

STÓ:LŌ XWEXWILMEXW TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

STAGE 4 LAND AND CAPITAL TRANSFER PROPOSAL

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

Six Stó:lō communities – Áthelets (Aitchelitz), Leq'á:mel, Sq'ewá:lxw (Skawahlook), Sq'ewqéyl (Skowkale), Chí'yáqtel (Tzeachten), and Yeqwyeqwí:ws (Yakwekwioose) are working together as the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association (“SXTA”) to negotiate a Treaty with Canada and British Columbia (“BC”) under the BC treaty process.

On November 8, 2017, Chief Negotiators from SXTA, BC and Canada agreed on a Stage 4 Land and Capital Transfer Proposal (the “Proposal”) which is intended to form the basis of the land and capital transfer components of a completed Treaty.

The Proposal is based on the collaborative work undertaken by SXTA, Canada, and BC (“Parties”) and marks a momentous milestone on the path toward reconciliation and a nation-to-nation relationship.

ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSAL

The land component of the Proposal comprises 10,684 hectares of proposed Reconciliation Lands, including 9,902 hectares of provincial Crown land and 782 hectares of reserve land. Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw will own and have law-making authority with respect to proposed Reconciliation Lands included in the Treaty, upon implementation of the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty.

The Proposal includes a capital transfer of \$150 million, as well as annual transfers to support implementation, governance, and program and service delivery, which will be negotiated as part of Stage 5 of the BC Treaty process.

The Proposal is without prejudice and is not legally binding. The Treaty, once ratified by the Parties, will become legally binding.

CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO THE LANDS

The Proposal is conditional upon completion of Stage 5 negotiations and addressing shared territory and related issues with other First Nations. The Proposal is subject to change depending on the outcome of Stage 5 negotiations and the outcome of shared territory discussions.

Provincial Crown lands that have been excluded or will be excluded from the Proposal include submerged lands, Crown corridors, railways, hydro reservoir impact zones, existing and approved petroleum and natural gas pipelines and electrical transmission line corridors and setbacks, contaminated sites, and developed gravel pits.

Provincial Crown lands containing an Agricultural Land Reserve designation will be subject to the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*, except where designation is removed through Stage 5 negotiations or through the applicable provincial process.

Proposed Reconciliation Lands will be subject to access provisions in the Treaty, including reasonable public access on designated lands for temporary recreational and non-commercial uses, and access to fulfil any legal obligations to tenure holders and private landholders. Lands designation will be negotiated in Stage 5.

Specific recreation sites, as shown in the attached maps, have been identified for potential future designation as Reconciliation Lands. SXTA and BC will agree on a process to determine the extent and nature of any Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw management and/or ownership of these recreation sites.

The proposed Reconciliation Lands may change subject to confirmation of land status and the determination of any third party encumbrances or interests in the surface and subsurface resources of those lands.

The Parties will finalize and verify land parcel boundaries and dimensions before ratification of the Treaty.