



SXTA

Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association UPDATE

*"S'ólh témexw te íkw'elò. Xólhmet te mekw'stām ít kwelāt."
"This is our land. We have to take care of everything that belongs to us."*

Meqó:s

"Fallen snow season"

Treaty Update

Comments from The Hunting Forum (Article on Page 2)

Problems hunting inside the territory?

- Gated roads.
- Speed limit. Loggers are always speeding through.
- Urban sprawl.
- Our hunting area is shrinking.
- When I was 16 years old I could hunt the whole province.
- Because of chemicals and herbicides, the game leave.
- We have to go outside of our traditional territory to hunt!

Problems hunting outside the territory?

- Conservation officers harassing us. They follow us around all day.
- Have to hunt within regulations.

On November 4th & 5th, 2014, the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association leaders gathered for another workshop! The topics up for discussion were Eligibility and Enrollment for SXTA members.

Chiefs and councillors were divided into 3 breakout groups. Each group had 20 minutes to give feedback on each subject.

The topics discussed on the first day were: adoption, spouses, new citizens, mobility, community acceptance, and transferees.

The topics discussed on the 2nd day were: What is an SXTA citizen? Pros and cons of being a limited vs. an unlimited citizen, the voting process pre-

treaty, primary benefits post-treaty, and membership codes.

Each Tribe (Ts'elxweyeqw, Tít, Leq'á:mél) were put into their own breakout group for feedback. The break-out groups were a success, and we received excellent input from our leaders!

These are just some of the topics, some of the comments made and questions raised by our leaders:

Adoption

- Can adopt up to 18 years of age.
- Do they receive citizenship?
- Should full rights be given to adoptees?

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Treaty Update from page 1

Spouses

- How long do you have to be married to receive citizenship?
- Will full benefits be given?

New citizens

- Who are you and where are you from?
- Do you have direct lineage to Stó:lō Nation?
- What are your traditional values?



Mobility

- No barriers moving within treaty lands?

Eligibility for citizenship

- Renouncement of membership in other FN.
- Blended families. ☼

Submitted by Brandee Hall, Outreach



HUNTING FORUM

On November 12, 2014 the SXTA hosted an open forum on Stó:lō hunting. The forum was facilitated by Leq'ámél Councillor Darrel McKamey. Dinner was provided.

Hunters from the Stó:lō Nation territory attended the forum to give their input on the pros and cons of hunting inside and outside of S'ólh Témexw (our land).



As a critical piece of Stó:lō culture, the SXTA values input received by community hunters regarding issues related to hunting inside and

outside of S'ólh Témexw. The issues discussed at the forum included legislation and enforcement, transportation and access issues, inter-nation hunting and neighbouring First Nation protocols.

The concerns, ideas, and issues raised are to inform the treaty process and Treaty Related Measures (TRM) project. It is also to ensure the protection of Stó:lō hunters in asserting their right to hunt and trap.

The next forum will be held in 2015! If you couldn't attend the forum but would still like to give your input and fill out a questionnaire you can contact the outreach office. (604-824-5336).

Brandee Hall, Outreach

Seasons Greetings

FUTURE FOCUS



Youth Page

This is some of the Indian Act Laws in plain English. This way, it is a lot easier to understand what the laws in the Indian Act actually mean. The Indian Act is what we are trying to get out of by Treaty, so we can have control of our own lives, and the Minister of Indian affairs will no longer have the last say:

The 'you have no control over the land any more...we do' clauses:

If a Council approves the sale of land to someone, the Minister can refuse to approve the decision, and outline what conditions for use of the land must be undertaken by the owner before he approves it. He can refuse for up to four years. If after four years he is still unsatisfied that the person has not fulfilled his wishes, the Minister can refuse sale outright.

The Federal Minister of Indian Affairs can authorize a survey of a reserve, divide the entire reserve or a portion of a reserve into lots or subdivisions and decide where roads should be constructed.

The Minister must approve all land transfers.

