Honourable Commissioners and Committee Members,

In the summer of 2005 I conducted a pro bono ethnographic and phenomenological research study at the Doig River First Nation (DRFN) reserve just north of Ft St John, BC. The purpose of the study was to determine the impact of oil and gas exploration and extraction on the DRFN and how it was affecting the Dane Zaa (the Beaver People of DRFN). This study involved 18% of band members and was conducted in English and Beaver (the local language of Treaty 8 bands).

This research study was impartial and theory-less in that it had no preconceived outcome other than to report on the lived experiences of the Dane Zaa with regards to oil and gas exploration and extraction on their Treaty lands, and on the traditional territories they have, as hunters and gatherers, lived off for thousands of years. This research study did not address any notion of Site C dam nor its impact on FN, however the stories as told by the Dane Zaa people show how systemically and tightly-linked the Dane Zaa, and I would argue, all Treaty 8 band members are to the lands, water, flora, fauna, and geography and the entire eco system they inhabit in the Peace Valley and beyond. As such, the significant changes caused by Site C completion, or moth-balling will have long lasting, and highly disruptive consequences for all the First Nations People of the Peace River/Fort St John area.

I note in my attached report the following, and do not do so lightly:

‘The Dane Zaa will become brown coloured white people over the next 100 years if this insidious loss of Treaty Land and Treaty Rights does not stop. This is not an exaggeration, merely a calculated observation of one who has listened to the stories of 18% of the population’

Gavan Howe PhD (at dissertation)
"Real people, treat Real People the way they, would like to be treated"

An integrated Communications Plan for the Doig River First Nations Band

October 07, 2005
During the warm summer days of late August 2005, Chief Garry Oker and I interviewed over 18% of the members and staff of the Doig River First Nations Band at the reserve, and in Ft St John, in a focus group setting, asked a series of Six Key Questions to all participants.

These questions were asked in a random order and were, unaided questions asked, in both Beaver and English with answers received, in both English and Beaver, as follows:

1) What key messages would you like industries & governments to know about DRFN?
2) What are the Strengths of the DRFN?
3) What are the Weaknesses of the DRFN?
4) What are the Opportunities for the DRFN?
5) What are the Threats to the DRFN?
6) Who are the heroes of today for the Dane Zaa/Beaver People?

From these 83 pages of rough notes, I have attempted to capture verbatim the responses (in a few cases these responses may show up in two or more Question/Responses as they were valid for several questions) in order to be a true as possible to the very honest and frank responses shared with me.

I have not attempted to correct grammar in any way but to deliver The state of the Nation of Doig River First Nation, as we heard in August 2005. There is repetition throughout, demonstrating the Nations’ consensus on several key issues etc.
Executive Summary

The State of the Nation, as shared by her people, tells us of a surprisingly resilient people who have adapted 12,000 years of oral history and tradition into the last 200 years of white man’s Government, reasonably well.

That being said things are not rosy at Doig River First Nation; The Dane Zaa peoples’ very way of life their raison d’etre, or reason for being, is continually being eroded – that reason is the Land.

The Dane Zaa have always been a drumbeat away from the land. They are of the land, for the land and have a unique, almost symbiotic relationship with the land.

Today, the lands of the Dane Zaa, as agreed to in Treaty are being stripped away piecemeal by various groups, and further, what is left is being abused, poisoned and soiled by those who have taken the riches from this land.

The Dane Zaa will become brown coloured white people over the next 100 years if this insidious loss of Treaty Land and Treaty Rights does not stop. This is not an exaggeration, merely a calculated observation of one who has listened to the stories of 18% of the population.

I state this because as one reads through their ‘stories’ one sees that the land is where:
- the Real People learn the language (the youngest fully bilingual Dane Zaa is 38 years old)
- they learn the trails that are thousands and thousands of years old and have been passed down by the Elders.
- learn the trapping and hunting skills that allowed the Dane Zaa to thrive for 12,000 plus years in a sub arctic environment
- learn the drumming signing and dancing that is an inextricable part of every Dane Zaa
- the Elders go for spiritual regeneration
- the recovering alcoholics or drug users go to dry out and relocate their powerful spiritual roots
- young boys need to go again for their Visionquest  
- young children go for Beaver Camp  
- the inordinately high amount of animal protein (dried meat) is hunted in the traditional ways  
- is where the Dreamers got their start

The ‘Bush’ as often referred to by the Dane Zaa, is everything that means anything to a Dane Zaa. And, if through poisoning of the land, animals and the Dane Zaa people themselves, through greed for oil and gas reserves, and greed for land itself…. the Dane Zaa are forced into smaller and smaller ‘ranges’, they will eventually become brown skinned white men, for all the old ways will be lost.

