



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 23, 2015

Treaty Commission Congratulates Parties on Wuikinuxv Agreement-in-Principle Signing

VANCOUVER – Today is a significant occasion for Wuikinuxv Nation, British Columbia and Canada. The Treaty Commission congratulates all three parties on signing an Agreement-in-Principle (AiP).

“This is the second AiP signing this year, demonstrating the tangible progress that is being made in the treaty negotiations process. The Treaty Commission commends the hard work of the Principals in achieving this important step towards a Final Agreement,” said Acting Chief Commissioner Celeste Haldane.

There are approximately 290 Wuikinuxv members, with traditional territory and waters located around their main community on the north side of Wannock River, between Owikeno Lake and the head of Rivers Inlet on BC’s mid-coast.

Wuikinuxv Nation, the federal government and the provincial government initialled their AiP in December 2012, and it received community approval in July 2013. Wuikinuxv now joins Te’mexw, In-SHUCK-ch, K’ómoks, and Yekooche First Nations in Stage 5 of the BC negotiations process, which is the last stage leading to the completion of a modern treaty. Together they represent ten *Indian Act* Bands that are negotiating Final Agreements.

Commissioner Jerry Lampert was in Wuikinuxv today to witness the signing and celebrate with the three parties.

Quick Facts

- As of July 23, 2015 there are 5 First Nations, representing 10 *Indian Act* Bands, in Stage 5 of the BC treaty negotiations process. They are: In-SHUCK-ch, K’ómoks, Te’mexw, Wuikinuxv and Yekooche.
- There are 8 completed treaties: the five Maa-nulth, Tsawwassen, Tla’amin and Yale First Nations.
- An additional 2 First Nations, representing 6 *Indian Act* Bands, have finalized their AiPs and are in the process of approval. They are: the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council (NStQ), and Kitselas and Kitsumkalum (Tsimshian First Nations).
- There are 65 First Nations, representing over half of all *Indian Act* Bands in BC, which are participating in or have completed treaties through the treaty negotiations process.
- Active or completed negotiations involve 47 First Nations, representing 83 *Indian Act* Bands, totalling 41% of all *Indian Act* Bands in BC.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT Odette Wilson / Communications Advisor / 604-482-9215 / owilson@bctreaty.ca

About the BC Treaty Commission

The Treaty Commission is the independent body responsible for overseeing treaty negotiations among the governments of Canada, BC and First Nations in BC. It has three roles: facilitation, funding, and public information and education.

Visit www.bctreaty.ca to learn more about the Treaty Commission.