... So we have hands on experience in community building.
- Who is the center of Clayoquot Sound? Tofino is not the center of Clayoquot Sound; Hesquiaht is, it's right here. We are rooted here and we need to remember this. Community health is about having roots; it's about liking where you live.
- Even the definition of community is not clear. The First Nations' definition is farreaching. It includes whatever we look after; our *Ha Huulthe*. Community is not limited in terms of physical boundaries like a town. Just because we're not at a specific location in our territory, that does not mean we're not using it. *Mamachle* (white people) do not understand this.
- Knowing the language is health. Everything falls into place with language.
- The world we are living in today is different from the past. We are not using our traditional lands as we used to.
- Drugs come into our community. Some start with prescriptions. I guess some of them come from Tofino. We have no idea where it exactly comes from, but it leads to narcotics, substituting for traditions. Tofino should be responsible and help find out.
- We have similar problems to communities like Tofino.
- Why does community health only have one day in this Symposium? Where will this information go? Aren't the other topics of the symposium about money? Is understanding money more important? Europeans link health with money. It is strange to me. We need to get our priorities straight. Which one is more important?
- I think money is important. But you can be healthy without money. If you have money it is easier for sure.
- The history: we have just been identified as a community. We used to be considered outsiders. People talked about the communities of Tofino and Ucluelet, and the outlying Indian villages. First Nations were not considered communities until recent years. Our people outside the reserve, people in Port Alberni and Victoria, I think they are part of the community as well. Is it a promotion or a demotion that we are now

considered to be communities? I do not know if we want to use this term "community". We do not want to be like Tofino or Ucluelet.

- I think First Nations become interesting because people can use us to get money. They cannot get funding without us. Maybe Tofino and Ucluelet are realizing that they need us to promote business – culture, territory, patronage.
- Why are you asking us to participate now? Want to get government funding? They used to use *isolation* to describe us. Are we on the one-way street or two-way street?
- Our question is what will this information be used for? We're sharing information that is very precious to us... we're sharing & you'll share with others even corporations.

2. Topic: Tourism impacts on community health: How does tourism affect community health? What are the specific concerns and needs for tourism management in the region?

- You're impacting me by being here as a tourist. Just visiting is an impact. Could be for better or worse.
- I don't want to be mocked any more as living in poverty. We want to be sustainable look at how we lived for centuries.
- We have to clean up our act other people's problems end up on our beaches (reference to garbage that comes in with storms).
- Tourists bring drugs & booze these have an impact on this community.
- If people came to learn about the First Nations culture ate the food of our people helped improve the health of our resources that would be good.
- We need community control control over our own lives.
- The negative tourism we experience is the type that we have no control over. It's the same issue as community health having power over our own lives.
- Tour guides make up stories about Hesquiaht First Nation.
- There is no real way of getting into tourism because we're surrounded by parks and Marine Protected Areas. So it is expensive and difficult to get permits in our own traditional territory.
- It is hard to get your minds around tourism. It's not our way. Foreigners come as tourists and we don't work in tourism. Right now it's another form of exploitation just like logging and fishing.
- Tourists and sea otters take all the clams, crabs, mussels, octopus, fish...that means there is less left for us. Many things that are eaten used to be just eaten by us. Now tourists know about this food and it is free. They eat all our food and come to play in our land and they crap everywhere.
- How do these people find out about all this food? Somebody shared that information our knowledge of our territory with somebody else. Agreements with researchers were broken. Confidentiality clauses with different researchers don't mean a damn thing. We had iron-clad agreements with the provincial museum now we see books on Hesquiaht that we find in any bookstore.
- Researchers shouldn't use this information to generate wealth.
- Long Beach Model Forest researchers asked us information about locations of food and ended up putting it on a web site. Now all the tourists know where our food is.

