



Treaty Education Webinar to Union of BC Municipalities

# UNDERSTANDING MODERN TREATIES IN BC

Treaty 101, Made-in-BC Negotiations Framework, Updates and Recent Milestones

**BRITISH COLUMBIA TREATY COMMISSION**

**April 9th, 2026**

# OVERVIEW



## WHY TREATIES? Background

- > Historical and Legal Context
- > BC Claims Task Force Report
- > BC Treaty Commission and Made-in-BC Negotiations Process
- > Modern Treaties and Negotiations Update

## WHAT'S NEW? Updates and Innovations

- > Negotiations Update and Recent Milestones
- > Shared Prosperity: Deloitte Report 2025

## WHAT'S NEXT? Working Together

- > Ratification
- > Local and Regional Governments
- > Advancing Lasting Reconciliation



# **Why Treaties?**

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## **BACKGROUND**

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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## ***As colonial governor, Douglas sets a constructive path...***

- Treaties were a vital component of his initial plans. Until 1854 (while maintaining both gubernatorial and HBC roles), he had *“made it a practice to purchase the native rights to the land, in every case, prior to the settlement of any district.”*
- In correspondence with London, he emphasized the vital importance of *“making the Indians independent and the settlements self-supporting.”*
- In 1859, reserves were mapped out covering *“several hundred acres around each [First Nations] village.”* Two years later, Douglas signals at least a modest shift in direction, instructing his officials to define the *“extent of the Indian reserves...as they may be severally pointed out by the Natives themselves.”*
- Douglas also enacts laws to include Indigenous people in right to pre-emption (160-320 acres at minimal cost) along with white settlers.

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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*In 1864, BC's Legislative Council moves quickly to reduce reserves...*

- “whereas such reservations are considered to be unnecessarily large **(10 acres to each family)**, and in several instances including lands already pre-empted by actual settlers, thereby seriously interfering with the development of the agricultural resources of the Colony; be it resolved that [incoming Governor Frederick Seymour] be respectfully requested to give the matter his consideration at as early a date as convenient.”

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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***The union of BC and VI in 1866 prompts no shift in Indigenous relations:***

John Robson (New Westminster, and a future premier) and Frank Barnard (Yale):

*“That an address be presented to His Excellency the governor, urging the desirability of having the Indian Reserves of the Colony reduced to what is necessary for the actual use of the Natives, and to have such Reserves properly defined, the remainder to be thrown open for settlement.”*

**Similarly, Chief Commissioner Joseph Trutch argues...**

Farmland was *“of no real value to the Indians and utterly unprofitable to the public interests.”* He believed it *“both just and politic”* that reserves should be reduced to *“lands only as are sufficient for their probable requirements for purposes of cultivation and pasturage, and that the remainder of the land now shut up in these reserves should be thrown open to pre-emption.”*

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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***Trutch (1870) dismissive of Douglas approach to Indigenous title and treaty...***

“the title of the Indians in the fee of the public lands, or of any portion thereof, has never been acknowledged by Government, but, on the contrary is distinctly denied.”

**Similarly, Trutch dismissed the Douglas treaties on Vancouver Island as mere payments...**

“for the purpose of securing friendly relations between those Indians and the settlement of Victoria, then in its infancy, and certainly not in acknowledgment of any general title of the Indians to the land they occupy.”

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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## *In Confederation negotiations of 1870...*

- Indigenous relations was not a paramount concern of either governments. Colonial debt, political representation in Ottawa, and a trans-national railway dominated the negotiation agenda.
- Terms of Union gave responsibility for “Indians and lands reserved for Indians” to the federal government, but dominant control of public lands (Crown lands, from which reserves were created) was provided to the Province.

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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## *As BC joined Canada in July, 1871...*

- BC's colonial reserves varied widely in size; by BC's reckoning, overall reserves averaged six acres per family after reductions made at the request of colonial legislatures.
- The first of the Numbered Treaties (One and Two, 1871) were being completed by Canada east of the Rocky Mountains. Treaties were completed in advance of white settlement and offered reserves of 160-640 acres per family.

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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*Pivotal question in our history...*

***Given the 14 “Douglas Treaties” completed in colonial BC, and Canada’s numbered treaties underway east of the Rockies, why were treaty processes not seriously considered in the new Province?***

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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## ***BC's first Lieutenant Governor promptly discourages treaty...***

*“the Canadian system as I understand it will hardly work here. We have never bought out any Indian claims to land, nor do they expect we should...If you commence to buy out Indian title to the lands of BC you would go back on all that has been done here for 30 years past...”* (Trutch, as LG, to PM Macdonald, 1872)

## ***Given BC's resistance to treaties, Canada suggests...***

*In a Privy Council report of March 21, 1873, “that each family be assigned a location of 80 acres of land of average quality, which shall remain permanently the property of the family for whose benefit it is allotted.”*

*The Dominion aimed to “remove any spirit of discontent which in various quarters appears to prevail.”*

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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***Would reserves of less than 20-acres-per-family be increased in size?***

Lieutenant Governor Trutch's 1874 advice to cabinet undoubtedly reinforced Provincial resistance to expansion of existing reserves:

*"The lands conveyed [in expansion of existing reserves] would probably be of the best quality available...such lands are in request for the purpose of actual and useful settlement and...it is contrary to the public welfare for such lands to be left uncultivated in the hands of a nominal and irresponsible proprietary."*

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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***Without treaties, a key colonial practice fosters Indigenous dispossession!***

*“It has generally been the practice to lay out on the ground the Indian Reserves synchronously with the settlement of the district by the whites. This system has been found effectual and far less costly than that of surveying the reserves all together, as they are naturally scattered and often at great distances apart.”*

- Surveyor General B.W. Pearse, 1871

All too often, particularly after Douglas’s retirement, reserves were constructed from the residual “guts and feathers” that remained after settler demands had been met.

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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*The consequence of persistent colonial policy was evident as early as 1874 ...*

*“Their reservations have been repeatedly cut off smaller for the benefit of the whites and the best and most useful part of them taken away till some tribes are corralled on a small piece of ground, as at Canoe Creek and elsewhere, or even have not an inch of ground, as at Williams Lake.”*

(Father Grandidier, letter to the Victoria Standard, 1874)

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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*In 1911, Indigenous leaders reminded Premier McBride of the broader cost of dispossession...*

*“Why should we be expected to make a good living on four or five acres of land, whilst...320 acres was deemed none too much for a white man? A few reserves may appear large on paper, but what amount of good land is in them?”*

*Most of them consist chiefly of more or less barren side hills, rock slides, timbered bottoms hard to clear, and arid flats devoid of water for irrigation. We cannot live on and cultivate rocks, side hills and places where we can get no water.”*

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT

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## *Origins of Treaty 8 agreements (1890s)*

