

WORK WE NEED TO DO IN STAGE FIVE

The Kitselas Treaty

Working groups

- Treaty “working groups” could be made up of:
 - An employee or two from the Treaty Office
 - Consultant or expert on the subject
 - Two or three interested and knowledgeable members selected from the Kitselas Membership.
- Terms of references will have to be developed.
- working groups will not be committees which meet occasionally but work on actual issues, problems and planning.

Enrolment and eligibility

- Everyone, who wants to be a part of and vote on the Kitselas treaty, will have to be enrolled.
- Enrolment in a Treaty is not the same as Band membership and the Indian Act Band list.
- An E and E working group of three people will be established in the next year to manage the Enrolment process.
- By agreement the cost of the process will be covered by the Government of Canada.

Constitution

- The Treaty will not tell us what our government will look like.
- Nor will it tell us how the government will work.
- It will not have any rules on how our government will be controlled nor how the people we elect as our governors, are accountable to we the people who elected them.
- Nor will it tell us how our employees will behave and who they will be accountable to.

Constitution

- We have prepared with the help of Albert Peeling, a constitutional lawyer a first draft of a Kitselas Constitution.
- This draft can be used by the community working group as a place to start.
- The working group will spend the next three to four years debating and rewriting the draft.
- Approval of the constitution will require a vote by the people of Kitselas.

Laws we will need on the effective date

- Forests (Forestry Act)
- Fisheries Act (Community Food Fishing)
- Wildlife management act
- Kitselas Government Act
- Financial Administration Act
- Elections Act
- Election Regulations Act
- Citizens Act
- Capital Finance Commissions Act

Treaty settlement lands

- After treaty the Kitselas People will own and manage about 100,000 acres of land.
- We need to examine all the land and make recommendations on how to develop it.
- Example: land set aside for logging and replanting.
- Fishing sites on the Skeena.
- Land for farming, recreation, heritage sites, new communities and so on.

Finance

- When we get a cash settlement what will we do with it.
- How do health, education and other programs work and how can we make it better.
- How will we manage our finances.
- We need a much better understanding on the tax issue and how it will affect us.
- How is the Band financed now and how will it change.

Fish, wildlife and gathering

- Fisheries still needs to be negotiated with Canada and we will not lose our right to fish.
- A major issue under negotiations is the area that we hunt in, not only in the Kitselas area but also the coastal area.
- How will hunting and fishing be managed.
- Identify coastal areas for our sea food rights.

Implimentation

- The implementation working group will have two main jobs.
- First: to begin planning changes to prepare the people of Kitselas for major changes that will happen. For example: training, education, What laws can we pass now under existing authority and what administrative changes are needed
- How do we see ourselves being part of the local school board, hospital and regional district.

Implimentation

- Second: The Final Agreement must be workable and all of the processes in the agreement will need to be examined and plan how they will work.
- A implementation plan will be developed by the working group made up of Kitselas, Canada and BC.

Finally

- Communications will be the most important part of the work plan.
- We will need to be certain that all people have a clear understanding of what lies ahead.
- When the time comes to vote on a final agreement we want to make sure everyone understands everything in the agreement.
- The more people we have that participate the better it will be for all of us.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
TIME