If a First Nations person sells, barter, exchanges, give or otherwise dispose of cattle or other animals, grain or hay, whether wild

or cultivated, or root crops or plants or their products from a reserve in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta, to a person other than a member of that band, the Superintendent must approve the transaction in writing. This order can be revoked or reinstated to any band at any time by the Minister. If you violate the above, you're guilty of an offense.

The 'just to prove a point, we'll maintain control over you when you die' clauses:

All jurisdiction and authority in respect to deceased Indians is vested exclusively in the Minister and in accordance with regulations of the Governor in Council.



This only counts if the deceased Indian was lawfully in ownership of his land. The Minister can appoint executors of wills and administrators of estates of deceased Indians, remove them and appoint others in their place, authorize executors to carry out the terms of the wills of deceased Indians, authorize administrators to administer the property of Indians who die without wills, carry out the terms of wills of deceased Indians and administer the property of Indians who die without wills and make or give any order, direction or finding that in his opinion it is necessary or desirable to make or give with respect to any matter referred to in the first part.

If the Minister believes that the deceased's children won't be adequately provided for, he can order that all or part of the estate that should have gone to the deceased's partner, go to the children. The Minister can also order that the survivor has the right to occupy

lands on reserve that were occupied by the deceased when they died.



Excerpts from "The Indian Act in Plain English" <http://noraloreto.ca/the-indian-act-in-plain-english/>

Submitted by
Emily Kelly, Outreach





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Treaty Association**

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Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (SXTA) Reps:

Aitchelitz First Nation— Chief Angie Bailey / Councilor Leona Sam

Skowkale First Nation—Councilor Jeff Point / Chief Willy Hall

Tzeachten First Nation—Councilor Lawrence Roberts / Chief Glenda Campbell

Popkum First Nation—Councilor Harry Murphy / Chief James Murphy

Yakweakwoose First Nation—Grand Chief Frank Malloway / Councilor Terry Horne

Skawahlook First Nation—Chief Maureen Chapman / Councilor Deb Schneider

Leq'á:mél First Nation—Chief Alice Thompson / Councilor Mike Kelly

TREATY "MYTH BUSTERS"

Myth - We are better off staying in the Indian Act:

What is the Indian Act?

The Indian Act is a law under the Constitution Act of 1867 which gives Canada's government authority to decide what to do with "Indians and Lands Reserved for Indians".

It is the only legislation (the act of making laws) in the world directed towards one race of people. The goal of the Indian Act was assimilation and enfranchisement:

Assimilation: is the process by which a person or a group's language and/or culture come to resemble those of another group.

Enfranchisement: is a legal process for terminating a person's Indian status and conferring full Canadian citizenship.

Why do we want to get out from under the Indian Act?

- AANDC (Aboriginal Affairs & Northern Development Canada) controls everything in our lives "from birth to death".
- The Act is not here to protect our basic rights; it essentially governs how we live.

The Indian Act was developed and enacted by the government without any sort of input from First Nations.

• The Indian Act dictates how to choose our own leaders. It defines Band Council & their powers and how they report to the Minister of Indian Affairs.

• There is little protecting us, under the Indian Act the government has the right and power to control and make decisions for First Nations and has the ability to change the Act unilaterally (without the agreement or participation of other people it might affect). For example: reduction in benefits (medical, dental, education, child care, etc.).

- All reserves are owned by the Queen.

- AANDC has the final say about everything to do with reserve lands e.g. housing, capital works, leasing or permits, economic development.

Government interference is legislated (made into law) and enforced into law by the Indian Act.

Myth - We will lose our status, benefits and government programs?:

No we will not lose our status. If you have status before treaty, you will not lose your status as an Indian under the Indian Act after treaty. You will remain a Canadian citizen and are entitled to the same rights, benefits and protections as other Canadians e.g. Employment insurance; CPP; medical health benefits; protections under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. We will be dual citizens, Canadian and SXTA citizens. The treaty will contain benefits that will be protected under the constitutional law of Canada.

Myth – We will lose our Aboriginal Rights & Title:

NO EXTINGUISHMENT (taking away rights & title) will result from the Treaty.

Submitted by Joy Hall, Outreach

Merry.
Christmas