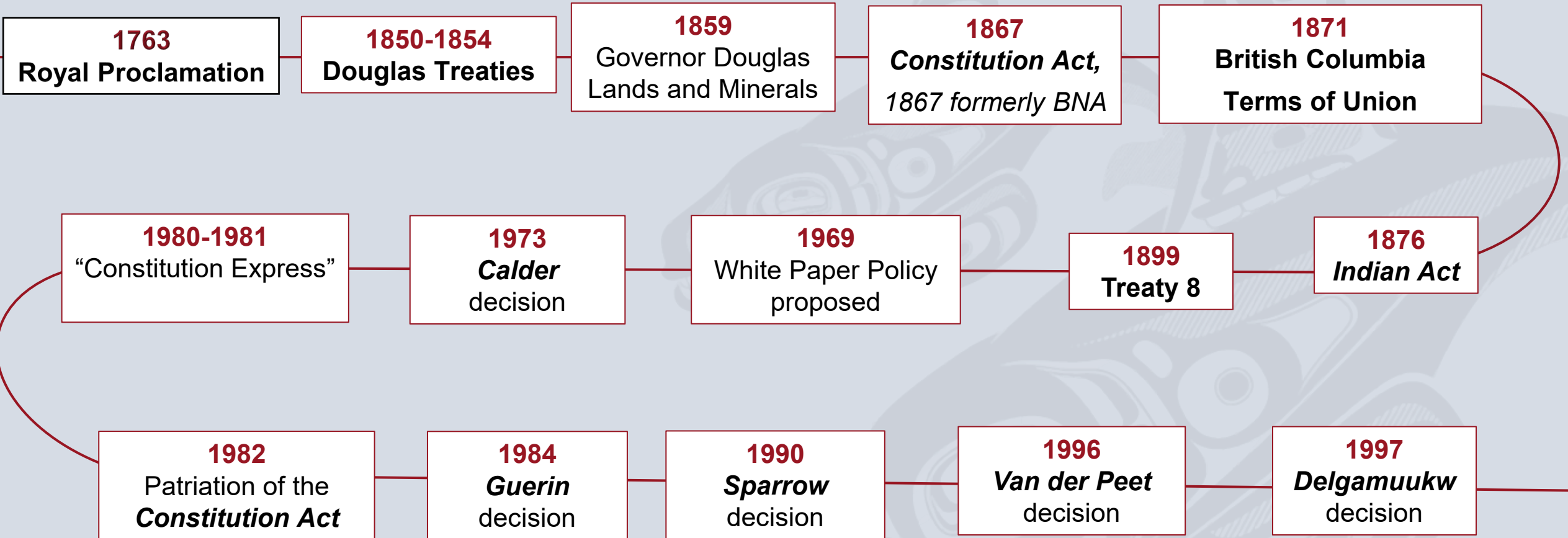
Every new Indigenous Relations minister is obliged to ask:

**How can BC's ongoing resistance to 20 acres per family be squared with a treaty offering 640 acres per family?**

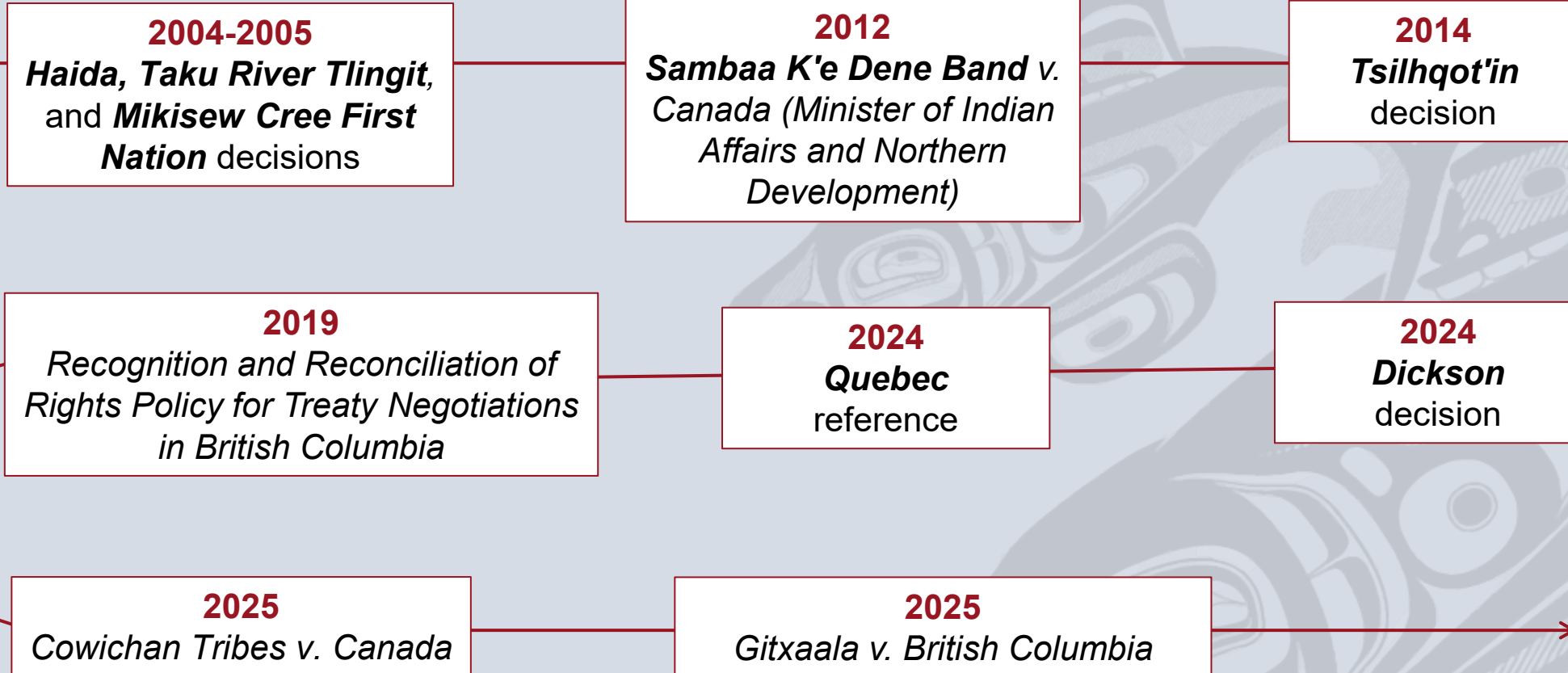
Basically, by ignoring Canada's requests for participation, advice or even acknowledgement.

Confirmation of the Province's approach came a century later in the SCBC when government lawyers argued, in opposition to the McLeod Lake Band's petition for adherence to Treaty 8, that *"treaty commissioners were not authorized by, nor did they enter into any obligations on behalf of the Province."*

# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT



# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT



# HISTORICAL AND LEGAL CONTEXT



***We are all treaty people.*** It is important to understand that without treaties, Canada would have no legitimacy as a nation. Treaties between First Nations and the Crown established the legal and constitutional foundation of this country.

- Reconciliation is a collective, national duty, not solely an Indigenous issue, requiring all sides to uphold the spirit of mutual respect and sharing.
- Treaties establish coexistence, with Indigenous peoples rights recognized and a sharing the land and resources with all non-Indigenous peoples.

