



Room 205-2005 Eagle Drive  
Quinsam Hall

**Phone:** 250-287-9460

**Email:** [dassu@lkts.ca](mailto:dassu@lkts.ca)

# Laich-Kwil-Tach Treaty Society Newsletter

## January 2019



### Important Dates

#### Meet the treaty team

January 10, 2019  
6:00 PM (Dinner provided)  
Sheraton Vancouver Airport  
Hotel, Richmond  
Parking Provided (please register  
through the link on the Facebook  
Page)

February 12, 2019  
6:00 PM (Dinner provided)  
Songhees Events Centre, Victoria

#### Community Planning Meetings

January 17, 2019  
6:00 PM (Dinner provided)  
Songhees Events Centre, Victoria

February 19, 2019  
6:00 PM (Dinner provided)  
Inn at the Quay, New  
Westminster

### A Change in Negotiation Process

Since the election of the Liberals and NDP, both Canada and BC have been looking for ways to improve treaty negotiations, something First Nations have been seeking for some time. One of the approaches that is being considered is moving advanced tables into Stage 5 negotiations more quickly. For example, Canada, BC and the Sto:lo Treaty Association signed a Memorandum of Understanding that moves that table to Stage 5 negotiations, includes recognition of inherent rights and makes clear that treaty will not become a final settlement.

Currently, your We Wai Kai treaty team is discussing a similar approach through a Commitment Agreement with Canada and BC that we anticipate will bolster our negotiations. As discussed in the June 2018 newsletter (<http://www.lkts.ca/newsletters>) and the video (<https://vimeo.com/309632530>) posted on Facebook in November, negotiations at our table will not extinguish our rights and title and will include a commitment for periodic renewal of the treaty to keep it modern and evolving.

This Commitment Agreement builds on the extensive progress we have made on our Incremental Treaty Agreement (presented in May 2018 and discussed at several "Meet with the Treaty Team" gatherings) that will see the transfer of lands in the Campbell River watershed back to We Wai Kai. Through this negotiation, we found



Visit the website at  
[www.lkts.ca](http://www.lkts.ca)



Join the FaceBook page to stay informed!  
Search "Laich-Kwil-Tach Treaty Society" on Facebook  
Go to LIKE, scroll down to NOTIFICATIONS and  
Click ALL ON!

## A Change in the Negotiation Process, con't.

ways to move discussions forward at a pace that is unusual in treaty. Both Canada and BC recognize this work and because of that, plus the strong working relationship we have among our team and with the negotiators, they are supporting a similar approach for our treaty negotiations.

Once the Commitment Agreement is finalized and signed, we will begin to discuss the bigger issues that have been difficult to discuss in Stage 4 because of the governments' limited resources and mandates for Stage 4 tables. This will better enable us to develop a land package, a shared-decision making process for the territory and revenue sharing. We will be able to complete fiscal chapters and agreements and we will no longer be negotiating a partial, "in principle" package that is not legally binding. Instead we will negotiate the complete package for your consideration. This will enable us to answer your questions better and more completely because as we progress, the current unknowns will become clearer. This will also open the door to more funding for constitutional development and capacity building ahead of a treaty vote.

We are pleased with this opportunity to move the negotiations forward and look forward to sharing more about it and the negotiations at our upcoming meetings. Please watch FaceBook and our website for meeting dates and times. We look forward to seeing you. Ĝilakasla.

## A question from our last "Meet the Treaty Team" gathering

### ***"Are we getting our old village sites back?"***

Through treaty We Wai Kai will have some lands returned as Treaty Settlement Lands. The Nation will have complete jurisdiction over these lands. Some old village sites will be included in these lands. For areas that fall outside of our eventual TSL, we will negotiate shared decision making and in some cases we may be able to negotiate times where consent is required. Our intention is to protect Laich-Kwil-Tach heritage and history and this will require working with our Wei Wai Kum family. Protection will come in different ways through different parts of the treaty and will range from full ownership and jurisdiction to decision making control to shared decision making.

## At the treaty office....

### **Treaty Board of Directors:**

**Brian Assu**

**Ted Lewis**

**Ted Assu**

### **Chief Negotiator (Bram Rogachevsky)**

bram@brlaw.ca

### **Office Support (Dani Assu)**

dassu@lkts.ca

### **Lands (John Munro)**

john@jkmap.ca

### **Forestry (Rod Visser)**

Rod.visser@wewaikai.com

### **Research & Support (Dee Cullon) deecullon@shaw.ca**

The treaty team would love to meet with you. If you would like to discuss treaty or have questions, please come to our meetings or contact any of the people above and we will arrange a meeting with you.



Pole at Cape Mudge village.