



## Towagh Behr, M.A.

Tel.: 250 858 3878

email: towagh@kwusen.com

### ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

2005 M.A. Anthropology and Environmental Studies. University of Victoria.

1998 B.A. (Joint Honours), Anthropology and Sociology. McGill University.

- Member, Canadian Anthropology Society
- Member, International Association of Impact Assessment
- Member, CineVic: Society of Independent Filmmakers

### SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

Towagh Behr has conducted Traditional Knowledge (TK), Traditional Use Studies (TUS), and cultural documentation projects with over thirty Aboriginal communities in western Canada in the past twelve years. His expertise is in working with communities to understand and communicate likely effects of industrial development upon traditional practices, cultures, languages, and communities. In addition to conducting ethnographic and archival research projects with communities, he has a technical background as a documentary filmmaker and website developer. Towagh has a BA (joint honours anthropology & sociology) from McGill University and an MA in cultural anthropology and environmental studies from the University of Victoria where his research focused on the use of New Media to work with First Nations in creating their own multimedia representations of their cultures, languages, and traditional knowledge. His academic work and community-based research has been supplemented by seven years of consulting experience working as part of multidisciplinary teams on environmental assessment processes. His academic and professional experience has provided a solid foundation in the interface of TEK, environmental assessment, and traditional systems of land and resource management. As an applied anthropologist, Towagh has worked with communities to integrate their TEK into environmental assessment processes for the oil and gas, mining, and energy sectors. He has also provided training and capacity building programs for First Nation communities that have included TUS research methods, interview methods, website development, and documentary video production.



## **SELECT EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

### **Kwusen Research & Media Ltd. – Victoria, BC**

Anthropologist/Principal (2010 - present)

Founder and Principal of a research and media production company specializing in serving indigenous communities. Duties include: Business management, staff supervision, design and delivery of traditional use studies; traditional ecological knowledge studies; Aboriginal interests impact assessments; independent review of environmental assessments; community-based research; archival research; training and local capacity building; and communication of project deliverables through video and webpages.

### **Integral Ecology Group Ltd. – Victoria, BC**

Anthropologist/Principal (2011 - 2012)

Cultural Anthropologist and Principal in Integral Ecology Group - a specialist company focusing on applied ecological and cultural research providing consulting services that interface between human land uses and their supporting and surrounding environments. Duties include: design and delivery of traditional use studies; traditional ecological knowledge studies; Aboriginal rights and interests impact assessments; independent review of environmental assessments; community-based research; training and local capacity building; and communication of research project results through video documentaries and websites.

### **Golder Associates Ltd. – Victoria, BC**

Anthropologist/Traditional Studies and New Media Specialist (2006 - 2010)

As a Traditional Use Studies Specialist and then as Traditional Studies Discipline Leader for British Columbia, delivered Traditional Use and Traditional Knowledge Studies. Duties included: supervision of staff, project administration; design and delivery of traditional use studies; traditional ecological knowledge studies; Aboriginal interests impact assessments; cultural impact assessment; independent review of environmental assessments; community-based research; archival research; training and local capacity building.

### **First Peoples' Heritage Language & Culture Council – Victoria, BC**

Research Coordinator - First Peoples' Language Map of BC (2008)

Research, website development and administration for the creation of an online First Nations' language map of British Columbia (<http://maps.fphlcc.ca>). Conducted community-based interviews, research and community consultation to represent 203 First Nations and their 38 languages. Completed information architecture and customization of a website with mapping application. Interviewed First Nations community members, recorded and authored website content.



**Kwusen Media – Victoria, BC**

Cultural Anthropologist and New Media Producer (2005 - 2006)

Founder and Principal of a consulting and media production company specializing in the production of cultural, historic, and linguistic studies; videos, websites, and digital archives. Conducted research, analysis, and reporting on socio-economic criteria and indicators for land management and archival/literature reviews for Aboriginal rights and title. Provided video documentation, training in video production, website development, and management of language/culture revitalization projects.

**Pacific Peoples' Partnership – Victoria, BC**

Project Officer (2004)

Developed, conducted and administered a province-wide consultation process on the local impacts of globalisation. Organized and led public forums in ten communities, co-authored trade issues booklet, wrote reports, and budgets.

