

Township of
Langley



Est. 1873



CANADA 150

NEWS RELEASE

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BRAE ISLAND LAND TO BE TRANSFERRED TO KWANTLEN FIRST NATION

Drumming and an honour song of thanks started the business portion of the June 12 Township of Langley Council meeting, after Council approved transferring a parcel of Township of Langley land on Brae Island to the Kwantlen First Nation.

Kwantlen First Nation Chief Marilyn Gabriel, her husband Kevin Kelly, and their son Michael Kelly Gabriel were at the meeting and expressed in words and music how pleased they were to hear the decision.

Township of Langley Council adopted a bylaw removing park dedication from a 3.7 acre lot in the 9400 block of Glover Road, adjacent to the Kwantlen First Nation on Brae Island in Fort Langley, enabling it to be transferred to Seyem' Qwantlen Land Development Ltd., which manages Kwantlen First Nation business activities and opportunities.

"This is a great outcome," said Mayor Jack Froese, who noted the unimproved land had been within the Township's parks inventory, but its location made it unsuitable for developing into a park. Instead, an anonymous donor purchased the lot so it could be transferred to the Kwantlen First Nation, in recovery of lands considered to be part of their traditional territory.

An Alternative Approval Process to obtain elector approval for the transaction was held this spring. With less than one percent of the Township's eligible voters submitting petitions against the park lot's disposal, it was allowed to proceed.

"We have an excellent relationship with the Kwantlen First Nation and really value being able to work together with them as we do," said Froese.