

shíshálh Nation / British Columbia Foundation Agreement

Foundation Agreement

This landmark reconciliation agreement between shíshálh Nation (shíshálh) and B.C., signed in October 2018, recognizes and respects Aboriginal title and rights, and supports self-determination and self-government. The provincial government and shíshálh are working together to protect the environment, as well as promote economic opportunity and growth for shíshálh and the entire Sunshine Coast region.

Placenames

- Following a review under the B.C. Geographical Naming Policy, three place names within the shíshálh swiya/Sunshine Coast area have been changed effective 26 March 2021: Wilson Creek (community & creek) changed to **ts'ukw'um** and Saltery Bay (bay) changed to **skelhp**.
- Recognizing Indigenous place names is a key part of B.C.'s broader reconciliation efforts and part of B.C.'s implementation of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*. Article 13 specifically refers to place names.
- Learning Indigenous place names helps all British Columbians understand where they live and the deep history of the land. For more information and audio of place names in the shíshálh swiya go to: <https://shishalh.com/culture-language/sechelt-language/>

Heritage Conservation Act Permits

- When a project involves ground disturbance, applications for Heritage Conservation Act permits from the Archeology Branch may be required. While B.C. aims to process applications in 140 days, extended referral periods, complex consultation, and capacity issues have resulted in an average of 180 days.

Land Use Planning

- The shíshálh-B.C. Land Use Planning group is concluding studies and the collection of background information this fall.
- Work now shifts into assessing environmental current condition and identifying management needs which will be the basis for the next round of engagement in Spring 2022.
- An Engagement Summary Report, outlining what was heard during the initial engagement on the land use planning process, is now posted at:

www.landuseplanning.gov.bc.ca.

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Shared Decision-Making

- Since the release of the Pender Harbour Dock Management Plan, 161 replacement tenures have been issued and steady progress continues to be made.
- B.C. and shíshálh have developed a website, public brochure, and guidance materials to help communicate the Shared Decision-Making Review Process for moorages in the swiya. Go to: gov.bc.ca/shishalh-shared-decision-making.
- As outlined in the Foundation Agreement, all *Land Act* authorizations are now included in Shared Decision-Making, and B.C. and shíshálh are working on also including Existing Use Groundwater Licensing under the *Water Sustainability Act*.
- New applications for *Land Act* and *Water Sustainability Act* tenures should still be made through Front Counter BC. B.C. and shíshálh staff will provide guidance throughout the review process.

Lands

- In October 2021, the kwentan makw'ali Lands (formerly known as the Salmon Inlet Parcel, #2 in the map) were transferred by B.C. to the shíshálh Nation fulfilling a commitment in the 2016 Reconciliation Agreement.
- A multi-stage process required for the transfer of District Lot 1592 (#1 in the map) is underway. B.C. and shíshálh are working together to engage local governments and stakeholders to resolve interests and land encumbrances on District Lot 1592.
- shíshálh and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure are working cooperatively on the Bypass Corridor study in support of the transfer of District Lot 1592.