The Dane Zaa though are not anti-development nor anti business, in fact they are pro business and are very proud of the real accomplishments that their own businesses have achieved: DRE, Doig River Timber, Doig River Environmental, Agro Forestry Testing etc. These external joint ventures provide a wonderful bridge for the Dane Zaa youth to secure experience and training in a white man’s world and bring these learning’s back to the reserve.

The Dane Zaa need to take control of "the agenda of what transpires on Treaty Land’ from planning to implementation, to revenue sharing, to road building to hunting and fishing on Treaty land, in sum: they need to have input and control over all that transpires on the land, under the land, in the water and above the land…in the air, in order that they may fulfill their duty to the land…and in doing so "bring back the traditional language and ways of the Dane Zaa people".

"Doig is open for business" but on different terms than before.

Gavan Howe
These then are the ‘Peoples Stories’

#1 Question: "What key messages would you like industry and government to know about the Dane Zaa?"

Help us help them
Trials can be deceiving
Dane Zaa as a spiritual people, doing duty to the land
The transition from Indian to white to Indian world is good
Living life in a spiritual way is prayer
In order to view Dane Zaa in a modern context you have to go back through 12,000 years of history. Here. As hunter/gatherers
Why did they have to move us three times? the reservation?
Gordon Jones at OJC is a problem
Engage in a modern world, bring that back
Spiritualism is the context for hunting
They have been given the duty for protecting the land
We know what happens to the Dane Zaa when they loose connection to the land and themselves
Guidance for when we go on trials unknown
Treaty rights
Hunting Rights
Improved communications at the planning stage with OJC, Oil and Gas
Long-term deal for economic sustainability
No more surprises wells, trees cut, new seismic lines
Indian People mean business, Open for business
Treaty Land Important
Rights for people
Environmental Bill of Rights
Speaks form one voice
Rights of people for people
Need a better value proposition (oils and gas deals)
Capacity is everything! INAC must know this!
Doig Dane Zaa is open for business
Dane Zaa are very reasonable people
Marlene is 37 years old and she is the youngest who is fully fluent in Beaver
$180,000 a year from INAC! Indian affairs goal is to manage the Indian Act, just
enough to keep a band in trouble
The average Canadian has no clue as to what is going on in INAC or at
the reserve
Post Colonial Era
Gov’t funding for larger bands, like 3,000
Bring back a sense of belonging
Gov’t must learn to respect, learn respect for the people
Land is under attack, greater than at any other time
Cumulative impact of oil and gas roads
Deal with over 40 companies INAC and Government
Man I am happy to be a Native
Need more Tea Dances
Hominess of the reserve is good
Help us protect the beliefs and myths that we live by
Be fair environmental and wildlife
We area family of 200!
Treat us how we want to be treated
Treat them in the same positive manner
People don’t look at you- at eye level – they look at me cause I’m Indian
Love of community helps us when we fall down, when we get off the trail
Consult us first before you do things to our land and our way of life
Work with the people - respect
Equality
We need to share the meat like we have for thousands of years
Meat is part of our heritage
Myth and ritual
I’m white but if I go into town wearing an Indian sweater they treat me
different, I know it.
Racism in schools, bars, grocery stores, it hurts. Respect.
For so long made to feel less than
You can’t know them (Dane Zaa) unless you know the story
What they see is dollar signs
I don’t trust them
Doig is colour blind
Doig is good racial mixing
The language of the Dane Zaa is very descriptive, it is not written, so it can convey colour, smell, emotions, totally descriptive
No respect when we ask to clean land
River is Doig (reserve) is poisoned
Lack of understanding of our way of life
Don’t listen
Loosing land, all the time
