

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Tla'amin Nation (Sliammon First Nation) Final Agreement was negotiated by the Government of Canada, the Government of British Columbia and Tla'amin Nation. The Final Agreement provides Tla'amin with certain rights and benefits regarding land and resources, and self-government over its lands and resources and its members. It provides certainty with respect to ownership and management of lands and resources and the exercise of federal, provincial and Tla'amin Nation governmental powers and authorities.

### **Tla'amin Nation**

Tla'amin Nation is one of the tribes of the northern Coast Salish. Their traditional territory covers approximately 317,000 hectares in the Sunshine Coast region. When the marine portion of Tla'amin's traditional territory is included, the total area increases to approximately 587,000 hectares. Tla'amin has very close relationships with the Klahoose and Homalco First Nations. In fact, historically, the three First Nations were one entity and consequently share a common ancestry. British Columbia and Canada continue to engage in overlap consultations with those First Nations who may be affected by the Tla'amin treaty. Tla'amin Nation has positive relationships with its neighbours, the Regional District of Powell River and the City of Powell River, and has signed several protocol agreements with them.

Tla'amin's main reserve is a few kilometres north of Powell River and home to nearly 70 percent of Tla'amin band members. The current band membership is approximately 988 people.

Tla'amin entered the British Columbia Treaty Commission process in 1994. An Agreement-in-Principle was signed by the parties in 2003.

In October, 2009 Tla'amin members ratified the Tla'amin Constitution. The constitution, a requirement under the Final Agreement, will guide Tla'amin Nation government in exercising its treaty authorities and responsibilities in a manner that respects Tla'amin culture and heritage. Developed during many months of open dialogue among Tla'amin members, the constitution binds Tla'amin government to be an open, democratic and accountable government, and to respect the rights and equality of all Tla'amin members.

The parties initialled the Final Agreement and associated side agreements on October 21, 2011.

Following the Effect Date of the treaty the First Nation will officially take its traditional name of Tla'amin First Nation.

## **Next steps**

Tla'amin members will vote on the Final Agreement according to a formal ratification process. If the Tla'amin community ratifies the Final Agreement, British Columbia will then proceed with its ratification process.

If British Columbia ratifies the Final Agreement, Canada will proceed with its ratification process. Once enacted through legislation, the Final Agreement will become a treaty and will be brought into effect on a date agreed to by the parties.