## Truth and Reconciliation Commission



Photo Source: CBC News: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/trc-5-years-final-report-1.5841428>

# BC CLAIMS TASK FORCE REPORT



- *The Report of the BC Claims Task Force, 1991*, guides the made-in-BC treaty negotiations process.
- The governments of Canada, British Columbia, and First Nations accepted the Task Force Report recommendations.
- The report calls for an open, fair and voluntary process, resulting in modern treaties that serve as blueprints for a new relationship.
- **Goal to reconcile pre-existence of First Nations in BC with that of the Crown, and deal with the Land Question in BC.**

## 19 Recommendations of Task Force Report

- 1 The First Nations, Canada, and British Columbia establish a new relationship based on mutual trust, respect, and understanding — through political negotiations.
- 2 Each of the parties be at liberty to introduce any issue at the negotiation table which it views as significant to the new relationship.
- 3 A British Columbia Treaty Commission be established by agreement among the First Nations, Canada, and British Columbia to facilitate the process of negotiations.
- 4 The Commission consist of a full-time chairperson and four commissioners — of whom two are appointed by the First Nations, and one each by the federal and provincial governments.
- 5 A six-stage process be followed in negotiating treaties.
- 6 The treaty negotiation process be open to all First Nations in British Columbia.
- 7 The organization of First Nations for the negotiations is a decision to be made by each First Nation.
- 8 First Nations resolve issues related to overlapping traditional territories among themselves.
- 9 Federal and provincial governments start negotiations as soon as First Nations are ready.
- 10 Non-aboriginal interests be represented at the negotiating table by the federal and provincial governments.
- 11 The First Nation, Canadian, and British Columbian negotiating teams be sufficiently funded to meet the requirements of the negotiations.
- 12 The commission be responsible for allocating funds to the First Nations.
- 13 The parties develop ratification procedures which are confirmed in the Framework Agreement and in the Agreement in Principle.
- 14 The commission provide advice and assistance in dispute resolution as agreed by the parties.
- 15 The parties select skilled negotiators and provide them with a clear mandate, and training as required.
- 16 The parties negotiate interim measures agreements before or during the treaty negotiations when an interest is being affected which could undermine the process.
- 17 Canada, British Columbia, and the First Nations jointly undertake public education and information programs.
- 18 The parties in each negotiation jointly undertake a public information program.
- 19 British Columbia, Canada, and the First Nations request the First Nations Education Secretariat, and various educational organizations in British Columbia, to prepare resource materials for use in the schools and by the public.

# BC TREATY COMMISSION



The Government of British Columbia, the Government of Canada and the First Nations Summit



(collectively referred to as the “Principals”),

established the British Columbia Treaty Commission and the made-in-BC negotiations framework in 1992 with the signing of the *British Columbia Treaty Commission Agreement*.



September 21, 1992 BCTC Agreement signing ceremony

# ROLE AND MANDATE

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- The Treaty Commission is the **independent body** that facilitates the negotiations of treaties and tripartite agreements amongst the governments of Canada, British Columbia and participating First Nations in BC.
- It is not a party to negotiations. Its role is to serve as the independent facilitator of negotiations.
- The Treaty Commission is the only legally established tripartite body in Canada whose mandate is to support reconciliation.



# ROLE AND MANDATE

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The Treaty Commission mandate includes three main roles:

## FACILITATION

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- » Facilitate negotiations of modern treaties and tripartite agreements amongst the parties.

## FUNDING ALLOCATION

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- » Allocate funding to First Nations to support participation in negotiations.
- » Supports First Nations governance and capacity development.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION

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- » Provide public education and information on modern treaties, tripartite agreements, and reconciliation.

# MODERN TREATIES IN CANADA

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When we refer to “modern treaties”, these are treaties negotiated post-1973, following the landmark *Calder* case.

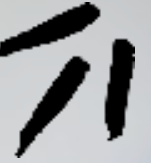
- First modern treaty in Canada: James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement (1975)
- First modern treaty in B.C.: Nisag'a Final Agreement (2000)

There are now 31 treaties (referred to as modern treaties or “comprehensive land claim agreements”) have been signed across Canada.

- 8 of these modern treaties are within B.C., and 7 were negotiated in the made-in-BC negotiations process.

# MODERN TREATIES IN CANADA

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There are currently 30 Modern Treaties being implemented across Canada.

Eight Modern Treaties are in British Columbia, and seven were negotiated through the made-in-BC negotiations process.

8

30

2026 Current Status

# MODERN TREATIES IN CANADA



There are **8 Modern Treaty Nations** implementing treaties with the governments of Canada and BC.

Through the Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations, they work cooperatively on collective implementation priorities.



Nisga'a Nation



Tsawwassen First Nation



Huu-ay-aht  
First Nations  
(Maa-nulth)



Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h'  
First Nations (Maa-nulth)



Toquaht Nation  
(Maa-nulth)



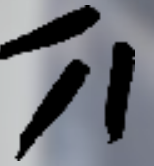
Uchucklesaht Tribe  
(Maa-nulth)



YuułuꞀiꞀꞀath  
Government  
(Maa-nulth)



Tla'amin Nation



treaty

# **What is a Modern Treaty?**

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Modern treaties are constitutionally protected agreements, which define rights and obligations while fostering nation-to-nation, government-to-government relationships between the governments of Canada, British Columbia and the First Nation(s).

# MODERN TREATIES



Modern Treaties replace the *Indian Act* with self-government, provide certainty over lands and resources, and outline fiscal arrangements and the harmonization of laws amongst the federal, provincial and First Nation(s) governments.



**Self Government**



**Land & Resources**



**Language & Culture**



**Fiscal Resources**



**Children & Families**

# MODERN TREATIES

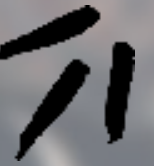
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Treaties are transformative agreements, protected under Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution.

Modern Treaties in BC are comprehensive and address a wide range of matters, such as:

- Reconciliation of Crown and First Nations' titles, jurisdictions, laws, and legal systems;
- legal certainty over lands and resources, and addresses private landholder interests;
- Shared decision-making; and
- Economic benefits and Resource revenue sharing.



**What's New?**

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**UPDATES & INNOVATIONS**

# ROLE AND MANDATE ENHANCED

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In 2010, Canada endorsed the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In 2015, the TRC's Calls to Action were released and welcomed by government. Since 2018 the Principals of the made-in-BC negotiations process enhanced the Treaty Commission mandate to include supporting negotiating Parties:

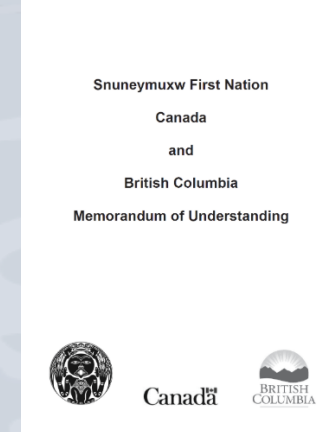
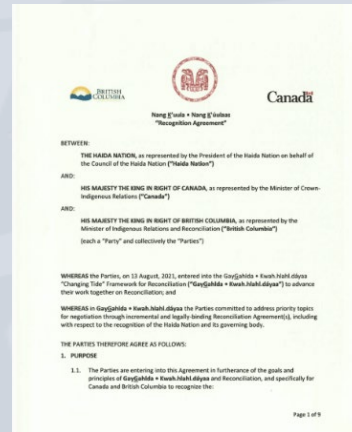
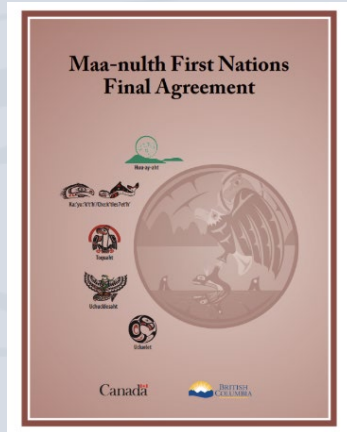
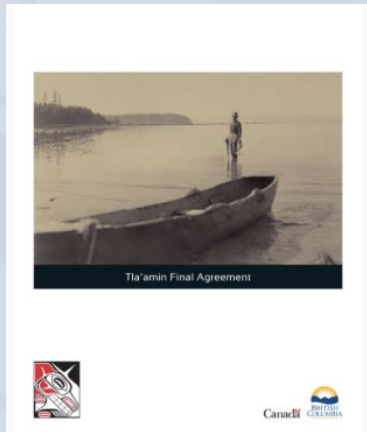
- » in implementing the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;
- » the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: 94 Calls to Action*; and
- » the *Principles Respecting the Government of Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples, and the recognition of First Nations title and rights*.