- There's no place or opportunity where we have a chance to meet tourists and say, "Welcome... leave our food alone."
- Tourism has no guidelines, no quotas. Tourists don't understand the word 'private'.
- We don't need to be invaded any more by Europeans.
- DFO and other agencies patrol *us* but not the *tourists*. The laws are not applied equally to tourists.
- We know people who want to take artifacts from Hesquiaht Harbour. Someone wants to take a rock with gouges out of it and wants to sell it. He tells others about it.
- Tourism is good only if it is managed and controlled by the locals. We wouldn't be having all these negative experiences if it was managed, understood & controlled by the Hesquiaht people.
- Tofino benefits, Hesquiaht pays.
- Parks tell Hesquiaht children that they don't belong in the hot springs: "You dirty Indians" There is a lack of respect.
- In Escalante there are hundreds of people in summer. The government stole this land that they call a park now. We should ask for a billion dollars for that stolen park. Because we're not there, they think it's not ours.
- Hesquiaht still has an opportunity through the IMEA section on Management for a Living Hesquiaht Harbour to create a tourism management plan. Our opportunity is to link the management of our territory with the Province's. We do have the ability to move ahead on that. In the meantime, there hasn't been much positive impact except the lodge there are some jobs therefore a positive impact.
- Other positive impacts the campground and the Matlahaw water taxi. But these are small.
- 99.99% (the negative impacts) is the part that bothers us.
- 10 years ago our sewer outfall went into Hot Springs Cove not much flushing. We spent _ million dollars to build a line to the outside. But boats that come in dump sewage in the cove. We need goodwill from the provincial & federal governments so that the things we do to help the environment are not undone by the tourists and tour operators.
- Tests that were done found copper paint in water samples from the bay. We're taking steps to limit our impacts but we need help from other governments.
- A partnership with other governments would be very helpful in control tourism impacts. We need to focus on morality, not just legalistics.
- Many times we see 40-50 boats in harbour. The tourists leave garbage. The Parks should be doing something.
- These notes should be utilized to the benefit of the Hesquiaht people.

3. Topic: Coastal Zone Planning

- Remove Parks from Hesquiaht territory.
- Remove Tree Farm Licenses from Hesquiaht territory.
- Remove the misconception that BC owns the land around Hesquiaht.
- We have to clarify aboriginal rights before we go ahead with Coastal Zone Planning.
- We need to develop protocols for all communities are involved in tourism. It should be culturally and traditionally acceptable to First Nations.

- Currently, people just take care of their own territory. You come to our territory. You should follow our rules. I do not have a say about Tofino issues. They cannot tell us what we should do. Coastal Zone Planning is a funny term. We have been here for a long time without labels. Plans have existed for thousands of years. We do not tell Ahousaht what they should do.
- I think Coastal Zone Planning is just the "modern" tool the government uses.
- The Central Region Board's process is isolated. We do not know the CRB's plan. There is no involvement from the community. It should be down to us. They should not make decisions without asking us. They are disconnected from us. We have to live with decisions they make everyday. It is important for us to have some say in those processes.
- Every inch in Hesquiaht territory is already zoned: TFLs, MPAs, mining claims, parks, leases.... We are already zoned by various agencies.
- Coastal Zone Planning should recognize and reaffirm traditional rights and sacred areas.
- Hesquiaht should have a strong say in what happens. We must have a vote to choose our representatives in planning processes.
- Who speaks for Hesquiaht on these issues? I would hate to see another planning process follow the same setups as CRB and many other organizations. We need to find a way for people to have a voice. We need to find another way. I would hate to see another board established.
- The recommendations and comments we have made should come back to the floor. The floor is here. We cannot let outsiders change us. We have to control the floor.
- TFLs and fishing are regulated. Licenses and quotas should come from the community, not from Vancouver or Victoria. Bureaucratic processes bother me. It is not fair. We are not fishing anymore since we have no say and there are too many rules. It puzzles me.
- It would be better to ask people here and learn from locals. Traditional information is valuable. I cannot think people outside would know better about how to manage our resources.
- Provincial government's 48% Working Forest policy: Our trees here are gone. Where shall we find the working forest? In the remaining less than 48%?
- All those zones...why can't we have a Hesquiaht zone? That would be more realistic for us.
- Politicians and governments do not understand who we are as a people: the way we live, where we live, our language...
- We are strong people. But people who have no idea of our meanings have taken lots of thing from us. Those decision makers have no knowledge of us.
- This coastal zone planning may benefit us. It may also have negative impacts. What we had has been taken away from us. People who have mortgages took away our resources, why?! Just because they have mortgages?
- How will those planning affect our future generations? The land used to be ours. It has been taken away from us...we have knowledge of this land. They make decisions on our behalf. They have no ideas of our meaning of land and our languages. Who is benefiting from this planning?

- I might not be here when the treaty is signed. But when it is signed, my great great great grandsons may only have a little piece of land and few resources to use. We have survived that long. You will zone our land and it scares me. Not myself but our future generations will be affected by these zonings. None of you would like somebody to go to your house and tell you what your house should be like.
- Our land has meanings. It is not only land. It has meanings and those meanings have passed on from our ancestors. We need to pass it to our future generations. If we keep doing stuff like this (letting outsiders zoning our land) what will we have in the end?! Will there be anything left for our future generations? We are the children of this land. We should take care of it.
- What value do we have as a people when all our resources are taken away?
- What you are writing down is the strength of our community.