

Frequently Asked Questions for Temporarily Pausing Registration of Claims over Defined Areas in Northwest and Northcentral B.C.

1. What does a 1-year tenuring pause mean?

On June 3, 2025, 2 [Environment and Land Use Act Order in Councils](#) (OICs) and 3 [mineral and/or placer no registration reserves](#) (NRRs) were established:

Summary of orders and regulations	
Order or regulation	Description
Northwest ELUA OIC	Prevents registration of new mineral and placer claims, and the disposition of new coal licenses
Northcentral ELUA OIC	Prevents registration of new mineral and placer claims, and the disposition of new coal licenses
Upper Taku MTA reserve (NRR)	Prevents registration of new mineral and placer claims
Tulsequah MTA reserve (NRR)	Prevents registration of new mineral and placer claims
Meziadin MTA reserve (NRR)	Prevents registration of mineral claims

These OICs and NRRs are in effect for 12 months.

They do not affect existing claim registrations or the ability to develop and carry out work on existing tenures.

Note that if a cell claim in the area expires, the cell cannot be subsequently registered while the OIC or NRR remains in effect.

During the period of the tenuring pause, the Chief Gold Commissioner will not accept new mineral and placer claim applications in the defined areas outlined in the OICs and NRRs.

2. What happens to my claim application that I made before the 1-year tenuring pause came into effect?

The tenuring pause that came into effect on June 3, 2025 prevents the registration of mineral and placer claims in the defined areas outlined in the OICs and NRRs above.

Applications received before June 3, 2025 within the above areas will be held and not processed during the tenure pause period. If you want to withdraw your application at any time, please send your request with details to Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca. Your application fees will be returned to you.

The above-mentioned tenuring pause is in effect for 12 months. If you would like your application to be held until the end of the deferral period, you do not need to take any action at this time. At the end of the deferral period, applications will be revisited and either processed or returned, including fees paid. You will be notified about the next steps at the end of the deferral period. If your application will be processed, consultation with First Nations will be completed at that time and a decision made whether to register the claim.

3. Can I continue to apply for claims in the tenuring pause area?

No. The Chief Gold Commissioner will not accept claim applications while the OIC or NRR remains in effect.

4. How do I know if the cells I want to apply for fall within the tenuring pause area?

[Mineral Titles Online](#) is a public facing application that can be used to research mineral tenure related information in BC. Anyone can open the Mineral Map or Placer Map and use the Identify Features tool to select an area of interest. Information about the area of interest will be displayed on the right side of the map. The OIC 1s will be shaded orange and appear under ***FADM-Special Protection***. The NRR areas will be shaded dark green and appear under ***Reserves***.

5. I have a tenure within the tenuring pause area. How does this affect my ability to do exploration activities?

The tenuring pause does not affect existing claim registrations or the ability to develop and carry out work on existing tenures.

Existing tenure-holders can still exercise all rights associated with a title, including applying for a Mines Act permit, conducting mining activities authorized by an existing permit, or selling their claim.

Note that if a cell claim in the area expires, the cell cannot be subsequently registered while the OIC or NRR remains in effect.

6. Will the Chief Gold Commissioner consider waiving claim maintenance requirements if I am unable to do work on my claim within or adjacent to the tenuring pause area?

You can continue to maintain your claims by conducting work on existing tenures within or adjacent to tenuring pause area, or by making a "cash-in-lieu of work" payment instead of exploration and development.

If you are not able to maintain your claims due to unforeseen factors, you may reach out to Mineral Titles Branch to discuss what actions can be taken to keep the claims in good standing. If you are requesting additional time, please contact Mineral Titles Branch at least 1 month prior to the expiry date of the claim.

If you need assistance with your tenures, please contact Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca.

7. I want to buy a tenure. How do I know if it is within the tenuring pause area?

You can use the information tool on the map in [Mineral Titles Online](#). Select the tenure and review the information displayed. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca.

8. Where do I find out more about the land use planning processes associated with the tenuring pause areas?

All land and water planning projects are listed at: <https://www.planninginpartnership.ca/projects-list>

To learn more about the land use planning process with Tahltan, please visit the [Tahltan-BC Land Use Plan website](#) or email TahltanBC_LUP_engage@gov.bc.ca.

To learn more about the land use planning process with TRTFN, please visit the [TRT-BC Land Use Plan website](#) or email TlatsiniPlanningProject@gov.bc.ca.

To learn more about the Kaska-BC land use planning project, please visit the [Kaska-BC Land Use Plan website](#) or email kaska.LUP@gov.bc.ca.

To learn more about land use planning in the Meziadin River Watershed, please visit the [Meziadin River Watershed Salmon Habitat Conservation Plan](#) or email info.Meziadin@gov.bc.ca.

9. Who can I contact to get more assistance with mineral, placer and coal tenures?

Please contact Mineral Titles Branch at:

Email: Mineral.Titles@gov.bc.ca

Voice-Mail: 1-866-616-4999

Fax: 604-660-2653