The Task Force Report and its 19 recommendations continues to guide the Treaty Commission and its work. Modern treaties reflect the TRC's Calls to Action, the UNDRIP and the principles through the clauses and chapters.

# MADE-IN-BC NEGOTIATIONS PROCESS



The BC Treaty Commission made-in-BC negotiations process facilitates the negotiations of treaties and tripartite reconciliation agreements, which can be incremental steps towards a treaty or non-treaty agreement.



## Modern Treaty



## Tripartite Reconciliation Agreement(s)

# ***RECOGNITION AND RECONCILIATION OF RIGHTS POLICY FOR TREATY NEGOTIATIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (RRR Policy)***



- Principals endorsed the RRR Policy on September 4, 2019.
- First tripartite public policy on treaty negotiations.
- Upholds that Aboriginal rights and title are not extinguished or surrendered by treaties and other agreements.
- Recognizes that treaties are living agreements.
- Encourages flexible, innovative, and collaborative approaches.

Recognition and Reconciliation of  
Rights Policy for Treaty Negotiations  
in British Columbia

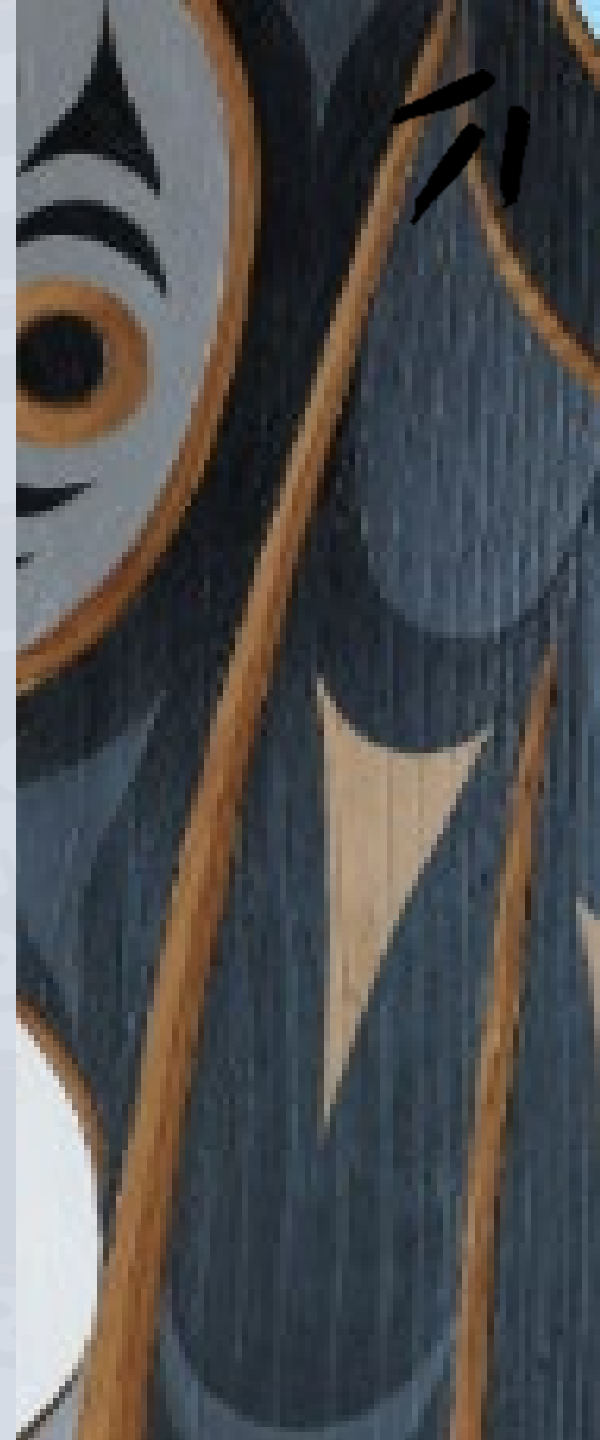
Endorsed by the Principals on September 4, 2019



# CERTAINTY AND PREDICTABILITY

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- Aboriginal rights, including aboriginal title and the inherent right to self-government, are recognized, affirmed, and will be exercised as agreed to in a treaty.
- This certainty provides clarity and predictability for all Parties.
- Certainty through transparency and accountability measures can expedite economic investments.
- **Modern treaties create an equitable and prosperous future for the betterment of all.**



# LIVING AGREEMENTS

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- Modern treaties are living agreements that create predictable relationships, foster partnerships, and provide a framework for all people in BC to live together and to help build a better future for everyone.
- Treaties provide transparent processes for managing land and resources together between British Columbia, Canada and Modern Treaty Nations
  - **Creating economic predictability for everyone in the surrounding region**
- Periodic renewal provisions enable treaty amendments, by agreement of the Parties, to include changes to laws and policy, and innovations to ensure it evolves over time to meet the Parties needs, just as the relationship also evolves .



# SHARED PROSPERITY

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**Treaties are national and provincial major priorities creating the right conditions for both governments and private investments into B.C.**

- Treaties generate significant economic benefits for all Canadians, British Columbians and First Nations
- Treaties create certainty over the ownership of lands and resources including predictability around law making and decision-making processes.
- This supports critical infrastructure, housing, tourism, and sustainable resource development.



Photo Source: Ethan Cairns/The Canadian Press. <https://www.aptnnews.ca/national-news/nisgaanations-ksi-lisims-Ing-and-bc-hydro-ink-deal-moving-project-to-next-step/>

# SHARED PROSPERITY



Modern Treaties are meaningful transformative drivers of economic reconciliation for British Columbia, Canada and First Nations.

- Treaties will generate significant net economic benefits between **\$1.17 billion to \$2 billion** over the next decade.
- The lands and governance components of modern treaties exponentially increase these economic benefits by several more billion.

