



Tahltan
Band Council

LAND CODE

Dena nenn Sogga neh 'ine

LAND CODE COMMUNITY MEETINGS

There are two upcoming opportunities for Tahltan to talk about the Tahltan Band Land Code

ALL TAHLTANS WELCOME!

Come learn about what Land Code is, other First Nations' experiences with Land Code, and what it could mean for us.

There will be an information session followed by a Q&A with Patti Smith from the First Nations Land Management Resource Centre who will be guiding our Land Code process.

DEASE LAKE

When: Tuesday February 21st, 2017

Where: School Board Office

Time: 5pm - 8pm

TELEGRAPH CREEK

When: Thursday February 23rd, 2017

Where: Recreation Centre

Time: 5pm - 8pm

CAN'T MAKE THE MEETING?

If you can't make the meeting in person, join us LIVE on Facebook!

Visit the Tahltan Band Facebook page and set a reminder to watch a meeting live up to one week in advance. You can like, comment, and ask questions to presenters.

**DINNER
& DOOR
PRIZES!**



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250-235-3151



Tahltan
Band Council

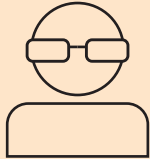
LAND CODE

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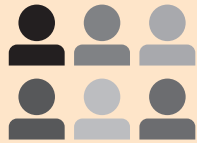
Land Code Development Process

We don't want developing a Land Code to be a complicated process for members — so we are committed to bringing members along every step of the way. So when it comes time to vote, our people are making a confident and informed decision.

PROJECT KICKOFF

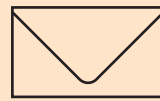


Hiring of the Land Code
Engagement Coordinator



Creation of Land Code
Development Committee

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & LAND CODE DRAFTING

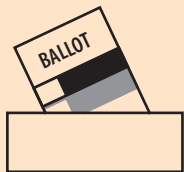


Information sent
regularly to members

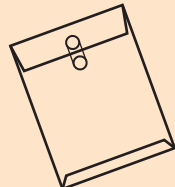


Door-to-door and telephone
information campaigns

COMMUNITY VOTE



Advanced Poll and
Official Vote Date



Voter information
packages

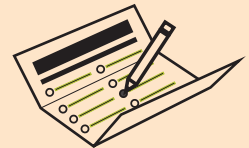


Community Ratification
Process (CRP) process guide
to Ratification Officer

Family & Community Meetings

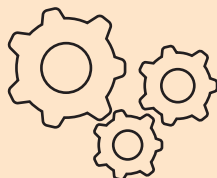


Tahltan Band
Land Code Celebration



Draft Land Code
and Opinion Survey

IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS



With a successful vote, the Tahltan Band
can begin the Implementation Process

WHAT'S NEXT?

All members, on and off reserve, can expect to be involved in the development of our Land Code through phone calls, door-to-door visits, community celebrations and more!

QUESTIONS

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 250-235-3151

 askus@tahtlan.ca

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I've heard about Land Code, but what is it? And what actually goes into a Land Code?

WHAT IS LAND CODE?

- A **set of guidelines** for how reserve lands and resources are controlled and managed
- Written **by the First Nation**
- **Decreases Canada's management** of our reserve lands
- Requires **approval from the members** of the First Nation

MOVING AWAY FROM THE INDIAN ACT

- Creating a Land Code allows a First Nation to **opt out of the 32 land management sections of the Indian Act**
- A First Nation **takes over control and management of their reserve lands and resources** instead of having them be administered by the Federal government in Ottawa
- When done correctly, adopting a Land Code is a huge step forward on the **path to self-governance**

WHAT IS AN INDIVIDUAL AGREEMENT?

- Agreement that deals with:
 - » **Reserve lands** to be managed by the First Nation
 - » Specifics of the **transfer of the control** of land from Canada to the First Nation
 - » **Money to be provided** by Canada to the First Nation for land management
- When this agreement is signed, the **Land Code officially replaces the land management sections of the Indian Act**

WHAT GOES INTO A LAND CODE?

