



**Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw
Treaty Association**

Activity Book

Takaya's Story

My name is Takaya and I live in Leq'á:mel Traditional Territory, on Lakahahmen Reserve 11. We never used to live on reserves. We lived throughout our lands, called S'ólh Téméxw. Then the new people, called settlers, took over our land, created something called the Indian Act. Then the Land Agent came around and made our great-grandparents move to lands that they called reserves, and started calling our communities bands.

The Indian Act tells us what we can and cannot do on reserve, and calls us Status or Non-Status Indians. We even have identification cards, called status cards, that tell others whether we are status or not. The Indian Act tells us what benefits we have as Status Indians. If we live off reserve or are "non-status Indians" we don't get the same benefits.



Mom and Dad talk about something called a treaty, which gives us the chance to make decisions for ourselves and not be a part of the Indian Act. They say the Indian Act makes it so we can't own our own land, and there are lots of rules that we have to follow.



Grandma says that there are 6 bands in the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty. She talks about how we are one Nation, called Stó:lō. Stó:lō Nation is made up of many bands, but only 6 are in Treaty together. My Grandma tells me stories of how we lived, and how we cared for all the lands in S'ólh Téméxw. She talks of the fish and the animals, the air, the land, and says we are connected to all things. I like to imagine myself living on the highest mountain, fishing along the rivers, hunting with my dad, and being a protector of all things. I like to imagine what it was like for my ancestors living wherever they wanted with the right to do all these things.

Now we stay on reserve and live like the settlers around us.

Mom says Treaty doesn't mean that I can go hunt or fish wherever and whenever I want to, but it means that our rights are more protected. Dad says we can have our own Chief and government to govern all 6 bands, like our ancestors did, that we get to make our own laws, and that we get to move to wherever we want on something called Treaty Settlement Land. My dad says that there are two choices to make. To stay in the Indian Act and live like we do now, or go into Treaty and change the way we live.