Companies hiring Cree, not from here, Alberta to say what oil and gas do here is ok
Treaty rights (till the water ends and sun goes down)
Boundary has no respect
Sooner or later the oil and gas will run out but we will still be here, what will be left for us?
Trapping, Hunting, Health, Medicine
Hunting: we don’t take the biggest, just take what we need, shoot young before he ruts - big ones breed the best
Protect the land
No common Courtesy
Tell them what kind of people we are, not all drunks like the ones you see in town we are all not like that, many don’t drink at all many have quit and stayed quit
Tell them what is important to us as a people
We want ownership in that dialogue (with whites)
Gov’t Colonialization still going on
Youth half white world half Indian- in limbo
Departmental overlap big time (Feds and Prov.)
Insecurity of because of where we have grown up ‘a reserve’
People always pulling you down when you succeed
We are open to heal ourselves
Human Resource Development
Education
Respect
Include us in managing our resources, the OLD and NEW ways
Respect the Land
Community Values are important
Knowledge is Collective Knowledge
Insure that we do not staff up for when oil and gas are gone
We need strategic plan on how ALL resource developments proceed
Oils and gas companies have more power than us they threaten to bring us to
court – court threat
The same cycle (on the land) still exists, fur trade down though, same trap lines,
smaller now
Industry refers to a point in geography; we have always used the round
Need a land management framework
How do they (OJC) not see this as conflict?
Perception of a will affecting the whole, what about the many wills?
Lot of racism
Don’t make judgment based on the Indian you see on the street
Don’t trust them, all they see is the dollar signs,
Good at racial mixing, lack of communications people don’t speak out, Gossip
Most important matter, show no respect, when we ask they still show a lack of
understanding our ways, our ecology,
Don’t Listen
Poison on the land, Blueberry Women, poisoned, hair fell out, other one loose
baby, can’t have any more. poisoned gas
Boundary
Don’t take the bigger animals let them mate again, take small bulls before the
rut, let the big ones breed,
Elders Camp harder to find, too much noise don’t want noise for the elder
ones, want it away from roads and trials (quads)
School district won’t support beaver camp, but they let them off for Doig
River days because it’s a rodeo
Health/medicine
Boundary has no respect
Sooner or later gas and oil will leave we will still be here
Need consultation gap analysis, now
What’s important to us a people, we take the long view we always have…
Members have to have a huge opportunity for Economic Development
Members to have a say in how we move forward tired of Gov’t Colonialism
They still lack knowledge of us, youth is half white half Indian in limbo
Insecurity because of where we have grown up
We are open to heal ourselves
Develop a communications tool that conveys a view of our nation, completely and accurately the land, jobs, forestry oil and gas, first nation Treaty rights we are flexibility respect communication tools to show first nation as great, create Dane Zaa brand
Maintain our land, sacred places, camping places, hunting grounds, fallow grounds and trap lines maintain them, all, get us involved early
Land development/change biggest issue, need a strategic plan!
Environment is no # 1 mother nature
Understand its importance to us, ..I taught them the English language hoping it would be better for them, but they don’t know Beaver and cannot hear the songs or understand the old stories
Leave it at Tommie’s door

Summary - Key Messages
Land is under attack greater than before- poisoning land animals and now people
Need more dialogue/involvement with Oils and Gas BEFORE they dig
Oils and Gas must share wealth
Need Treaty Rights: Hunt, Trap, Graze
Need Respect: Us, our land, our way of life, our history
Spiritualism
Hunters and Gatherers we have always been and will be
Duty to protect the land
Summary - Key Messages (cont’d)
DRE is really working Transition of Indian world to white and back to Indian good…
Loosing land - boundary has no Respect
Lots of Racism

