

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 19, 2022

BCTC Releases 2022 Annual Report with Special 30th Anniversary Edition

VANCOUVER | X^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Sk̓wxwú7mesh (Squamish) and səfilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) territories – The BC Treaty Commission released its 2022 Annual Report today. This 30th Anniversary edition details progress from this past year and serves, in part, to celebrate the work and advocacy of leaders across BC who advanced and upheld Indigenous rights and title over the last three decades. It also highlights the successes of Modern Treaty Nations and First Nations in the negotiations process.

This year's Report features reflections from First Nations, Provincial, and Federal leaders whom all express the unique nature of the Made-in-BC treaty negotiations process and recognize the opportunities for future achievements. The BC negotiations process is proving to be flexible and adapting to important changes, which continue to transform the landscape of Indigenous rights recognition in BC and in Canada.

One new development, acknowledged in this Report, is a forthcoming legal decision in Québec that will serve to further define the breadth of Indigenous self-government rights in Canada. "While there have been critical changes to the negotiations process, one of the most significant changes is the shifting legal landscape," says Chief Commissioner Celeste Haldane. "It is imperative that the Crown make the most of this changing landscape. We must not lose focus of our shared goals – advancing reconciliation and the recognition of Indigenous rights and title through constitutionally-protected treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements."

"We are at a pivotal point in our shared history," says Haldane. "Thirty-one self-defined First Nations, are actively negotiating agreements in British Columbia, which means that these thirty-one First Nations are making history as they move towards self-determination and self-government outside the confines of the *Indian Act*."

Quick Facts

- [The BC Treaty Commission Agreement](#) – signed in 1992 by the First Nations Summit, the Government of BC, and the Government of Canada – led to the creation of the BC Treaty Commission.
- The Treaty Commission's mandate includes supporting negotiating Parties in implementing the [UN Declaration](#), the [TRC Calls to Action](#), [the Principles Respecting the Government of Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples](#), and the recognition of First Nations title and rights.
- The Governments of BC and Canada passed legislation, in [2019](#) and [2021](#) respectively, on the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.
- The BC Treaty Commission 2022 Annual Report is available at www.bctreaty.ca

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.