**Deloitte.**

Financial Benefits of Modern Treaties in British Columbia

2025

**Table 9: Financial benefits of Modern Treaties based on the Most Recent Treaty Scenario (Kitselas First Nation)**

Total treaties to be settled	6
Years until these treaties are settled	10
Cash compensation (\$m)	2,699
Resource revenue sharing	117
<b>Total benefits (cash and RRS only)</b>	<b>2,816</b>
Less:	
BC share of cash compensation	(748)
BC share of RRS	(66)
Total cost to BC	<b>(814)</b>
Net financial benefits (\$m)	<b>2,002</b>
<b>Net Present Value of net financial benefits (\$m)</b>	<b>1,927</b>



# SHARED PROSPERITY



- These reconciliation settlements provide new sources of revenue, enable sustainable community investments, and create a foundation for long-term economic growth.
- Critically, the pace of settlement directly influence the scale of benefits achieved.

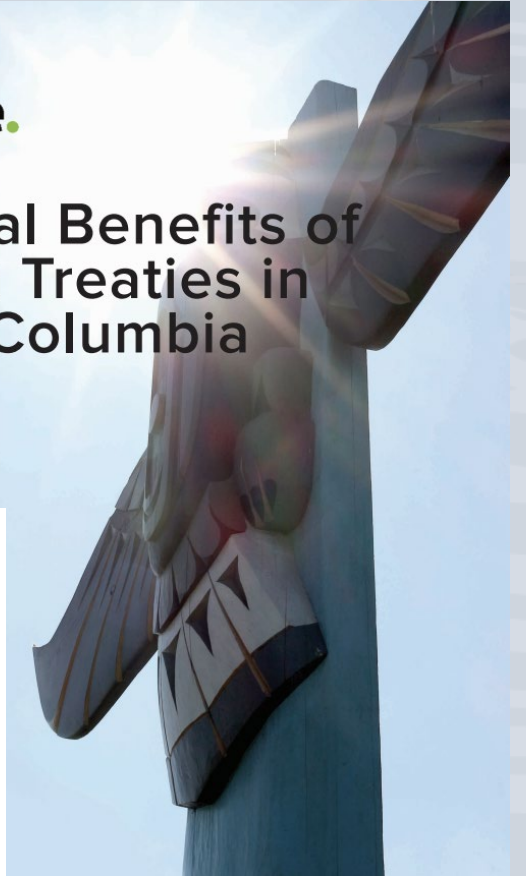
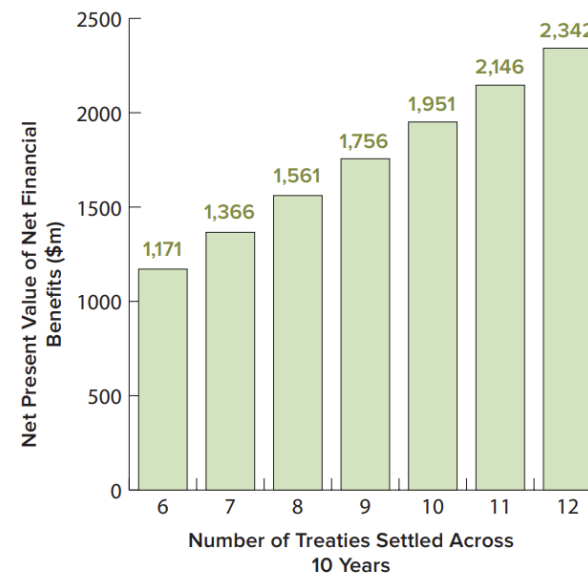
**Sooner the better for everyone!**

**Deloitte.**

## Financial Benefits of Modern Treaties in British Columbia

2025

Figure 3: Impact of Increasing the Number of Treaties Settled Over 10 Years



# SHARED PROSPERITY

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*Financial Benefits of Modern Treaties in British Columbia:* Deloitte Report 2025:

## Tsawwassen First Nation (TFN) Case Study

- Since implementing the Treaty, TFN has attracted private investments generating over \$485 million in annual employment income in the region, including 11,000 permanent retail and warehouse jobs.
- \$30 million TFN-owned sewer treatment plant, which not only serves TFN lands but also support the growth of surrounding municipalities.



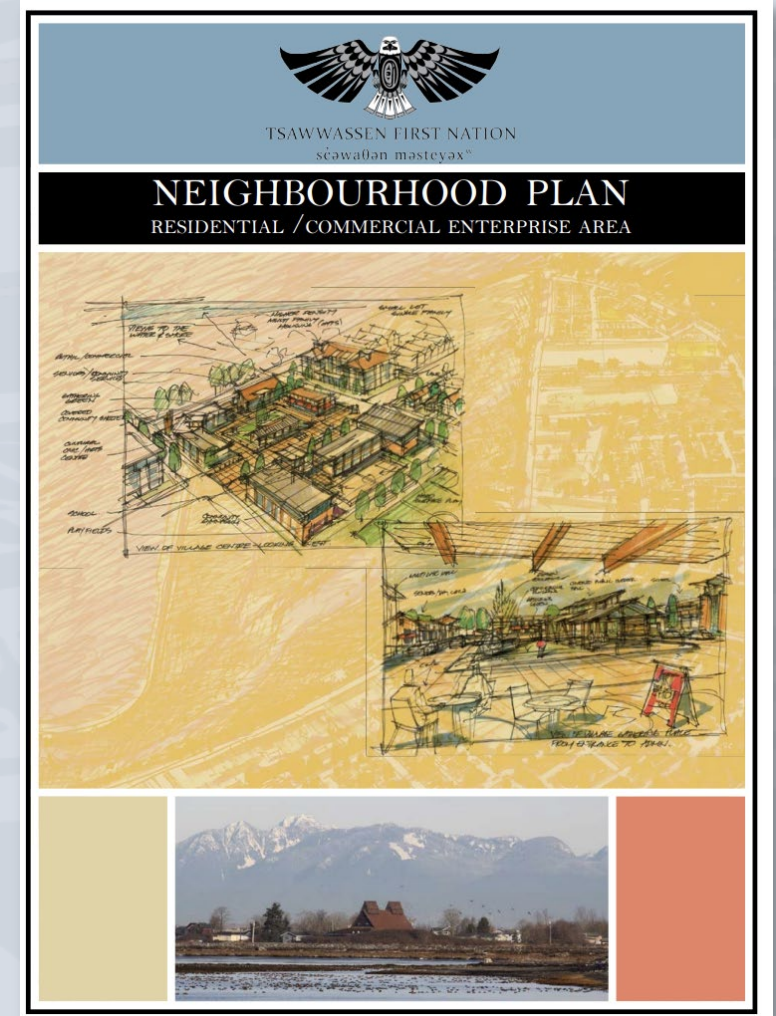
# SHARED PROSPERITY

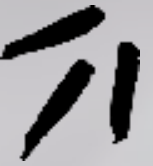


## *Financial Benefits of Modern Treaties in British Columbia: Deloitte Report 2025:*

### **Tsawwassen First Nation (TFN) Case Study**

- TFN's economic model is helping to resolve the housing crisis with more than 5,000 current leaseholders and the potential to reach 10,000–12,000 in the coming years.
- TFN's Community Well-Being Index Scores (2021), are higher than average for First Nations in BC, higher than Indigenous Peoples across Canada, and non-Indigenous nationwide.
- **Everyone benefits from modern treaties and its shared economic prosperity by unlocking the economic potential of treaty lands.**

