



First Nations Fisheries Council
Annual General Assembly
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***“Fraser Salmon Roadmap Initiative:
Progress on Getting to Good Governance”*** _



GOVERNANCE BEST PRACTICES PANEL

Fraser River Salmon Roadmap Initiative ("Roadmap")

- A practical example of how DFO and First Nations are working together to develop new governance mechanisms for conservation and management of Fraser Salmon
- The Roadmap initiative is a short term process that hopefully leads to a mutually agreeable stable governance structure that is sufficiently nimble to address change as circumstances change



Context - What is Governance From the United Nations Web Site

- Simply put "governance" means: **the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented).**
- Governance can be used in several contexts such as corporate governance, international governance, national governance and local governance





United Nations

Eight Major Characteristics of Good Governance

- **Participatory** – needs to be informed and organized
- **Consensus oriented** – requires mediation of the different interests to reach a broad consensus on what is best for the whole of the community/society and how this can be achieved
- **Accountable** – governing bodies accountable to those that will be affected by its decisions or actions
- **Transparent** – decisions follow rules & regulations; information is freely available and easily understandable
- **Responsive** - service in a reasonable time frame
- **Effective and efficient**
- **Equitable and inclusive**
- **Follows the rule of law.**
 - It assures that corruption is minimized, the views of minorities are taken into account and that the voices of the most vulnerable in society are heard in decision-making. It is also responsive to the present and future needs of society.





The Fraser Salmon Roadmap Initiative
A DFO – First Nations Collaborative Process
That is focused on management issues that
may have broad based implications, for
example:

- Conservation issues
- Setting escapement goals
- Coordination of harvest plans
- Technical Information collection and sharing
- Decision making



“Roadmap Initiative”

Progress on Getting to Good Governance

- **Participatory**
 - First Nations from the Fraser Watershed and Marine Approach areas (approximately 150 First Nations) – good cross section
 - Major First Nations Fisheries Organizations invited to participate (e.g., First Nation's Fisheries Council, Fraser River Aboriginal Fisheries Secretariat, Intertribal Treaty Organization, Sub-regional AAROM organizations).
 - Includes political and technical representatives
 - Supported by a bi-lateral planning group and facilitation team
 - Four “Roadmap workshops held annually since 2009”
- **Consensus oriented** – facilitation provided to help reach a broad consensus on what is to be achieved and how this can be achieved (e.g., Letter of Understanding)
- **Accountable** – DFO is accountable – need to clarifying roles and responsibilities for DFO and First Nations in a structured process for management of Fraser salmon





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- **Transparent**
 - Meeting records kept, including the Fraser Salmon Roadmap Planning Group and Roadmap workshops
 - Meeting records, including presentations are posted on the Fraser Aboriginal Fisheries Secretariat website
 - Participants are asked to report back to their communities
 - Updates on the Roadmap initiative prepared by the Fraser Salmon Roadmap Planning Group & distributed by FRAFS





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- **Responsive** – set deliverables with time frame
- **Effective and efficient** – this is an outcome that needs to be achieved as a result of reaching agreement on roles and responsibilities
- **Equitable and inclusive** – Roadmap process is inclusive but funding limits participation; a formal agreement will need to include a structure that provides an opportunity for all voices to be heard in an efficient governance model (e.g., FNFC, ITO, Sub-regional AAROM bodies)
- **Follows the rule of law.**
 - Work needs to be done in this area to achieve an agreement that respects the authorities of the Government of Canada as well as those of First Nations leaders
 - A negotiated formal agreement acceptable to DFO and First Nations authorities will be required





DFO's interests in Fraser Salmon Roadmap Initiative

Includes an Orderly means to:

- Respond to FN's interest in a meaningful role (from their perspective) in the decision making process
- Delivery of DFO's integrated Aboriginal programs in a strategic way
- Streamline and better coordinate various engagements supported by DFO which will help determine funding priorities and eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort
- Help address funding and workload pressures while improving program delivery
- Clarify linkages to other First Nation regional and local process
- Agreement on the process for decision making
- Clearly defined roles and responsibilities, including mandated representatives from participating organizations
- Effective communications
- Improved decision making process for management of Fraser Salmon
- Provide a stable operational framework for management of Fraser Salmon





In Summary

DFO Objective for the Roadmap Process

- DFO supports good governance practices
- DFO is committed to the goal of a more inclusive fisheries management process with First Nations for Conservation and management of Fraser Salmon that includes a vision, objectives, roles and responsibilities, clear outcomes, as well as a process for getting there