

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 24, 2022

### New commitments to uphold and strengthen modern treaties and implementation

X̣ẉṃə̣θ̣ḳẉə̣ỵəm (Musqueam), Ṣḳẉx̣ẉụ́7̣mesh (Squamish) and sə̣f̣iḷẉə̣ṭə̣ł (Tsleil-Waututh)  
VANCOUVER – The Treaty Commission commends the eight BC Modern Treaty Nations and the Government of BC for their commitments to effective bilateral treaty implementation and strengthened government-to-government relationships.

Today at the Premier’s Forum with the Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations, leaders from each of the respective governments discussed the *Shared Priorities Framework* and other treaty related matters. Premier John Horgan spoke on the significance of treaties and improved nation-to-nation relationships between the Province and First Nations, “[t]reaties are important living documents that provide a foundation for renewed relationships and certainty for all First Nations in the Treaty process. Upholding these sacred agreements through a whole-of-government approach, with engagement and support from all ministries, is paramount in meeting our shared commitments.”

The *Shared Priorities Framework* identifies key commitments and priorities that will establish:

- fiscal arrangements to fulfil treaty rights and obligations,
- meaningful participation of Modern Treaty Nations in B.C.’s legislative and policy initiatives, and
- organizational and policy changes in the BC public service to advance a whole-of-government approach to treaty implementation.

“Treaties and reconciliation require honourable processes for negotiations and implementation. The framework lays a strong foundation for effective implementation,” said Chief Commissioner Celeste Haldane. “We are pleased to see that in establishing fiscal arrangements to fulfill Modern Treaty rights, along with the other priorities, the Province recognizes the unique jurisdictions, autonomy, and success of Modern Treaty nations.”

### Quick Facts:

- The [Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations](#) (Alliance) was formed in July 2018 by the Maa-nulth Treaty Nations (Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Ka:’yu:’k’t’h’/Chek’tles7et’h’ First Nations, Toquaht Nation, Uchucklesaht Tribe and Yuułuʔiłʔatḥ Government), Tla’amin Nation, and Tsawwassen First Nation. Nisga’a Nation joined the Alliance in November 2019.
- The Alliance works collectively to advance and advocate for areas of shared interest relating to the implementation of modern treaties in British Columbia.
- [The Shared Priorities Framework](#) was signed in March 2022.

- There are eight Modern Treaties in BC. Seven treaties were negotiated through the BC Treaty Commission process, while the Nisga'a Treaty was negotiated prior to the creation of the BC Treaty Commission.
- For a news release from the Office of the Premier, please click [here](#).

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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**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](http://www.bctreaty.ca) to learn more about the Treaty Commission.