**Nuu-chah-nulth Central Region Language Group – Ucluelet, BC**

Anthropologist (2002 - 2004)

Worked with First Nations to address culture and language loss; and facilitated the creation of a regional community-based organization for culture/language revitalization. Conducted research on the application of new media within revitalization programs; and coordinated the production of a CD-ROM, documentary video and interactive video on TEK and language.

**SELECT PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

**K'ómoks First Nation Traditional Use Study, Southwestern BC**

- BC Hydro's John Hart Regenerating Station Replacement Project and Compliance Coal's Raven Underground Coal Project; 2012-2013

Trained and worked with two community members to conducting two studies to assess the potential impacts of proposed project developments on the First Nation's rights and interests. Tasks included training and managing community researchers, historical research, conducting indoor interviews, participating in field site validation, and report writing.

**Wahpeton Dakota Nation Traditional Land Use Study, Central SK**

- Star-Orion South Diamond Project, Shore Gold Inc.; 2011-2012

The Wahpeton TLU was conducted for the Environmental Impact Assessment of the proposed Orion South Diamond Project. Tasks included review of relevant literature, a one-week training for Community Researchers, interviews with Elders and knowledgeable land users, field verification, a community verification and mitigations development workshop, and report writing.



**Fort McKay IRC Overview-Level Traditional Land Use Study, Northern AB**

- Dover Commercial Project, Dover Operating Corp.; 2010

Worked with First Nation and Métis community to, at an overview-level, document traditional land use values and conduct an impact assessment of the proposed Dover Commercial Project, a SAGD oil extraction project near Fort McKay, AB. Tasks included provision of a research methods workshop for community members, traditional use mapping interviews, community review workshop, ground-truthing (helicopter), reporting, assessment, and mitigations development.

**Fort McKay Industrial Relations Corporation Traditional Land Use Study, Northern AB**

- Frontier and Equinox Projects, Teck and Silverbirch; 2010-2011

Worked with First Nation and Métis community to document traditional land use values and conduct an impact assessment of the proposed Frontier and Equinox oil sands mine near Fort McKay, AB. Tasks included provision of a research methods workshop for community members, traditional use mapping interviews, ground-truthing (helicopter & quad), community review workshop, reporting, assessment, and mitigations development.

**Fort Nelson First Nation Traditional Use Study, Northeastern BC**

- TransCanada Cabin Mainline, TransCanada Corp.; 2009-2010

Worked with First Nation to conduct a TUS and assessment of impacts to rights and interests from the proposed TransCanada Cabin Mainline natural gas pipeline near Fort Nelson, BC. Tasks included project management, community capacity building, methodology development, First Nations liaison, community-based mapping, focus group interviews, ground-truthing, reporting, assessment and mitigations development.

**Fort Nelson First Nation Traditional Use Study, Northeastern BC**

- Cabin Gas Plant, EnCana Corp.; 2009

Worked with First Nation to conduct a TUS and assessment of impacts to rights and interests from the proposed EnCana Cabin Gas Plant, near Fort Nelson, BC. Tasks included community capacity building, methodology development, First Nations liaison, archival review, community-based mapping, focus group interviews, ground-truthing and reporting.

**Fort Nelson First Nation EA Review, Northeastern BC**

- EnCana Cabin Gas Plant; 2009

Managed an independent technical review of the environmental assessment documents associated with the proposed EnCana Gas Plant. Tasks included First Nations liaison, coordination of technical reviewers, First Nations interests assessment review, reporting and project management.

**Traditional Land Use Assessment, Northeastern BC**

- Roman Mountain Coal Project, Peace River Coal Inc.; 2008-2009

Conducted TUS and TEK studies as components of an environmental impact assessment for a proposed coalmine. Completed community-based research, archival and literature reviews, wrote reports and conducted impact assessment on Aboriginal rights.



### **Traditional Use Study, Southwestern BC**

- Interior to Lower Mainland Transmission Line, BC Transmission Corp.; 2008

Conducted an overview-level TUS for planning of a linear electrical transmission project. Research involved archival review, field interviews and coordinated research with more than forty First Nations with traditional territories in the Fraser Valley, Fraser Canyon and in the vicinity of Nicola Lake. Tasks have included methodology development, interview protocols, First Nations liaison, conducting mapping interviews, archival reviews and reporting.