#2 Question: What are the Strengths of the DRFN?
Our sense of humour
Our way of life
The bush: the healing, training and teaching, language
Skill and beaver language of the Dane Zaa in the bush
We never hold a grudge
Move on to prayer…moving camp
Our way as Dane Zaa - personal change regeneration
If we have our hands use them old Dane Zaa saying
Strong cultural awareness
Beaver Book. Language!
Accept change well
Sense of community
Good turnouts
Doig is the partner of choice for First Nations suppliers (to oil and gas)
Good, very good, long range planners
Members have a say in how we move forward
We are open to business, capacity we have it, stick together, loving Supportive family of 200+, love the land, respect the land, respect our elders and dreamers, they gave us the Job to protect the land,
Treaty Rights till the sun goes down and the water stops…trapping, hunting
The seasonal round as the maps said our land all of it
No hunt zones we put in for some area for five years, hunting be real good after, not enough conservation areas, for white man and Indian, like the old days
Building a Team of Nation Builders
Strength in Numbers
Accountable (we are) and open
Have faith in our finances
Finances strong
Staff + admin office best trained versus other first nations
We are accountable: good business people, good at what we do, good at building, good business model
Large percentage of white people in our admin services
Modern approach
Rodeo
Shared culture
Complex
Tradition
Our songs and stories
Dreamers
Volleyball
Horsemanship
Hockey
Competition
$180 k
Cultural programs
Flexibility
Great planners
Language
Consistency
Stability in management & strong leadership
Moving ahead
Good listeners
Leadership and Accountability
Very reasonable people
Good resolutions
Friendships
Treaty Rights "us and white men, pretty near partners’ Jumbie, after 5 days on negotiations with White man
Honesty
Commitment
Love
Role Model
Healing
Leadership
Prayer
Tea Dance
Talent Show
Community
Love and Community helps get over bad things
Archeology lots of old stuff here needs help
Tenacity to persevere
Humour
More secure in the land
Back to older values
Family, Maggie
Elders
Communications
Stubborn
Very caring people
When tragedy strikes everybody pulls in
Strength of unity
Storytelling and Language is so clear
Tradition
Follow the dreamer’s path
Bush heals
Leadership: Davis, Attachie, Oker
Transparent election process
Chief and council running well accountable open, good business people
Stay in school
Health and wellness
Long range planning
Education
60 years long range planning in practice
Leadership in chief and council 100% support with 90% of the band having alignment with administration
Flexibility to change
Great relationship with some companies and industries: CNR
Proud of all that we do:
Rodeo days
Doig River Days
Treaty day
Outside community
Tea Dance Very important
Strong, stick together, fight for what is ours
Pulling together in time of needs
Leadership, chief and council
Elders
Membership understands the need for business stuff (DRE)
Elders
Women’s have power: questions, advice,
Chief, go getter
Get what people want
Growing population
Elders council who keep like the past
Wealth equal opportunities
DRE as a training facility for our young people
JSA program at DRE
New strand board contract
Doig Timber and Environmental
Treaty 8

Summary - Key Messages
The bush, the land, tradition
Language
Membership understands the need for business stuff – DRE etc
Flexible
Traditional Knowledge (land, ecosystem animals and survival)
DRE best choice for business partner
Family of 200
Strong Leadership
Strong Admin and Finance
Good Finances
Treaty Rights (need more help)
Great long range planners
JSA program at DRE is great
Building a team of nation builders
Growing population

# 3 Question: What are the key Weaknesses of DRFN?
Drug and alcohol abuse
Unemployment
98% of deaths by violent nature
Float in white mans world
Communication to outside world
Lack of accountability
Substance abuse
Silo effect
Growing governing needs
Language loss
Land under attack greater than at any other time
Impact of oil, gas, timber, ranching on trap lines
INAC funding enough to keep a band in trouble
Gov’t funding based on larger bands
Patchwork quilt of legislation caught in – no coordination
Youth awareness- why are they out getting pregnant
Addiction
No sex education
Lack of financial training (180k) and planning
Lack of (financial) information tools
Alcohol and drugs
Jealously
Gossip
Defensive
Abused
Gossip be more open and honest
Not all sharing the meat
Not enough rituals
Stop end runs
Lack of communications- people don’t speak out just gossip
Non-members talking about business and personal matters
Alcohol
Often people don’t listen
Roadblocks
Disturbances
Young people influenced by technology and not taking up Beaver language
Greedy
Since 1960, alcohol
Identity crisis
Social alcohol drugs
Need role models
Need a process/plan for people to gain face
Old resentments
Chief for 2 years? Just got started
Insecurity because of where we have grown up
Administration lack of communication among departments
Council & Chief get beat up by each Dep. and Band Members
Difficult to do business when (dept’s) fighting each other
Lack of resources
We do not fight for what we need
We let industry walk all over us
Communication within
Gossip stop
When something bad happens we need to forgive
Expectations of jobs (maybe we not trained for)
Things fall apart
Don’t work together people say ‘none of my business’?
Large staff turnover
Chaos mode every two years new chief, lack of continuity
No cultural system
Pay scale
Don’t focus on collection of cultural data
Everything has $ sighs attached
Entitlement
Externally, don’t have good management at INAC – old world use Colonization model
Lack of knowledge of other dept and what they do (at Doig)
No regular meetings
No performance reviews
Need better mileage allowance .85 to .97
Need job descriptions
No balance, just go
Everybody just comes in- no process for dealing with members concerns/needs/complaints – disruptive to work flow
No vision mission for some departments
Educate locally
Don’t understand about what has been taken away already!
DRE labour shortage eventually
OJC system = funded by industry and their agenda approve more permits!
All the time more permits, not cleaning up
8 of 12 Provincial Dept are funded by oil and gas revenues
Too many Gov’t agencies: Environment, Wildlife, Forestry, Oil and Gas

