

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 21, 2021

Reconciliation negotiations of treaties and agreements to advance with the new federal government

Xʷməθkʷəyəm (Musqueam), Sḵwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and səfilwətał (Tseil-Waututh)
VANCOUVER – The Treaty Commission congratulates Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, the returning minority Liberal government, and all elected and re-elected members of Parliament.

Canadians have given the Liberal government the mandate to continue work on national priorities, including reconciliation. “The shared journey of reconciliation involves prioritizing Indigenous rights recognition grounded in self-determination and self-government. In British Columbia there are several Indigenous nations ready to conclude negotiations of treaties and agreements within this newly formed government’s term,” says Chief Commissioner Celeste Haldane. “This critical work requires the support of all political parties; reconciliation should be a non-partisan issue.”

The Treaty Commission looks forward to welcoming the federal government back at negotiations tables as quickly as possible and continuing to make progress. Next steps in implementing *An Act respecting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* is another key priority. This law commits the federal government to working in collaboration with Indigenous peoples to develop an action plan within a two-year timeframe, and progress on treaty and reconciliation negotiations must be part of this action plan.

Reconciliation is the responsibility of all Canadians. The Treaty Commission urges all Canadians to learn more about treaties and agreements, as well as encourage participation in the upcoming Truth and Reconciliation Week from September 27 to October 1. The Treaty Commission looks forward to working with all members of Parliament to advance Indigenous rights recognition and reconciliation in Canada.

Quick Facts:

- In June, the House of Commons passed legislation to make September 30 a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, fulfilling TRC Call to Action #80.
- Truth and Reconciliation events and programming are happening across the country, including with the [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](#).
- Since January 2018, the Principals directed the Treaty Commission to support the implementation of the [UN Declaration](#), the [TRC’s 94 Calls to Action](#), the [federal Principles](#), and the recognition of First Nations right and title through facilitating negotiations

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 to learn more about the Treaty Commission.