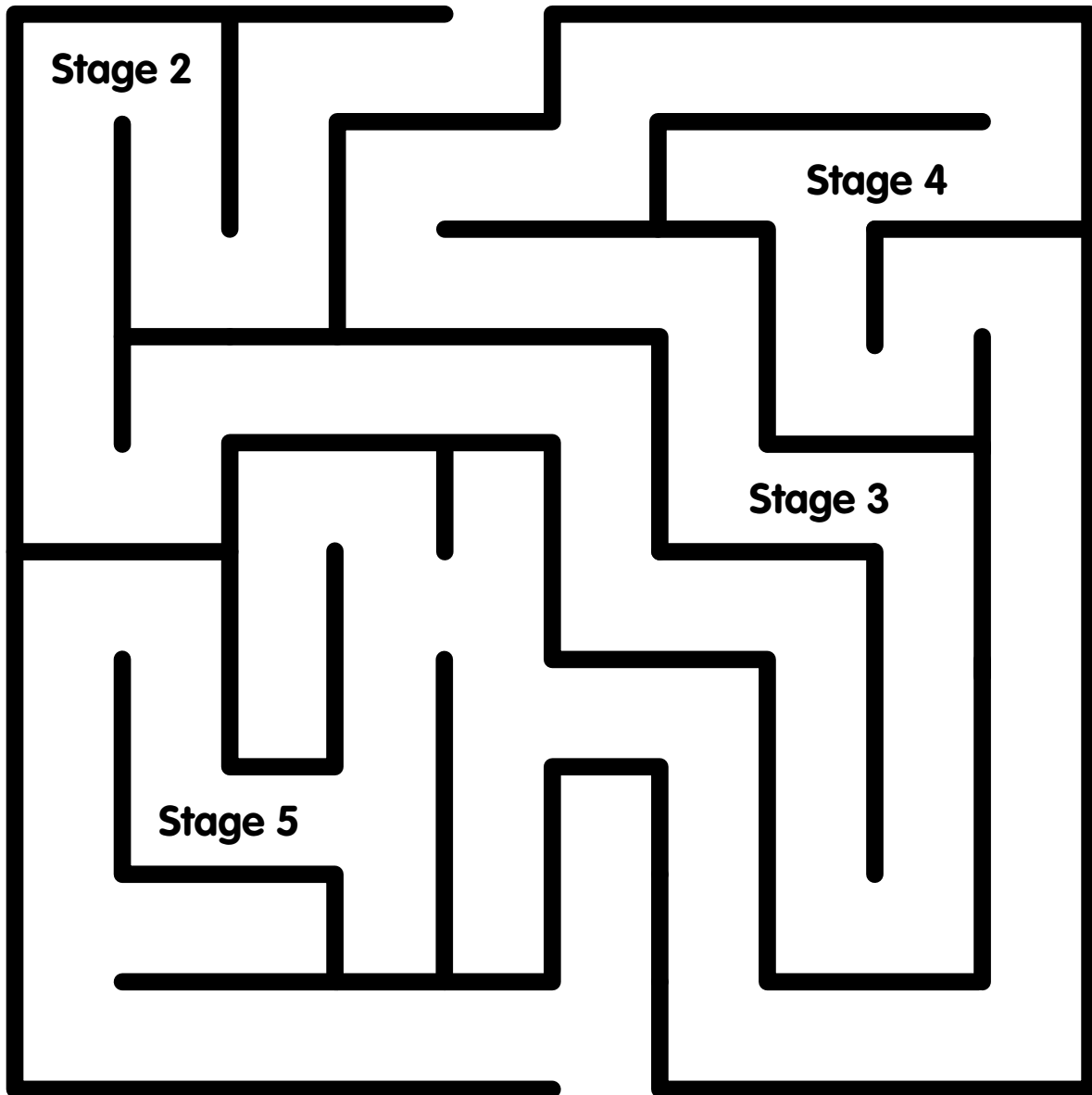


**If you want to stay in the Indian Act,
turn to page 5**

**If you want to go into Treaty,
turn to page 7**

Discovering the Treaty Process

START: Stage 1



TREATY

6 stages of the Treaty Process:

- Stage 1 SXTA wants to start the Treaty Process
- Stage 2 WE ARE READY – Let's start the process
- Stage 3 What will our talks with Canada and BC be about, and how will we talk about it?
- Stage 4 We are talking about & creating OUR treaty
- Stage 5 We are almost there!!!
- Stage 6 WE HAVE A TREATY!!!!



Word Search

Theme: Our Future, Our Treaty

Have fun with this word search that combines English and Halq'eméylem words.

WORD LIST

CULTURE

FUTURE

GOVERNANCE

LETSEMOT

(Lets'emôt = One Heart)

SIWES

(Sí:wes = teachings)

STAXWELH

(Stá:xwelh = children)

TEMEXW

(Téméxw = land)

TOMIYEQW

(Tomíyeqw = seven generations forward and seven generations back)

TOTILT

(Tof:lt = learning)

TREATY

K	V	I	Q	Y	E	L	C	K	P	Q	G
S	H	W	X	E	M	E	T	Q	F	V	O
E	P	L	W	P	F	R	F	O	T	Q	L
W	C	H	E	I	S	U	U	L	O	E	D
I	D	N	F	W	T	J	D	N	T	T	P
S	E	T	A	U	X	F	U	S	I	O	D
D	R	R	R	N	A	A	E	A	L	M	X
O	U	E	K	X	R	M	T	R	T	I	C
I	T	A	Z	A	O	E	Z	S	G	Y	B
B	L	T	V	T	Q	D	V	Z	C	E	B
K	U	Y	X	G	R	O	V	O	G	Q	A
G	C	Z	L	S	G	Q	K	O	G	W	V

If we stay in the Indian Act:

Staying in the Indian Act means that we cannot have our own government, or our own laws. It also means that we cannot protect the lands of S'ólh Téméxw or our culture and heritage. Staying in the Indian Act means that we cannot move to other communities, called bands, and get the same things as we do from our own band. It means that if our family members are not "status" that they don't get the same benefits as we do as "status".