Summary - Key Messages
Drugs and Alcohol
Unemployment
98% of Deaths are Violent
Summary - Key Messages (cont’d)
Patchwork quilt of Legislation
Lack of sex education
Lack of financial education
Jealousy
Not enough Drumming, Singing and dancing
Loosing Language
Identity Crisis: should we be proud to be Indian?
Don’t fight for what we want
Moved reserve three TIMES?
Only 1 tea Dance
No respect
Poisoned land killing us
No protection for land

# 4 Question: What are the Opportunities for DRFN?
Camping in bush at winter time
There is no way that whites can understand Dane Zaa without knowing our story, G. Oker
Being on reservation and being educated in white man’s world. while knowing how to survive in the bush- on our own terms
Co-manage our land
All hunters/fishermen to be ‘guided’ by us on our land
Understand Dane Zaa as spiritual people
Help us do our duty as Real People – to the land
We need guidance for when we go on trails unknown
Need dreamers
Living life in a spiritual way, is prayer!
Spiritualism (Dane Zaa) is your context
How you go about your life is Symbolic- traditional symbolism
View us as Dane Zaa people in a modern context to do that you must appreciate where we come from
Building a nation of nation builders
Harness the old stuff and preserve it
Respect Treaty Rights
Respect Hunting Trapping Rights
Communication with oil and gas, planning with the Federal, Provincial, and Local
Need a long-term deal for ‘Indian economy’ our way in the bush
Communicate to members
When a white man gets it (us) he becomes part of it
Language and culture
Long term written relationship
More drumming more dancing more tea dances
Youth education - get degree/education come back to reserve and help us like Wayne, Carl and Garry
Culture and language = self respect and self esteem
Acceptable behavior or not! In the old they did not but now Elders
Are having change in respect and anxiety to speak out
Learning: council of Elders
  Mentoring
  Rediscovery Program
  Cultural Program
  Visionquest
  Same for girls when entering puberty
  Rituals
Indian People mean business
Environmental Bill of Rights
Treaty Land right of people
There is a better value proposition (Oil and gas) one company took 100 million $’s, and gave 4% of the revenue, in jobs
Building Future of Band
Band member education
Building appeal for USA i.e. DRE
Build on small things start small
DRE
Doing River Timber
DRE Environmental
Treaty 8 agreement
Agro Forestry- hybrid trees
Cross cultural and corporate training
Tender to manage parks
Permanent trust
Socio Economic Trust
Self-funding in 5 years
Doig is the leader in new economic development plans
Band members staying and coming back to reserve
Need a healer
Need healing circles
Cultural export - Rodeo
Community development
Helping people and developing people
Moving forward
Environmental plan, with our input
Bring back a sense of belonging
Dance is creativity
Acceptance is better
Live well here young grow
Band life is good
So involved sense of community
Job opportunities are building
Homeliness, hominess of reserve
Love and community helps us get over bad times
Encourage more
We are family of 200
Role model
Work with the people
Treat me the way you want to be treated
Respect the people
The Story is the Jewel of our Technologies - Indian Technology
People going back to school
Self-sufficiency; home and schooling
Joint ventures
Peer pressures
Watch out for each other
Community parents
Elders have wisdom our role models been there done that
Storytelling and Language is so clear
Happy working with young people before it’s too late
Trust, working, good
Education
Hunting on our land only with us as guides
Own Conservation officers on ALL Dane Zaa land
The Elders
Do something must fight back
Beaver graves
Moose, Elk, Deer, dry meat
Create habits
Beaver Camp boys must go must be allows away from school
Think behind action
Work with them
Gravesites are very important
Look at our Maps
Teaching white man
Look for usefully ways to apply traditional way
Need no hunt zones - for all
Very important to highlight the success of DRE, Doig Timber and Doig
Environmental
Grazing rights gone
Need roads with toll gates to our land
Not enough conservation areas
Need land stewardship plan...just like the farmers we rotate where we hunt
leave some areas for many, many years, used to do controlled burns in spring,
make for better hunting
Membership code
Industry/Band biz development huge opportunity
Trust
Focus on youth
Members to have say on how we move forward with OJC
Ownership in resource development dialogue
Show progress
Working together with white people
Native people are working on our land and off reserve
Education among youth and mothers graduating…I went back for my high school diploma
Not enough Tea dances
Understanding legal and business speak
Visionquest
Elders and kids first
If you have diabetes someone can cook for you, if you have high blood pressure
$8.00 to $10.00 per hour for someone to help
Behavior changes in the bush!
Diet and education
Environment/water!
Reclamation, soil reclamation, test water and soil before and after
Good advice
Talking to kids help stand together
Trust each other
Respect
Doig respects others not returned
Indians with white work experience good, bring back to reserve
Since DRE went on proffered supplier list we have 4x the number of calls
DRE is a very important training ground for our youth…they go into white companies and may not understand quickly what is required, at
DRE we have a large training budget especially on Safety (our record is great) and we give Indian youth time to adjust to working in white mans world
14 to 30 % of DRE employees are Indian
Family of 200
Sustainable social economy
Toll gates to our land
Create an environmental rating card for each Oil and Gas Company (score card)
Dreamers, need new dreamers
Dancing drumming more needed
Must appreciate/save the land ecosystem

