The Commission of Inquiry into the Decline of Sockeye Salmon in the Fraser River

RULING RE: LEAVE FOR TWO CROSS-EXAMINATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE WESTERN CENTRAL COAST SALISH FIRST NATIONS OF PROFESSOR DOUGLAS HARRIS

- 1. By letter of May 10, 2011 counsel for the Cowichan Tribes and Chemainus First Nation, applied on their behalf and on behalf of the Hwlitsum First Nation and Penelakut Tribe for leave to cross-examine Professor Douglas Harris, separately from the other member of the West Central Coast Salish First Nations participant group (WCCSFN).
- 2. Also by letter of May 10, 2011, counsel for the other member of the WCCSFN, the Te'mexw Treaty Association, made a parallel application.
- 3. Participants had the opportunity to respond to the applications by May 16, 2011, but none did. Commission counsel also made no submission.
- 4. In ordering the WCCSFN be consolidated as a single participant, in my Ruling on Standing of April 14, 2010, I acknowledged that a member of the WCCSFN may seek leave for separate representation on specific matters, in these words: "...I am mindful of the concern they raise, that an issue may compel one of these joint participants to seek to participate differently, whether by way of separate submissions or otherwise; if this occurs, that joint participant may apply for directions."
- 5. In the absence of any submission that I should not grant leave for two cross-examinations from members of the WCCSFN of Professor Harris, I grant the leave requested. I note that both applications include estimates of the time for the cross-examination sought. I consider that to be a matter for commission counsel and counsel for participants to deal with as part of hearing management. This ruling is not to be read as the allocation to these participants of the time estimated.

Dated June 2nd, 2011

The Honourable Bruce I. Cohen Commissioner