

Yale First Nation Final Agreement Fact Sheet: Ratification and Implementation

The Yale First Nation Final Agreement was negotiated by the Government of Canada, the Government of British Columbia and Yale First Nation. The Final Agreement provides Yale First Nation 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 Yale First Nation governmental powers and authorities.

Ratification

By initialing the Final Agreement, the chief negotiators for Canada, British Columbia and Yale First Nation recommend the Agreement to their respective principals for ratification.

The first step in the ratification process is acceptance of the Final Agreement by Yale First Nation. A Yale First Nation community approval process will be initiated to ratify the Final Agreement. If the Yale First Nation community ratifies the Final Agreement, the Province of British Columbia will then proceed through its ratification process. A Minister from the provincial Cabinet must recommend the Agreement for approval, and settlement legislation will then be introduced into the Legislative Assembly, where it will be debated.

Once Yale First Nation and British Columbia ratify the Final Agreement, the Government of Canada will proceed through its ratification process. A federal Cabinet Minister will sign the Final Agreement, and once it is signed by all parties, federal settlement legislation will be introduced in Parliament for debate. The Final Agreement will be ratified once federal settlement legislation is enacted, and will be brought into legal effect on a date agreed to by the parties.

Implementation

During the process of negotiating the Final Agreement, the parties also negotiated an Implementation Plan. The Implementation Plan identifies each party's obligations and the activities to be undertaken to meet those obligations. Some parts of the treaty will be implemented on the day the Final Agreement comes into effect or shortly thereafter, while other parts will be implemented according to a predetermined schedule over a number of years or at a later date to be determined by the parties.

An implementation committee comprised of a representative from Canada, British Columbia and Yale First Nation will be established on the Effective Date of the treaty. This committee will be a forum to discuss and attempt to resolve implementation issues.