Summary - Key Messages
Getting outside education/training and bringing it back to reserve
Control of our resources, resource dialogue before digging
Stop treaty land encroachment
Respect Treaty Rights: land environment, hunting, trapping, grazing
Help white man understand Dane Zaa social economy
Outside businesses: DRE, Timber CO and Environmental
Agro Forestry
Language and Culture
Cross cultural & corporate training (DRE etc.)
Trust
Self-funding in 5 years
Environmental: Footprint or Bill of Rights
Job opportunities are building
The Jewel of Indian Technologies: our minds, memories, stories, traditions maps
Joint Ventures
Elders share wisdom
The bush and traditional teaching
Dried Meat is part of us
12,000 years of tradition
14% to 30% of all DRE employees are Indian
Dreamers
Education
Visionquest
Focus on Youth
Protect future generations
More Respect
DRE very important training ground for Dane Zaa youth working in white world
# 5 Question: What are the Threats to Doig River First Nation

Mental health
Drugs and alcohol
Diabetes
Family dysfunction
Environmental damage
Pressure on Treaty Rights no land for hunting and trapping
Not involved enough in oil and gas planning process
OJC does not listen
Staying on the reserve and NOT getting an education out there
Need new guidance for when we go way beyond on new trails the unknown
Threat to environment
Threat to woundedness
No involvement with oil and gas companies at planning stage
Divide our territory - continue
Contamination in the land (they lack knowledge of our land), in our water, in the animals and now in the people
They creep onto our land always work on the edges - keep coming
Take our oils and gas and give us a tiny bit of a share... and when oil and gas is gone we will be here!
Burlington versus CNR... we get lots of work from CNR
Band forced to move three times!
Capacity is everything
Loss of language
Institutional racism
Hypocrisy
Stereotypes and myths (the drunken Indians in town)
Bias
Bigotry
Racism
Silo effect (in Gov't)
Might has always been right
Public opinion = stereotypes
Lost fragmented knowledge
Wholes Rights (Treaty) losing
Old Gov’t pushed us off the land in then 80’s old boom and runaway inflation
Trying to keep out traditions alive
Environmental damage and wildlife loss
Loss of language
School dropouts
Lack of tradition – needed the bush lost of it to keep old ways and old language alive and growing
Need more time in Bush for healing/training
Loss of land
No place to hunt and trap
#1 the environment – they kick the shit out of it and we don’t get anything back!
Clean up the mess
Need more involvement oil and gas
Youth in general know little about past - important target...they are those who work on the land/bush and in town
Stop undervaluing the Dane Zaa people
Environmental keep track of sick/bad animals through all Beaver land
Needs a communications process to keep track of all sick/bad animals
Need safety card for oil and gas crews need a third man for safety
Food chain is very fragile, we still need and want to eat lots of dry meat
Don’t listen
Loosing land
Women and animals sick from poison gas
Boundary keeps changing
Elder camp harder to find
Elders wanted to stay one more week but I got rent and phone bill to pay,
Had to go back to work
Trapping is moving out
District schools won’t let boys out for Beaver Camp but will let them out for Rodeo white man sport
