

Haida Aboriginal Title Recognition



The Council of the Haida Nation &
Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
March 2024



Why Haida Nation Aboriginal Title Recognition?

- Council of the Haida Nation: 50 years as Haida government
- Decades of strong relationship between Haida and B.C. – many new and successful approaches to reconciliation
- Joint management of some natural resource & land-use decision-making
- Groundbreaking agreements
 - Kunst'aa Guu – Kunst'aayah Reconciliation Protocol (2009)
 - GayGahlda/Kwah.hlahl.dáyaa “Changing Tide” Framework Agreement (2021)
 - Nang K'uula • Nang K'úulaas Recognition Agreement (2023)
- Preparing for court challenge on Aboriginal title since 2002



Why this approach?

- Haida Aboriginal title on Haida Gwaii is clear and known
- Working together on a solution – instead of a court decision that creates uncertainty – is better for everyone
- Through negotiations, we can recognize Haida's Aboriginal title to lands on Haida Gwaii and confirm existing private property, local government and other interests
- Stable, orderly transition to implement Haida Aboriginal title



What would Haida Aboriginal title recognition mean for Haida Gwaii?

- Draft negotiated agreement – if approved, B.C. would recognize the Haida Nation's Aboriginal title to Haida Gwaii
 - Also requires legislative amendments
- Implemented over time: phased, negotiated approach to how B.C. laws and Haida jurisdiction can work together
- Aboriginal title would be exercised on former Crown lands, not private property or local government jurisdiction



What does this mean for residents of Haida Gwaii?

- Future changes for land use decisions on former Crown land negotiated over time
- No change to local government jurisdiction or services provided to residents
- No impact on private property (fee simple lands)
- No change to current government services and infrastructure (highways, BC Ferries, airports, schools, health services, etc.)
- No impact on federal or provincial law enforcement or emergency services

Provincial laws continue to apply



What does this mean for land and resources on Haida Gwaii?

- If agreement is approved, changes to management of former Crown land would happen over time
- Transition period of several years - land and resource decisions continue through existing collaborative processes
- Council of the Haida Nation and B.C. would negotiate how provincial and Haida laws work together for decisions
 - Initial areas of focus: management of protected areas, forestry
- Local governments, residents, industry engaged throughout discussions



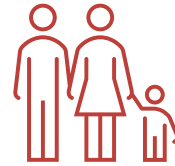
Who are we reaching out to?



**Haida
Nation
Citizens**



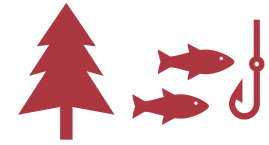
**Local
governments**



**General
Public**



**Property
owners**



**Tenure and
licence
holders**



**First
Nations**



**Business
Owners**



Industry



**Legal
community**



Upcoming town halls

- **Tuesday, March 26**
Daajing Giids community hall
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, April 2**
Sandspit community hall
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday, March 27**
Port Clements community hall
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, April 4**
Masset community hall
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.



For further information, please visit

<https://gov.bc.ca/HaidaTitle>

or contact

IRRCoastNegotiations@gov.bc.ca

**Thank you
Haawa / Háw'aa**

Questions?

