

Maa-nulth Final Agreement: Financial Components

The Maa-nulth Final Agreement was negotiated by the Government of Canada, the Government of British Columbia and the Maa-nulth First Nations. The five Maa-nulth First Nations are Ucluelet First Nation, Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Toquaht Nation, Ka:yu:k't'h/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations, and Uchucklesaht Tribe, all located on the west coast of Vancouver Island. The Maa-nulth First Nations represent about 2,000 people. Maa-nulth means “villages along the coast” in the Nuuchah-nulth language.

The Maa-nulth Final Agreement is among the first Final Agreements reached in the province under the British Columbia treaty process. The Final Agreement sets out each Maa-nulth First Nation’s rights and benefits respecting land and resources, and self-government over their lands and resources and their citizens. The Final Agreement provides certainty for all parties with respect to ownership and management of lands and resources and the exercise of federal, provincial and Maa-nulth First Nation governmental powers and authorities.

The negotiation of a Final Agreement marks Stage Five of the six-stage British Columbia treaty process, and is the conclusion of substantive treaty negotiations. Once ratified by all parties, the Final Agreement will become a treaty through legislation. It will be a constitutionally-protected, legal agreement which creates mutually binding obligations and commitments.

A NEW FISCAL RELATIONSHIP

The Maa-nulth Final Agreement represents a fundamental change in the fiscal relationship between Canada, British Columbia and the Maa-nulth First Nations. The Maa-nulth First Nation governments will have strengthened autonomy and be fully accountable to the Maa-nulth-aht (those people who are enrolled in and benefit from the treaty) and Maa-nulth First Nation citizens for financial decisions. Each Maa-nulth First Nation government will be accountable to Canada and British Columbia for the financial transfers it receives from them, so the government that provides the funding can ensure that public funds were used for their intended purposes.

CAPITAL TRANSFER

The Final Agreement will provide the Maa-nulth First Nations with capital transfers over 10 years, less any outstanding negotiation loans.

Maa-nulth First Nation	Total Capital Transfer
Huu-ay-aht First Nations	\$22,200,000
Ka:yu:k't'h/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations	\$18,500,000
Toquaht Nation	\$4,700,000
Uchucklesaht Tribe	\$6,100,000
Ucluelet First Nation	\$21,600,000

RESOURCE REVENUE SHARING

Over a 25-year period, the Maa-nulth First Nations will receive annual resource revenue sharing payments which will vary depending on actual provincial stumpage revenues. Huu-ay-aht First Nations will receive an additional \$900,000 payment over a period of five years. All resource revenue sharing payments will be indexed to inflation.

Maa-nulth First Nation	Projected Annual Resource Revenue Sharing Payments
Huu-ay-aht First Nations	\$350,000
Ka:yu:k't'h/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations	\$300,000
Toquaht Nation	\$70,000
Uchucklesaht Tribe	\$100,000
Ucluelet First Nation	\$380,000

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

Under the terms of the Fiscal Financing Agreements, the Maa-nulth First Nations will deliver agreed upon programs and services. For programs and services provided by Canada or British Columbia that are not included in the Fiscal Financing Agreements, the Maa-nulth-aht will continue to be able to access programs and services for which they are eligible. The Fiscal Financing Agreements will be renegotiated every eight years.

The Fiscal Financing Agreements provide annual transfers from Canada and British Columbia to the Maa-nulth First Nations to support the delivery of agreed upon programs and services, as well as funding to support activities to implement the treaty. The agreements provide for time-limited and ongoing funding. Time-limited funding will support: fisheries, National Parks and Marine Conservation Areas, treaty management and capacity development and support. Ongoing funding will support programs and services such as: health, social development, education, local programs and services and physical works; and incremental implementation and governance activities such as lands and resource management and self-government.

Maa-nulth First Nation	Time-limited funding (in 2006 dollars)
Huu-ay-aht First Nations	\$13,200,000
Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations	\$11,000,000
Toquaht Nation	\$4,500,000
Uchucklesaht Tribe	\$5,600,000
Ucluelet First Nation	\$13,000,000

Maa-nulth First Nation	Ongoing funding (in 2006 dollars)
Huu-ay-aht First Nations	\$2,200,000
Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations	\$2,900,000
Toquaht Nation	\$760,000
Uchucklesaht Tribe	\$1,100,000
Ucluelet First Nation	\$2,900,000

SHARED FINANCING OF MAA-NULTH FIRST NATIONS' GOVERNMENTS

The Maa-nulth First Nations will contribute to the funding of agreed-upon programs and services from their own sources of revenue. The Own Source Revenue Agreements negotiated among Canada, British Columbia, and the Maa-nulth First Nations set out how Maa-nulth First Nations' contributions will change in step with their capacity to generate revenues. ■