

TAKLA NATION

PROJECT NEWS: Towards Land Use Planning



Takla Nation is beginning a land use planning process to guide the use and management of our territory. This is the start of a long-term processes based on community knowledge, engagement and feedback, and will build on work completed in the past by many members and staff.

What is a Land Using Planning?

Land use planning begins with establishing a vision for land and resource use across our traditional territory. The vision will be based on Takla values (things that are important), and will consider culturally significant areas, sensitive ecosystems and places to protect, development activities, and other activities that are occurring across our territory.

Who is involved?

Community involvement is central to this work. Meetings and workshops will be held to ensure members can participate. A Takla Land Use Planning Committee made up of leadership, members, staff, and other advisors has been established that will help ensure this work meets the needs of the Nation as a whole..

Over time, the Committee will engage with members, staff, hereditary leadership, elected leadership, and external stakeholders.

What is the purpose of this project?

- Understand what is most in important to Takla Nation (Takla values)
- Work towards developing a process for decision-making that makes sense for Takla
- Uphold our Section 35 Rights
- Identify and protect culturally significant and ecologically sensitive areas
- Strengthen our voices in our territories
- Understand how traditional use and knowledge can inform use of our land and natural resources
- Identify lands potentially suitable for development that are aligned with our values

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Land Use Planning

This project is just the first step in establishing a land use plan, which is a living document.



As part of this project, we will begin the process of establishing a land use plan, which will continue afterwards. Common features of Indigenous land use plans, include:

1. **Community input** to ensure accountability, representation and an appropriate planning process
1. **Identification of values**; things that are important to a Nation.
1. **Opportunities and conflicts assessment**, to help understand where certain activities should or shouldn't occur.
1. **Establish zones**, which guide what should or shouldn't happen across the territory
1. **Management practices**; how activities should occur based on best practices

Rights and Title

Responding to federal reconciliation measures, the BC Environmental Assessment Office updated the regulatory process:

*"The Government of Canada has put forward new legislation proposing better rules for a federal impact assessment system that: advances reconciliation; respects the rights and culture of Indigenous peoples; and protects and ensures **mandatory consideration of Indigenous knowledge**.*

*Partnerships with Indigenous peoples would be guided by the principles of reconciliation, recognizing and **respecting their rights and interests**, and their **deep connection to their lands, territories and resources**."*

By establishing a vision for your territory based on your rights and title, interests, Knowledge, and connection to your lands, land use planning can help Takla have a stronger voice in the regulatory process.

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The Planning Process

This project will follow the planning process shown below:

PHASE 1

Establish:

- Land Use Planning Committee
- Terms of Reference
- Previous work to guide planning

PHASE 2

Engagement with leadership, community and stakeholders to:

- Build awareness
- Listen to members and identify values
- Work towards establishing decision-making processes

PHASE 3

Report and identify:

- Outcomes, policies and guiding principles
- Future work including developing a Land Use Plan

Why now?

Resource Management Plans, forestry and mining activities are occurring and Takla will benefit from getting ahead of these projects ahead of the regulatory process.



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