### **Public and First Nations Consultation, Vancouver Island BC**

- Phase 3 Landfill, Elk Falls Mill, Catalyst Paper Corp.; 2007

Provision of public and First Nations consultation support including analysis of First Nations consultation requirements and strategic advice. Tasks included delivery of consultation tools including letters, contact matrices, and development of a public consultation website.

### **Traditional Use Study, Northeastern BC**

- Horizon Mine Coal Project, CH2M Hill and Hillsborough Resources Ltd.; 2006-2007

Conducted TUS interview and mapping sessions for proposed developments with five Aboriginal communities. Completed archival and literature reviews and co-authored preliminary TUS report based on primary and secondary research data.

### **Traditional Land Use Study, Western AB**

- Aseniwuche Winewak Nation; 2006

Advised on a video documentation, data management and archiving methodology for TUS. Provided video production, video editing and digital archiving training to build local capacity.

### **Review of Socio-economic Criteria and Indicators in Oceans Management, Canada**

- Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Centre for Global Studies, University of Victoria; 2006

Provided research, analysis and data sources for a review of current experience and available precedents that may serve as models in the task of bringing economic, social and cultural considerations more fully into processes of integrated oceans management at the scale of Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Large Ocean Management Areas (LOMAs).

### **Literature Review of Potential Aboriginal Interests, Northeastern BC**

- Kemess North Copper-Gold Mine, Northgate Minerals Corp.; 2006

Archival, cartographic and ethnographic literature review to determine soundness of Aboriginal rights claim for an environmental impact assessment process.



## PUBLICATIONS

- Behr, T.**, and B. Farrant. 2013. *Traditional Use Study for the BC Hydro John Hart Generating Station Replacement Project*. Prepared in collaboration with K'ómoks First Nation for BC Hydro.
- Behr, T.**, J. Hazelbower, and L. Omani. 2012. *Wahpeton Dakota Nation Community History*. Wahpeton Dakota Nation, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.
- Behr, T.**, J. Hazelbower, and L. Omani. 2012. *Overview-Level Traditional Land Use Study for SaskPower's Shore Gold Diamond Mine Transmission Line*. Prepared in collaboration with Wahpeton Dakota Nation for SaskPower.
- Behr, T.**, J. Hazelbower, and L. Omani. 2011. *Overview-Level Traditional Land Use Study for the Shore Gold Star-Orion South Diamond Project*. Prepared in collaboration with Wahpeton Dakota Nation for Shore Gold.
- Behr, T.** and A. Garibaldi. 2011. *Traditional Land Use Study for the Teck and Silverbirch Frontier Project*. Prepared in collaboration with the Fort McKay Industry Relations Corporation for the Teck and Silverbirch Frontier Project.
- Behr, T.** and A. Garibaldi. 2010. *Overview-level Traditional Land Use Study for the Dover Commercial Project*. Prepared in collaboration with the Fort McKay Industry Relations Corporation for the Dover OCPO Dover Commercial Project.
- Peace River Coal Inc. [S. Trusler, **T. Behr**, and C. Candler] 2010. *Roman Coal Project, Environmental Assessment Report, Volume 3, Section 21 First Nations Interests and Use*. Prepared by Golder Associates for Peace River Coal.
- Behr, T.**, P. Evans, and B. Keats. 2010. *Traditional Use Study and Assessment of the Proposed TransCanada Horn River Mainline Project (Cabin Section)*. Prepared by Golder Associates Ltd. and Fort Nelson First Nation for EnCana Corp.
- Golder Associates [Mundy, D. and **T. Behr**.] 2009. *Independent Technical Review: Cabin Gas Plant Application for an Environmental Assessment Certificate*. Prepared by Golder Associates for Fort Nelson First Nation.
- Behr, T.**, L. Lowe, N. Thorpe, A. Tofflemire, K. Dhaliwal-Gill, P. Evans. 2009. *Traditional Land Use Assessment of the Proposed Cabin Gas Plant Project*. Prepared by Golder Associates Ltd. and Fort Nelson First Nation for TransCanada Pipelines Ltd.
- Golder Associates Ltd. [C. Candler and **T. Behr**] 2007. *Traditional Land Use Assessment of the Proposed Horizon Mine Coal Project*. Prepared by Golder Associates for Peace River Coal Inc.
- Behr, T.** and R. Koppang. 2006. *Socioeconomic Considerations in Large Ocean Management Areas*. Centre for Global Studies, University of Victoria, British Columbia.
- Behr, T.** 2005. *Hypermedia and Ethnographic Research: Nuu-chah-nulth and Upper St'át'imc case studies*. Thesis submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. University of Victoria, British Columbia.
- Behr, T.**, M. deLuca, and K. Schacter. 2004. *Trade Deliberations Guide*. Pacific Peoples' Partnership, Victoria, British Columbia.



