



Maa-nulth First Nations Agreement-in-Principle Intergovernmental Relations

Building relations with local governments

All parties agree that relations between the Maa-nulth First Nations and local governments play a critical role in creating and sustaining a workable treaty. The District of Ucluelet and the Alberni-Clayoquot and Comox-Strathcona Regional Districts overlap parts of the asserted traditional territories of the Maa-nulth First Nations. The relationships between Maa-nulth First Nations and local governments have traditionally been positive and constructive. The Maa-nulth First Nations AIP provides for a continuation and strengthening of co-operative relationships between the Maa-nulth First Nations and local and regional governments through:

- the opportunity for Maa-nulth First Nations governments to participate on the boards of the Alberni-Clayoquot and Comox-Strathcona Regional Districts;
- agreements between Maa-nulth First Nations and local governments on the cost and delivery of services; and
- agreements to co-ordinate land-use planning in their respective areas of responsibility.

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1) **How many local and regional governments are affected by the Maa-nulth First Nations treaty negotiations?**

The asserted traditional territories of the Maa-nulth First Nations cover all or parts of the Alberni-Clayoquot and Comox-Strathcona Regional Districts, the District of Ucluelet, and the unincorporated community of Bamfield.

- 2) **Are local governments involved in the treaty negotiations with the Maa-nulth First Nations?**

Yes. Provincial negotiators work closely with local and regional governments to address their interests on a wide range of issues, including land-use planning and servicing. Regular meetings are held with affected local governments and will continue through Final Agreement negotiations. Local government representatives will also continue to participate as members of the provincial negotiating team.



3) **Will the Maa-nulth First Nations pay for services they receive from local or regional governments?**

The Maa-nulth First Nations and local governments will negotiate separate agreements for the cost and delivery of services. These agreements will be outside the treaty.

4) **When will the Maa-nulth First Nations join the Regional Districts?**

After the AIP is ratified, the parties and the Regional Districts will discuss options for the Maa-nulth First Nations to join the Regional District boards. It would occur on the effective date of the Final Agreement and the Self-Government Agreement.

5) **Will the Maa-nulth First Nations co-ordinate land-use planning with the Regional Districts?**

The AIP provides that the Maa-nulth First Nations governments will enter into agreements with local governments to co-ordinate activities and proposed land use in their respective areas.

The Maa-nulth First Nations are committed to discussing proposed land-use planning and zoning, and will work collaboratively to resolve matters of mutual interest and concern. Where appropriate, they may follow regional and local government processes already in place.

6) **Will the Maa-nulth First Nations become members of the Alberni-Clayoquot and Comox-Strathcona Regional Districts?**

The Final Agreement or the Self-Government Agreement will address the relationship that the Maa-nulth First Nations governments will have with the Alberni-Clayoquot and Comox-Strathcona Regional Districts. Regional District representation for the Maa-nulth First Nations governments and non-member residents on treaty lands will also be addressed through these discussions.

The Maa-nulth First Nations and local governments are committed to working co-operatively and collaboratively. These ongoing relationships will be governed by the agreements and processes established under the Final Agreement and the Self-Government Agreement.

7) **Will the Maa-nulth First Nations pay property taxes for local services such as fire protection, schools, and garbage disposal?**

These types of details have yet to be negotiated. It is expected that Maa-nulth First Nations will pay for services provided, which will be set out in separate agreements with local governments.

8) **What is the nature and scope of the agreement on self-government?**

The AIP provides for a Self-Government Agreement to be negotiated and concluded at the same time as the Final Agreement. The Self-Government Agreement will not be constitutionally protected. It will set out the nature and scope of the law-making authorities of the Maa-nulth First Nations governments. These may include matters such as education, child and family services, health services, administration of justice, emergency preparedness, solemnization of marriage and traffic and transportation. The authorities will not include criminal law or criminal procedures. Authorities related to land and resource rights will be set out in the Final Agreement.

For more information:
TREATY NEGOTIATIONS OFFICE
PO Box 9100 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9B1

Phone: 1 800 880-1022
Website: www.gov.bc.ca/tno

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