



Carrier Sekani
Tribal
Council



British Columbia
Assembly of
First Nations



Union of
British Columbia
Indian Chiefs



First
Nations
Summit

BC FIRST NATIONS & THE MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE EPIDEMIC

*Developing a Strategy and Action Plan & Implementing the New Relationship
September 19-20, 2005 – Civic Centre, Prince George*

Media Advisory

September 15, 2005

Members of the media are invited to attend:

1. the opening session of the B.C. First Nations and the Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic Emergency Forum – 8:30 A.M. Monday, September 19
2. a media session with B.C. First Nations leadership and B.C. Government Ministers – 1:15 P.M. Tuesday, September 20, Room TBA

Both events take place at the Civic Centre in downtown Prince George, B.C.

The following speakers will be in attendance for the media session:

- Tribal Chief Harry Pierre, Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
- Grand Chief Edward John, Executive Member, First Nations Summit
- Chief Stewart Phillip, President, Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs
- Regional Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo, BC Assembly of First Nations (tentative)
- Minister Rich Coleman, B.C. Ministry of Forests and Range
- Minister Tom Christensen, B.C. Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation
- Others to be determined

Backgrounder:

B.C. First Nations are hosting an emergency forum in Prince George on September 19 & 20 to address the crisis that is emerging around their communities and on their traditional territories as a result of the mountain pine beetle epidemic. In particular, they will be examining its economic, social/cultural, and environmental impacts. The goal of the forum is to draft an action plan that will guide First Nations planning and discussions with governments on accommodating First Nations concerns and interests. It is anticipated that political representatives from 80 plus B.C. First Nations and organizations will attend the meeting, along with representatives from the B.C. and federal governments.

For more information on the media session, contact Kevin Ward at 604-314-4083 or email kjward@telus.net. For more information on the forum, visit www.cstc.bc.ca/mpb/.

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