Treaty rights being chewed up
River in reserve poisoned
Boundary has no respect
Lack of land
Grazing rights gone
As a nation jealousy and selfishness
Development
Lack of traditional knowledge
Government colonization
Departmental overlap big issue... go see them they can help
Only one Tea Dance last year
Sacred Places people camping hunting digging building no space, no room
Environment Mother Nature is very important to us
Loss of language and cultural value
Oil companies value power more than us
Need a strategic plan to manage growth
Need a land management system different from LIMS
Look to our old maps
New chief every two years, just get started
Need more cultural data collection before oil and gas digs
Bulldozers and Cats PUSHING us threatening us to move on as we dig for archeological remains
They are always in a hurry to dig, we find something, they push up to us, drive Cat up and threaten us
Need an archeologist on staff who way be fair
Greed
No one helps anyone anymore
Job, ‘to make money’ not hunt in the bush, not trap in the bush
Tasks, all tasks mean they should be paid
Land for people who want a home & hunt and trap, not just a reserve
No respect
Heal the land NOW before it is too late
Rapid growth DRE and Doig Timber
Saultle FN
Need to be involved in Chetwyn
Two faced (gas and oil) in some dealing with us
Band aid solutions to clean up: i.e. Monias and Milligan Creek cleaned two problems what about then other 1000?
OJC is funded by industry can’t be impartial, where’s the Gov’t? Federal and Provincial Governments point to each other, NO ONE takes responsibility or action to help us secure our Treaty Rights No environmental footprint No feedback form OJC, we make requests/changes hear nothing back OJC uses white metrics pass as many applications as possible, what’s the hurry… its our land Only Dial-up internet on reserve

Summary - Key Messages
Drugs and Alcohol
Environmental damage
Loss of land - continual
Treaty Rights threatened
OJC does not listen
No respect
Poisoning of the land
Loss of Beaver Language
Racism
School dropouts
Not enough time spent in the bush
Need to be at planning stage with oil and gas, before digging starts
River in Reserve is poisoned!
Gov’t still in Colonialization mode
Women kids animals sick from poisoned water
White man does not want to understand Dane Zaa ways (i.e. Beaver Camp)
Grazing rights are gone
Lack of traditional knowledge
New chief every tow years
OJC is funded by oil and gas
#6 Question: Who are your modern day heroes of the Dane Zaa?
Brian Youngen, Sammie (many times), Tommie (many times), Garry (many times) Trevor, Warren, Wayne, Ann, Jessie, Emma, Annie, Rosie (sense of humour), Margaret, Brian, Grandmother RCMP - Mary Pouskappis, Alice Attachie, Gerry, Charlie Yahee, Elders. ‘Leave at Tommie’s door’

Top Line Analysis

Key Messages (#1 Key Messages to the outside world)
Land is under attack greater than before- poisoning land animals and now people
Need more dialogue/involvement with Oils and Gas BEFORE they dig
Oils and Gas must share wealth
Need Treaty Rights: Hunt, Trap, Graze
Need Respect: Us, our land, our way of life, our history
Spiritualism
Hunters and Gatherers we have always been and will be
Duty to protect the land
DRE is really working
Transition of Indian world to white and back to Indian good…
Loosing land - boundary has no Respect
Lots of Racism

