

Foundation Agreement

The Foundation Agreement demonstrates our commitment to true, lasting reconciliation, co-operation, and partnership, based on recognition and respect for shíshálh title and rights and implementation of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Reconciliation doesn't begin or end with agreements; it is about enduring relationships between all levels of government, and the people living on or visiting the shíshálh swiya, as we chart a path forward together.



For more information

How you can get involved

BC government staff and shíshálh Nation will be working with local governments, companies and individuals with specific land interests, and community members to implement the Foundation Agreement.

Enquiries: IRRIInfo@gov.bc.ca

If you are applying for a natural resource use authorization, please go to the following site for further information:
<http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca/>

Useful resources

[shíshálh Nation / BC Agreements:](#)

The Foundation Agreement and implementation updates can be found at :
www.gov.bc.ca/shishalhNationagreement

Reconciliation:
<http://reconciliationcanada.ca/>

shíshálh Nation:
<https://shishalh.com/>



shíshálh Nation



BRITISH
COLUMBIA



shíshálh Nation



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

shíshálh Nation/ British Columbia FOUNDATION AGREEMENT

Advancing Reconciliation

The Province and shíshálh Nation are committed to true, lasting reconciliation through a renewed Government-to-Government relationship based on recognition of rights, respect, cooperation and partnership.

Reconciliation is about bringing people together, unifying, forgiving and creating peaceful constructive and creative patterns of relations.

We are seeking new and creative ways to collaboratively implement Aboriginal title and other Aboriginal rights, to clarify the relationship between shíshálh laws and jurisdiction and the Province's laws and jurisdiction, and to find solutions to the problems that have led to conflict in the past.

shíshálh and BC signed the Foundation Agreement in October 2018. It represents an opportunity to create a better future for all residents of the shíshálh *swiya* (world, birthplace, lands, "Territory"). We are committed to advancing this work in a respectful, open, principled, pragmatic and collaborative way.

The Foundation Agreement enables transformative change in the relationship between the Province and shíshálh Nation to take place in a staged, structured, and shared manner that is transparent, includes all critical stakeholders and the public as required, and allows for learning to occur as that relationship unfolds over time.

Foundation Agreement Goals

Key interests include:

- Collaboratively planning and managing the *swiya*;
- Creating economic prosperity for shíshálh people and those choosing to live within the *swiya*;
- Securing land for housing, cultural sites and economic initiatives;
- Revitalizing culture and language;
- Developing cultural and community initiatives to support children, youth and Elders;
- Strengthening shíshálh self- government



Key Elements of the Foundation Agreement

Lands

- 650 hectares of lands for economic development
- 80 hectares for residential purposes

Government Relations

Establish collaborative forums for:

- Land use planning
- Resource management
- Socio- cultural initiatives
- Forestry engagement
- Shared decision making
- Relationship and Agreement implementation

Making Decisions Together

- Shifting to a more collaborative approach to managing natural resources in the *swiya*
- This will be phased in over 4 years

Financial Support

The Agreement provides funds to support implementation of the agreement, including:

- Staffing capacity
- Economic development opportunities
- Purchase of culturally-significant land on Nelson Island