



# Tsawwassen First Nation Agreement-in-Principle Residents on Tsawwassen Lands

## Respecting the interests of residents on Tsawwassen lands

The Tsawwassen First Nation has a business relationship with over 200 lessees who reside or conduct business on the present Tsawwassen reserve. The provincial government acknowledges that these people, who are not members of the Tsawwassen First Nation, will need a voice in decisions that affect them.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1) Will the Tsawwassen reserve become treaty land?

Yes. Once a treaty is concluded, the Indian Act will no longer apply and the current reserve will become treaty land owned in fee simple by the Tsawwassen First Nation.

### 2) What will happen to lessees who are currently leasing land on the Tsawwassen reserve?

The land will be transferred with the existing leases on the present Tsawwassen reserve and the terms of the leases will not change. Post-treaty, the Tsawwassen First Nation will be responsible for future lease negotiations. Provincial negotiators will work with lessees and the Tsawwassen First Nation to facilitate a smooth transition.

### 3) What will happen to lessees who are currently leasing Crown land that will become treaty land?

Crown land transferred to the Tsawwassen First Nation will be subject to the leases that exist on them when the AIP is concluded. If a lease expires before the land is transferred, existing arrangements will provide for lease renewals of up to two years.

Once the land is transferred, lease terms will continue until the lease expires. To renew a lease, the lessee will work directly with the Tsawwassen First Nation to establish new lease terms. Provincial negotiators will work with lessees and the Tsawwassen First Nation to facilitate a smooth transition.



4) **Will lessees and residents on Tsawwassen treaty lands who are not Tsawwassen members have a voice on matters that affect them?**

Yes. Individuals who are not Tsawwassen members, but who reside on or have a property interest in Tsawwassen treaty lands, will be able to participate when the Tsawwassen government is making decisions that affect them. They will also have access to appeal and review processes for these decisions made by the Tsawwassen government or public institutions.

5) **Will lessees and residents on Tsawwassen treaty lands be able to vote in Corporation of Delta elections?**

No. Post-treaty, Tsawwassen treaty lands will not be within the boundaries of the Corporation of Delta. The Tsawwassen First Nation government will have authorities and responsibilities over treaty land similar to those of a municipal government. Before Final Agreement, the parties will negotiate provisions for representation of non-Tsawwassen members on matters that affect them.

6) **How will the provincial government ensure that the Tsawwassen government will be accountable?**

The Tsawwassen First Nation will have a constitution, which will include provisions for a democratically elected government, financial administration standards and conflict-of-interest rules.

7) **Will Tsawwassen government laws apply to residents who are not Tsawwassen members?**

Tsawwassen laws will apply to residents on Tsawwassen lands in areas of local government authority, such as emergency preparedness, fire protection and business licensing. The Tsawwassen government will have to consult with non-members before making a land-use planning law that would affect them.

8) **Will the Tsawwassen First Nation be able to make laws over access to Tsawwassen lands and roads?**

Post-treaty, the Tsawwassen government may make laws regarding the use of and access to Tsawwassen lands and Tsawwassen roads. Provisions in the AIP ensure continued access for non-members and other legal interests, including public utilities and local and regional governments.

**For more information:**  
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