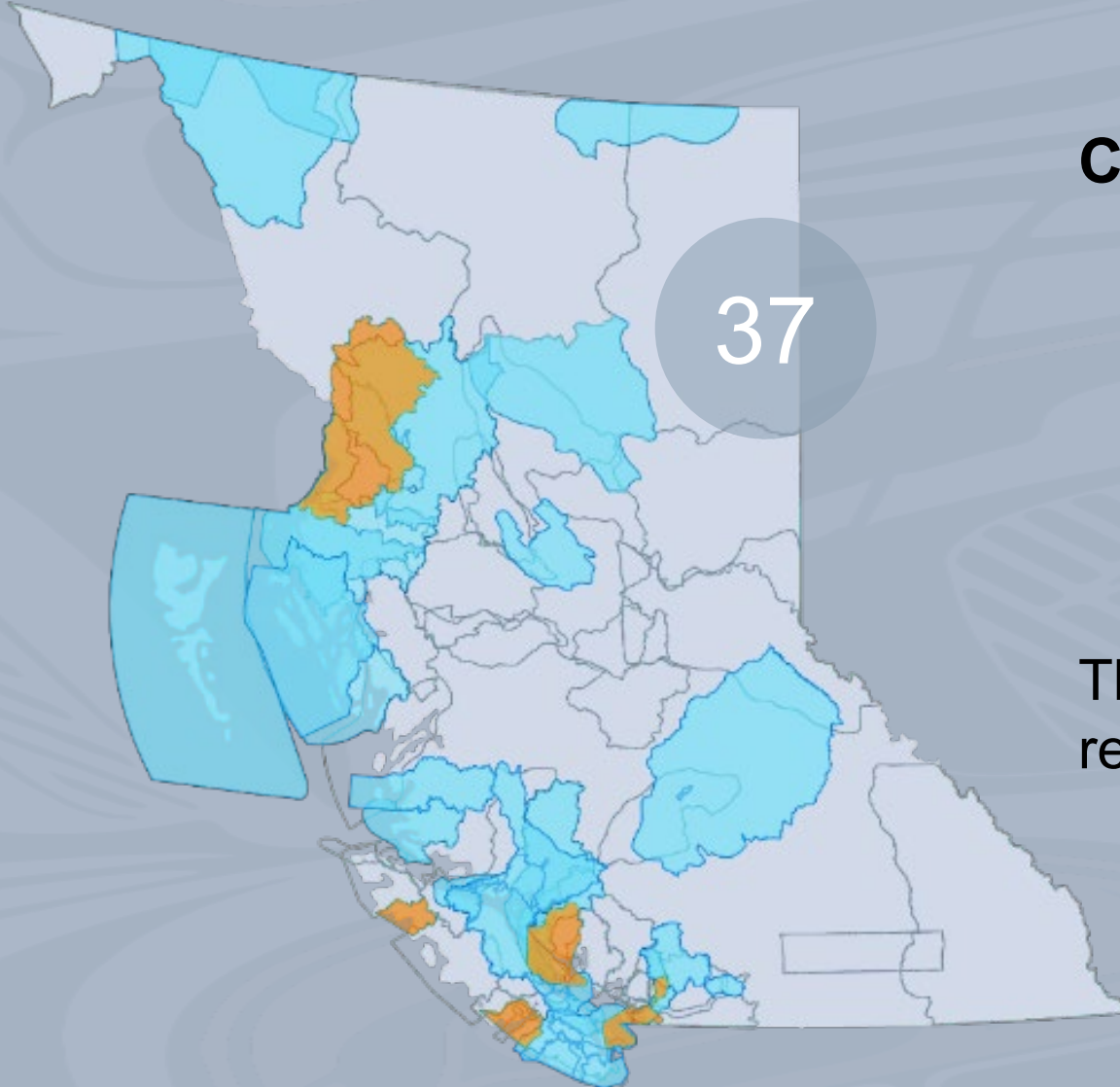




# Negotiations Update

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# NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE



## Current Status:

- **29** self-determined First Nations actively negotiating agreements (blue)
- **8** Self-governing Modern Treaty Nations implementing Modern Treaties in BC (bronze)

These 37 self-determining First Nations represent **61** current and former *Indian Act* bands.

# OVERLAPS & SHARED TERRITORIES

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*"The original recommendation that First Nations resolve overlaps themselves is actually valid. The reason that was done was to prevent the governments from imposing boundaries, and to allow the First Nations the opportunity to confirm their territories with each other."*

**~ GRAND CHIEF STEVEN POINT, O.B.C**

*"The Crown resolving the dispute, assuming a higher authority and coming in and imposing a solution – that is worse. First Nations have to weigh that as a cost of their intransigence, their inability to resolve these differences. That whole Indian Act colonial paradigm did serious damage to our recollection of our traditional ways."*

**~ MILES RICHARDSON, O.C.**

*"We have the historical cultural solutions already for dispute resolution. You cannot have shared territory without governance. It is our governance — our traditional methods of dispute resolution amongst families and inter-tribally."*

**~ SOPHIE PIERRE, O.C, O.B.C**



# OVERLAPS & SHARED TERRITORIES

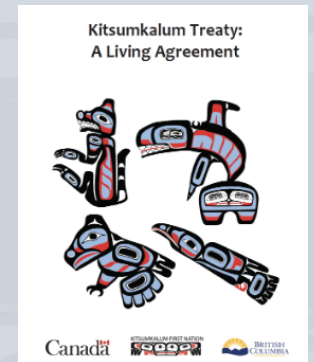
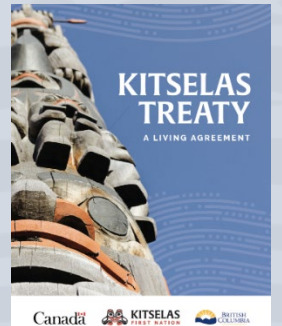
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- Consistent with **recommendation 8** of the *Report of the British Columbia Claims Task Force* (1991), Canada and British Columbia acknowledge that **First Nations are best placed to resolve shared territory and overlap issues amongst themselves.**
- **RRR POLICY** where two or more First Nations or groups have a shared territory and wish to enter into joint negotiations with Canada and British Columbia, federal and provincial negotiators may negotiate and enter into shared territory agreements and other constructive arrangements with these First Nations or groups in respect of the shared territory.
- The Treaty Commission also provides funding to support engagement and facilitates when requested from the engaged First Nations.



# RECENT MILESTONES

- ***K'ómoks First Nation Treaty “A Living Agreement”*** initialled in 2024, and community ratified the Treaty and Constitution on March 8, 2025.
  - 91% voter participation: **Yes to Treaty = 81%**,  
**Yes to Constitution = 83%**
- ***The Kitselas Treaty: A Living Agreement*** was initialled in 2024, and community ratified the Treaty and Constitution on April 10, 2025.
  - 96.4% voter participation: **Yes to Treaty = 85%**,  
**Yes to Constitution = 81%**
- ***The Kitsumkalum Treaty: A Living Agreement*** was initialled in 2024, and community ratified the Treaty and Constitution on Nov. 1, 2025
  - 89% voters participation: **Yes to Treaty = 91%**,  
**Yes to Constitution = 90%**





**What's Next?**

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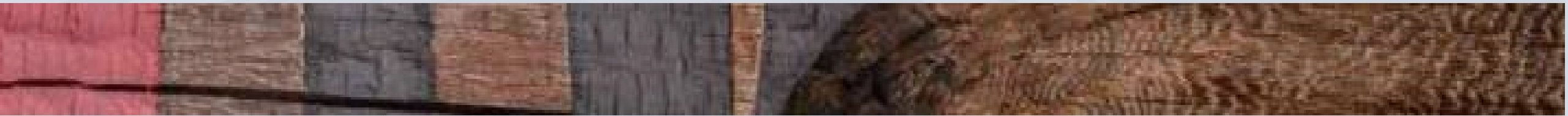
**WORKING TOGETHER**

# WORKING TOGETHER

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- Working together to advance Modern Treaties create a stronger British Columbia ensures mutually benefitting lasting reconciliation for everyone.
- Modern treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements are non-partisan priorities that require cooperation from all.
- The BC Treaty Commission and its work is non-partisan.



