



**Nlaka'pamux Nation
Tribal Council**



Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council - Province of British Columbia

Political Accord on Advancing Recognition, Reconciliation, and Implementation of Title and Rights

1. The Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council (NNTC) is a governing entity of the Nlaka'pamux peoples. The NNTC is committed to protecting, asserting and exercising Nlaka'pamux Title and Rights to bring about the self-sufficiency and well-being of the Nlaka'pamux people. The NNTC member communities are Boothroyd, Lytton, Boston Bar, Oregon Jack Creek, Skuppah, and Spuzzum.
2. The Province and the NNTC have entered into a number of agreements regarding the use of Nlaka'pamux territory that have been a foundation for collaborative relations. The agreements include:
 - Interim Forestry Appendix/Agreement (2016)
 - Economic and Community Development Agreement (ECDA) dealing with shared decision-making and revenue sharing in relation to the ongoing operations of the Highland Valley Copper Mine (2013)
 - Land and Resource Shared Decision Making Pilot Agreement (2014, as amended)

These agreements, and the relations they foster, have helped the Province and NNTC move through challenging conflicts, and establish a foundation for moving forward together on important decisions and actions.

3. The Land and Resource Shared Decision Making (SDM) Pilot Agreement established a foundational shared decision making model, and a joint Board structure. The SDM Board established a new way of co-operating between the Nlaka'pamux Nation and the Province. The Board structure and collaborative process moves away from individual and isolated assessments of potential impacts of any proposed project on Nlaka'pamux Title and Rights, to a shared and transparent process where there is equal accountability.

4. The SDM Board has had success on a number of important matters including:
 - Building a cohesive cross-Ministry approach to working together;
 - Developing a new and innovative model of forestry relations; and,
 - Cultural bridging and education projects, to build greater understanding of Nlaka'pamux Title and Rights, and promote ways to work in a unified, respectful ways between NNTC and the Province.

5. This *Accord* is intended to bring cohesion to efforts to date between NNTC and the Province, and frame a shared path forward.

6. Over the next 12 months, the following steps are recommended between NNTC and the Province:
 - a) Complete drafting of the Comprehensive Forestry Agreement Framework based on the joint framework dated December 2, 2016 and confirmation letter from former Ministers Rustad and Thomson on February 22, 2017. In drafting the agreement, the NNTC and the Province agree to review possibilities to accelerate the development of a new revenue-sharing formula. The NNTC and the Province may complete the draft agreement within 3 months of the signing of this Accord.

 - b) Undertake a review, and recommend to NNTC leadership and Provincial Ministers, amendments of the Highland Valley ECDA in order to align the ECDA with more recent mine revenue sharing agreements, and identify approaches to challenges that have been identified between the Parties. The NNTC and the Province may complete the draft agreement within 3 months of the signing of this Accord.

 - c) Review the agreements between the NNTC and the Province, including the model and operations of the SDM Board, for alignment with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, in order to make recommendations to the NNTC leadership and Provincial Ministers on how the standards of UNDRIP might be further implemented in the relationship between the parties. The NNTC and Province may complete the review and make recommendations within 6 months of the signing of this Accord.

- d) Develop principles of a decision-making process that reflects the standard of free, prior, and informed consent for review and consideration by NNTC leadership and Provincial Ministers. The NNTC and the Province may complete the development of principles and process within 8 months of the signing of this Accord, with the shared goal of commencing a pilot project within 12 months of signing this Accord.
 - e) Work co-operatively to strengthen NNTC-Province relations across the whole of government, enabling the Board's role as a fully collaborative space to grow. The NNTC and the Province may complete this expansion of the role of the Board within 12 months of the signing of this Accord.
 - f) Use the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) project as a pilot to build Board capacity for collaborative joint decision-making on major projects. The timing of this action will be based on proposed project timing.
 - g) Develop recommendations for NNTC leadership and Provincial Ministers on possible legal and policy mechanisms for co-operatively recognizing and implementing Nlaka'pamux title. The NNTC and the Province may complete the development of the options within 12 months of the signing of this Accord.
7. To accomplish the goals of this Accord, the NNTC leadership and Provincial Ministers will meet at least annually to make joint decisions, establish new steps, and address matters regarding implementation, with additional meetings as may be needed. The first meeting of the Ministers could occur within 4 months after the signing of this Accord.

Implementation of the steps outlined above may be led by Nlaka'pamux representative *Matt Pasco, Title Protector* and Province of BC representative *Alexandra Banford, Chief Negotiator – South Area*.

The Shared Decision Making Board (SDMB) is well positioned to advance this work once direction has been confirmed.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

As represented by the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Honourable Minister Scott Fraser

Date

NLAKA’PAMUX NATION TRIBAL COUNCIL (NNTC)

Grand Chief Robert Pasco, Tribal Chair

Date

Chief Mike Campbell

Date

Boothroyd Indian Band

Chief Robert Pasco

Date

Oregon Jack Creek Band

Chief Harold Bobb
Spuzzum First Nation

Date

Chief Janet Webster
Lytton First Nation

Date

Chief Doug McIntyre
Skuppah Indian Band

Date