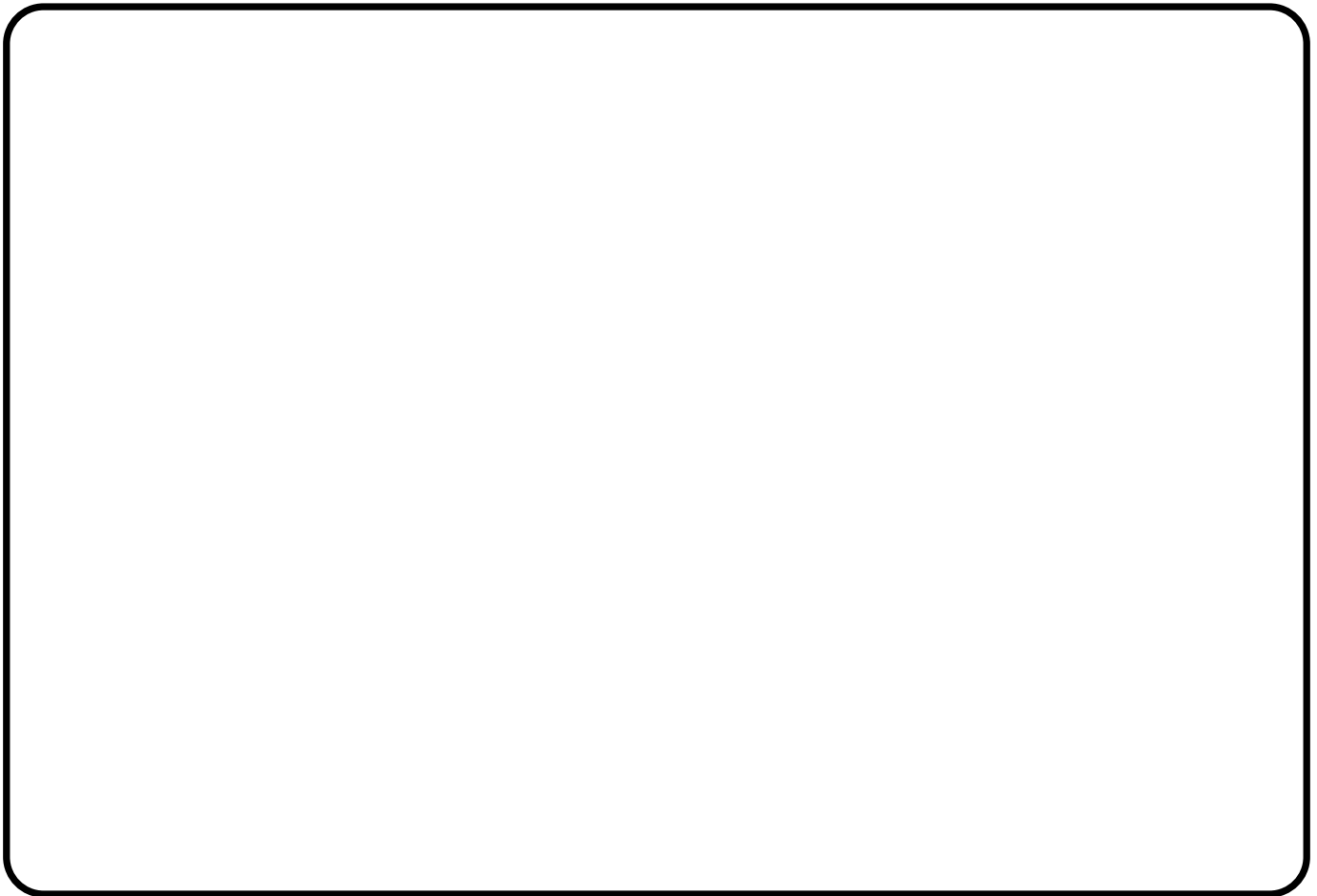


When I grow up, I want to be...

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a black border, intended for a child to write their answer to the question above.

If I was Chief, I would...

Draw or write about what you would do if you could be Chief for a day



If we go into Treaty:

Mom says that many people have studied treaty and they say that communities that have signed a treaty over the last few years are healthier and happier. I think that is a good thing. Grandma says we get more things and get a better life in Treaty and that we never will lose what we have already. She says this is why Treaty makes people healthier and happier. I don't understand everything, but I do feel better when I hear that we can all be together, and we can all be healthier, and happier.



What I want in my Community...

Draw or write about what you want in your Community.

What I want now:

What I want in the future:

Colour me!



Ts'ésqel
(Golden Eagle)

Original Artwork by Jared Deck

Colour me!



Steqóye
(Wolf)

Original Artwork by Jared Deck

Colour me!



Pipehò:m Skw'exó:s

(Frog Moon)

Original Artwork by Jared Deck

S'ólh téméxw te íkw'elò.
Xólhmet te mekw'stám ít kwelát.

This is our land.
We have to take care of everything
that belongs to us.



**Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw
Treaty Association**

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