# RATIFICATION

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After the parties initial the agreement, ratification involves the following:

- **First Nations Ratification:** the First Nation votes on the constitution and treaty.
- **Provincial Ratification:** after successful First Nations vote, the provincial government undertakes its ratification process.
- **Federal Ratification:** after successful provincial ratification, the federal government undertakes
- **Treaty Pre-Implementation:** the First Nation prepares its government and administration, which involves development of laws and policies; structures the government organization; addresses capacity gaps.
- **Treaty Effective Date:** the Treaty comes into effect, and over time the benefits are realized locally, regionally and nationally through successful treaty implementation.

# RATIFICATION



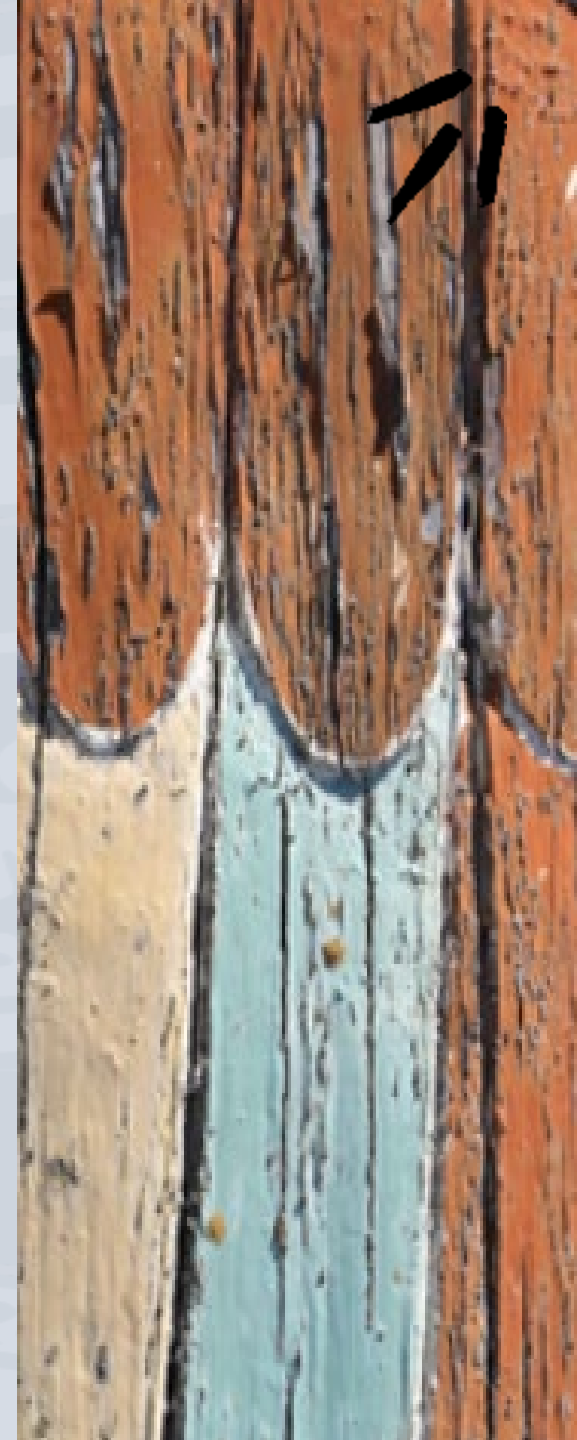
- These negotiations included consultations with third parties, external stakeholders, interest groups, local government, and industry throughout the entire process.
- Overlap issues continue to exist and may exist beyond effective date. Crown consultation and First Nation-to-First Nation engagements will also continue now and can continue into implementation.
- The courts have consistently ruled in favour of treaties moving forward because there are provisions in the treaty that protect neighbouring First Nations interests.



# LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS

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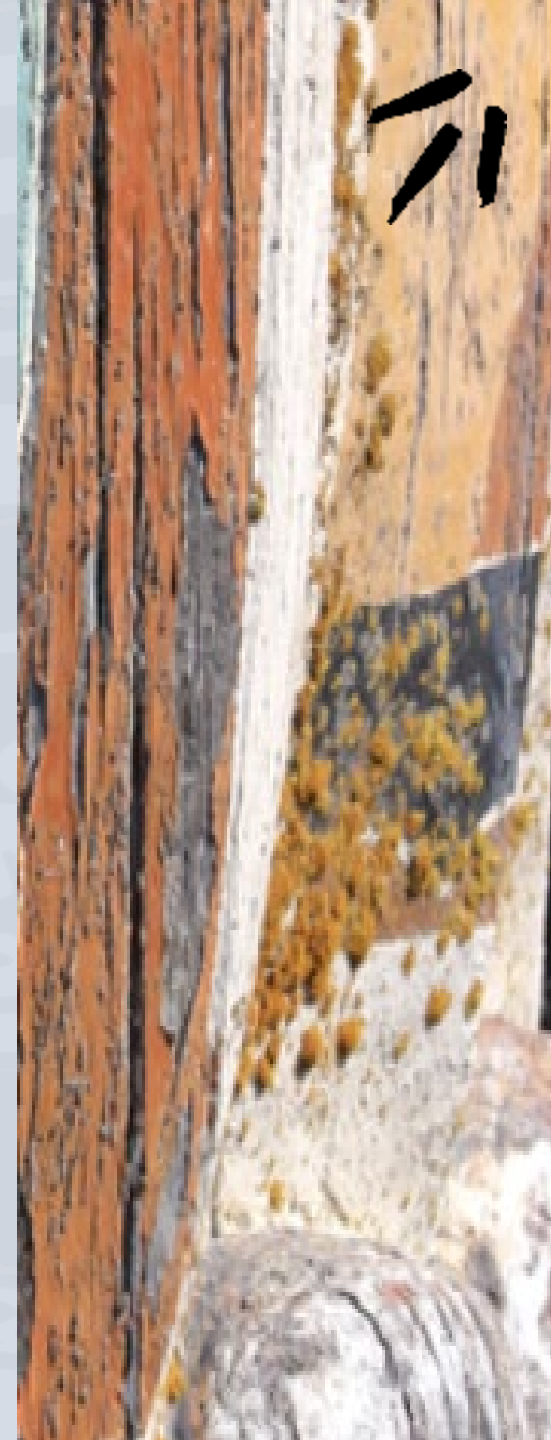
- Local governments are represented at the negotiations. The BC government represents their interests and the public's interest, and often a local/regional representative also sits at the negotiations table.
- Negotiations are confidential, and local governments are consulted, including on the land package.
- On Effective Date the First Nation and local governments will manage their intergovernmental relationship. They may enter into agreements for delivery of services.
- When a First Nation becomes self-governing, the treaty includes membership to a Regional District, and the First Nation can decide when it and if it will fill that seat.