## **NEW MEDIA, WEBSITES, AND DOCUMENTARY VIDEOS**

### **Moose Lake – home and refuge, Documentary Video, Northern Alberta**

- Co-producer and Director; documentary video (20 minutes); 2013

Assembled and directed a team of camera operators, animators, video editor, music composer, and sound engineer. Completed interviews and final documentary video on Fort McKay's experience of oil sands development, the importance of Moose Lake as their last refuge from industrial development and the alarming pace at which industrial development may degrade their traditional territory and way of life.

### **Wahpeton Dakota Nation Community KnowledgeKeeper, Website, Central Saskatchewan**

- Project Director; web-based data management system, mapping and traditional knowledge archive; 2011-2012

Provided overall specifications, and guidance for the development of a web-based data management repository for all interview data gathered as a part of two traditional land use studies. Directed the development of a website for public access to an interactive Dakota place names maps and TK of key species pages (<http://wahpeton.ca>).

### **Real Moose Country, Documentary Video, Northern Alberta**

- Producer and Director; documentary video (24 minutes); 2011

Produced and directed a documentary that provides a window into the challenges faced by an Aboriginal community of hunters and trappers struggling with their place in the increasingly industrialized landscape of northern Alberta.

### **Fort McKay Community KnowledgeKeeper, Website, Northern Alberta**

- Project Director; web-based data management, mapping and industry consultation tracking system; 2011 - present

Provided overall specifications, and guidance for the development of a web-based traditional land use data management and traditional knowledge archive that can be queried against proposed industrial developments. Worked with First Nations staff to develop industry consultation tracking and documentation features. Provided ongoing direction and support for the creation of a web-based portal for the submission of proposed oil sands development project information to the First Nation (<http://fmsd.fortmckay.com>).

### **Fort Nelson First Nation Community KnowledgeKeeper, Website, Northeastern BC**

- Project Director; web-based data management, mapping and industry consultation tracking system; 2010 - present

Provided overall specifications, and guidance for the development of a web-based traditional land use data management and traditional knowledge archive that can be queried against proposed industrial developments. Worked with First Nations staff to develop industry referrals tracking and documentation features. Provided ongoing direction and support for the creation of Lands Department website and web-based TK sharing projects (<http://lands.fnnation.ca>).



## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Behr, T.** 2012. *Tools for Power: Web-based Community Mapping and Assessment of Industrial Development*. Conference of the Canadian Anthropology Society, Edmonton, Alberta.
- Behr, T.** 2012. *Death by a Thousand Cuts: Facilitating Indigenous Peoples Assessment of Small Industrial Developments*. Conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment, Porto, Portugal.
- Behr, T.** 2011. *Traditional Knowledge on Demand*. The Society for Applied Anthropology, Seattle, Washington.
- Behr, T.** 2010. *Contested Cartographies: Culture vs. Industrial Development in Northeastern BC*. Conference of the Canadian Anthropology Society, Montreal, Quebec.
- Behr, T.** 2009. *Indigenous Voice and a Colony Re-imagined*. Conference of the Canadian Anthropology Society, Vancouver, British Columbia.
- Behr, T.** 2008. *Networking Indigenous Self-Representation + Colonizing Databases in Web 2.0*. European Association of Social Anthropologists - workshop: Medial Practices and Cultural Producers. Universitat Overta de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain.
- Behr, T.** April 2005. *Community Histories in Photographs: engaging communities through photograph collections – Upper St'át'imc History in Photographs*. UVic CURA Conference: Sharing Knowledge Through Research Partnerships, Victoria, British Columbia.
- Behr, T.** Dec 2004. *Authority, (Re)presentations & (Re)productions: the construction of ethnographic hypermedia*. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Behr, T.** May 2004. *Indigenous Language and Culture out of Control: Computers as Indiscriminate Speakers of Nuu-chah-nulth*. Conference of the Canadian Anthropology Society, London, Ontario.
- Behr, T.** March 2003. *Bringing Back the Language*. Society for Ethnobiology, Seattle, Washington.