Key Messages (# 2 Strengths)
The bush, the land, tradition
Language
Membership understands the need for business stuff – DRE etc
Flexible
Traditional Knowledge (land, ecosystem animals and survival)
DRE best choice for business partner
Family of 200
Strong Leadership
Key Messages (#2 Strengths) cont’d
Strong Admin and Finance
Good Finances
Treaty Rights (need more help)
Great long-range planners
JSA program at DRE is great
Building a team of nation builders
Growing population

Key Messages (#3 Weaknesses)
Drugs and Alcohol
Unemployment
98% of Deaths are Violent
Patchwork quilt of Legislation
Lack of sex education
Lack of financial education
Jealousy
Not enough Drumming, Singing and dancing
Loosing Language
Identity Crisis: should we be proud to be Indian?
Don’t fight for what we want
Moved reserve three TIMES?
Only 1 tea Dance
No respect
Poisoned land killing us
No protection for land

Key Messages (#4 Opportunities)
Getting outside education/training and bringing it back to reserve
Control of our resources, resource dialogue before digging
Stop treaty land encroachment
Respect Treaty Rights: land environment, hunting, trapping, grazing

Key Messages (# 4 Opportunities) cont’d

Help white man understand Dane Zaa social economy
Outside businesses: DRE, Timber CO and Environmental Agro Forestry
Language and Culture
Cross cultural & corporate training (DRE etc.)
Trust
Self-funding in 5 years
Environmental: Footprint or Bill of Rights
Job opportunities are building
The Jewel of Indian Technologies: our minds, memories, stories, traditions maps
Joint Ventures
Elders share wisdom
The bush and traditional teaching
Dried Meat is part of us
12,000 years of tradition
14% to 30% of all DRE employees are Indian
Dreamers
Education
Visionquest
Focus on Youth
Protect future generations
More Respect
DRE very important training ground for Dane Zaa youth working in white world

Key Messages (#5 Threats)

Drugs and Alcohol
Environmental damage
Loss of land - continual
Treaty Rights threatened
OJC does not listen
No respect
Poisoning of the land

Key Messages (#5 Threats) cont’d
Loss of Beaver Language
Racism
School dropouts
Not enough time spent in the bush
Need to be at planning stage with oil and gas, before digging starts
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Gov’t still in Colonialization mode
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Heroes
Brian Youngen, Sammie (many times), Tommie (many times), Garry (many times) Trevor, Warren, Wayne, Ann, Jessie, Emma, Annie, Rosie (sense of humour), Margaret, Brian, Grandmother RCMP - Mary Pouskappis, Alice Attachie, Gerry, Charlie Yahee, Elders. ‘Leave at Tommie’s door’
MULTICULTURALISM BEGINS AT HOME

The culture and values of our First Nations deserve our respect.

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MULTICULTURALISM BEGINS AT HOME

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IF SOARING GAS PRICES ARE A CRIME, WHAT WOULD YOU CALL THIS?

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NATIVE BAND IN NORTHERN BC ACCESSORIZES TRADITIONAL COSTUMES.

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AFTER 12,000 YEARS, THIS NATIVE BAND ALTERS THEIR TRADITIONAL COSTUMES.

The culture and values of our First Nations deserve our respect.

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NATIVE BAND IN NORTHERN BC ACCESSORIZES TRADITIONAL COSTUMES.

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AFTER 12,000 YEARS, THIS IS OUR CHILDRENS’ LEGACY

The culture and values of our First Nations deserve our respect.

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THE REAL PRICE OF GAS AND OIL

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BIG OIL AND BIG GOVERNMENT,
A PARTNERSHIP OF POLLUTION AND PROFITEERING

The culture and values of our First Nations deserve our respect.

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DOIG
RIVER
FIRST NATION

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"The values of respect, tolerance and sharing will prevail"

From the acceptance speech of Michaeelle Jean, Governor General Sept. 27 2005

The culture and values of our First Nations deserve our respect.
the case for the "Real People"

Zane Daan means REAL PEOPLE in Beaver language

Doing business is one thing, raping the land is another

Dane Zaa

we demand respect and fairness for our land.

Dane Zaa

Doig River
First Nation
www.drfn.com

PR ad
Dane Zaa "the Real People"

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brochure