# ADVACNING LASTING RECONCILIATION

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- Kitselas First Nation and Kitsumkalum First Nation, and the City of Terrace maintain a government-to-government relationship through agreements such as the *Accord of Recognition and Respect and a Framework of Cooperation*.
- Snuneymuxw First Nation and the City of Nanaimo continues to have a strong working government-to-government relationship by renewing their Protocol Agreement in 2019.
- K'omoks First Nation and the Comox Valley Regional District have advanced significant work together fostering strong relationships and shared benefits in the region.



# MADE-IN-BC NEGOTIATIONS PROCESS

**1992**

## BCTC AGREEMENT

September 21: The *British Columbia Treaty Commission Agreement* is signed, establishing BCTC as the independent "keeper of the process" for facilitating treaty negotiations



September 21, 1992 BCTC Agreement signing ceremony

**2009**

## TSAWWASSEN TREATY

April 3: The first treaty achieved in the BC Treaty negotiations process, the *Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement* (Tsawwassen Treaty), comes into effect



April 3, 2009 Tsawwassen Treaty signing

**1991**

June 28: The beginning of the treaty process starts with the Report of the British Columbia Claims Task Force

**1993**

May: First Nation Summit Resolution Establishing BC Treaty Commission

May: Treaty Commission Act (BC)

**1995**

December: *British Columbia Treaty Commission Act (Canada)*

**2000**

## NISGA'A TREATY

*Nisga'a Final Agreement* (Nisga'a Treaty) comes into effect, Making Nisga'a the first Modern Treaty Nation in BC

**2003**

October 3: *Maa-nulth First Nations Agreement in Principle*

**2004**

January 11: *Tla'amin Agreement in Principle*

March 15: *Tsawwassen Agreement in Principle*

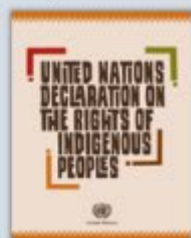
**2005**

August 22: *Yekooche First Nation Agreement in Principle*

**2007**

August 15: *Samahquam and Skatin First Nations* (In-SHUCK-ch Nation) *Agreement in Principle*

September 13: International minimum standards for Indigenous Peoples are established through the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples



**2011**

## MAA-NULTH TREATY

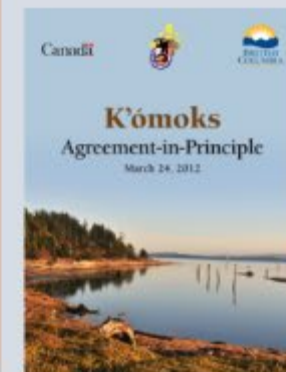
April 1: Five First Nations become self-governing through the *Maa-nulth First Nations Final Agreement* (Maa-nulth Treaty)



April 1, 2011 Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Ka:'yu:k't'h'/Che:k'tles7e'h' First Nations, Toquaht Nation, Uchucklesaht Tribe Government, Yuulu?i?ath Government, and the Governments of Canada and British Columbia.

**2012**

March 24: *K'ómoks Agreement in Principle*





## 2016

### TLA'AMIN TREATY

April 5: Tla'amin Nation becomes self-governing through the *Tla'amin Final Agreement* (Tla'amin Treaty), the seventh First Nation to do so through the BC Treaty Process

## 2015

June 2: Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action

April 9: **Te'mexw** Treaty Association Agreement in Principle

July 23: **Wuikinuxw** Agreement in Principle

August 4: **Kitsumkalum** Agreement in Principle

August 4: **Kitselas** Agreement in Principle



Kitsumkalum Agreement



Te'mexw Agreement in Principle

## 2016

May 24: Principals endorse the Multilateral Engagement Process to Improve and Expedite Treaty Negotiations in British Columbia: Proposals for the Principals' Consideration

## 2017

July 14: Principles Respecting the Government of Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples

## 2018

July 22: **Northern Sexwepemc te Qelmuxw** Agreement in Principle

October 12: **Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw** Stage 5 Memorandum of Understanding



Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw MOU

## 2019

### LOANS ELIMINATED

\$1.4 billion in negotiation loans eliminated through Federal Budget 2019

## 2018

December 1: Principals' Accord on Transforming Treaty Negotiations in British Columbia



March 19: In response to the loans elimination, Chief Commissioner Celeste Haldane said the BCTC "has long advocated for the elimination of loans in treaty negotiations. It is encouraging to see this issue finally being addressed and demonstrates real progress towards reconciliation."

## 2019

February 14: **Metlakatla** Transition to Stage 5 and Treaty Revitalization Agreement

June 6: Tripartite Commitment Agreement: **We Wai Kai** Transition to Stage 5 Negotiations Under the BC Treaty Process

June 28: **Ditidaht and Pacheedaht** Agreement in Principle

July 28: **We Wai Kum First Nation / Kwiakoh First Nation** Transition to Stage 5 and Treaty Revitalization Agreement

August 26: **Hul'qumi'num** Treaty Group Transition to Stage 5 and Treaty Revitalization Agreement

August 27: Canada's Collaborative Self-Government Fiscal Policy

September 4: Recognition and Reconciliation of Rights Policy for Treaty Negotiations in British Columbia is endorsed by the Principals, making it the first co-developed policy between Canada, BC, and First Nations.



Truth and Reconciliation  
Commission of Canada  
Calls to Action



**May 2:** The Government of Canada announced the creation of an independent oversight body spearheaded by a new Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation.



Photo Source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/trudeau-indigenous-treaty-commissioner-1.7191802>

**June 25:** Kitsumkalum First Nation, Canada, and British Columbia advance reconciliation and self-governance through the initialing of a draft treaty.



## 2024

**June 24:** Kitselas First Nation, Canada, and British Columbia initial a draft Treaty and advance a new path to reconciliation and self-government.



## 2024

**July 22:** The K'ómoks Treaty initialing signals progress toward a new nation-to-nation, government-to-government relationship.



Photo Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/bcgovphotos/53873638552/in/album-72157683727946094>



## 2025

**Feb 17:** The Haida Nation and the Government of Canada sign the *Chiixuujin / Chaaw Kaawgaa* “Big Tide (Low Water)” Haida Title Lands Agreement, recognizing Haida aboriginal title to Haida Gwaii.



Photo Source: <https://www.haidanation.ca/cck-btlw-signing-celebration/>

## 2025

**March 8:** K’ómoks First Nation citizens ratify the *K’ómoks First Nation Treaty: “A Living Agreement”* and the K’ómoks constitution.



Photo Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/bcgovphotos/53874957875/in/album-72157683727946094>

## 2025

**April 10:** Kitselas First Nation community ratification of the *Kitselas Treaty: A Living Agreement* and the Kitselas Constitution.



## 2025

**November 1:** Kitsumkalum First Nation community ratification of the *Kitsumkalum Treaty: A Living Agreement* and the Kitsumkalum Constitution.



# THANK YOU

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