First Nations' Land Codes outline key areas required to assume full decision-making power over reserve lands and resources — it is VERY important that a Land Code developed and adopted by a First Nation is unique to the community:

SECTION 1: PRELIMINARY MATTERS

It's like the "housekeeping section" of a Land Code, which:

- Defines important words
- Protects the First Nation's rights
- Asserts the First Nation's authority to govern
- Describes what reserves are subject to the Land Code

SECTION 2: FIRST NATION LEGISLATION

This section talks about how Tahltan Band Council will go about making laws to govern our reserve lands and resources:

- **Who** will make laws
- **How** laws will be decided upon
- **Where** laws will be written and published
- **When** and how laws will take effect

SECTION 3: COMMUNITY APPROVALS

This section ensures that community engagement happens in a way that is fair and accessible, explaining:

- **Rights of eligible voters** (members)
- How and when **community engagement** must happen
- Steps involved with a member **meeting and vote**
- Types of laws and activities needing **community approval**

SECTION 4: INTERESTS AND LICENSES IN LAND

This section talks about the ways that individual people (members) can have legal “interests” in land. Interests are things like:

- Leases
- Licenses
- Permits
- Mortgages
- Certificates of Possession (CPs)

SECTION 5: PROTECTION OF LAND

This section helps make sure that our reserve lands and resources remain ours, and under our control, by talking about concerns like:

- Removal of reserve lands
- Heritage sites
- Voluntary land exchanges

SECTION 6: LAND ADMINISTRATION

This section talks about the “nuts and bolts” of how land would be managed day-to-day once Canada is no longer administering our land. It covers things like:

- Having an **Lands Management Committee**
- **Money earned from lands** through rent or fees
- **Keeping track of the “interests”** we talked about earlier

SECTION 7: ACCOUNTABILITY

To make sure that leadership manages lands and resources clearly and openly, this section talks about things like:

- If a leader has a **conflict of interest**

- Keeping **financial records**
- Having **regular audits**
- Making an **annual land management report**
- Allowing members to access information

SECTION 8: DISPUTE RESOLUTION

When big organizational changes happen in a community, disputes often happen. This section lays out steps to follow if land-related disputes happen and talks about things like:

- Having a **Dispute Resolution Panel**
- Making sure the panel is confidential and **impartial**
- Steps that the panel will follow in a dispute

SECTION 9: OTHER MATTERS

In this section are the “odds and ends” of the Land Code, where matters (important, but not part of the other categories) are discussed. Things often covered here are:

- **Land-related insurance** that the Band should to pay
- What happens when **someone breaks the Land Code**
- How to **make changes to the Land Code**
- How and when the Land Code **takes effect**

Learn more by visiting www.tahltan.ca/landcode.
If you have any questions or comments about Land Code, contact askus@tahtlan.ca or call the Band Office at **250-235-3151**.



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Working with a Committee of members, Tahltan Band is working to develop our Land Code

WHY LAND CODE FOR TAHLTAN BAND?

RESOURCES ON RESERVE

The Indian Act currently offers no mechanism to enforce any rules we create to protect our natural resources on reserve. In the past, Tahltan citizens have voiced concerns about wildlife harvesting and management — both on reserve and throughout Tahltan traditional territory. Protection and conservation of wildlife resources is critical to our culture, identity and way of life. While our Nation is working hard to protect wildlife throughout the territory, we must also consider how this resource is protected and managed on reserve. Implementing Land Code is an opportunity to protect our hunting and fishing sites located on Tahltan Band reserve lands through the development and enforcement of our own laws.

MASQUI FIRST NATION: DEVELOPING THEIR OWN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND ASSESSMENT LAW

As a result of implementing their own Land Code in 2007, Masqui developed their own Environmental Protection and Assessment Law. By conducting their own environmental assessments Masqui is protecting Masqui Lands from significant environmental damage and making informed community-driven decisions about potential projects that could affect among many other things, wildlife, vegetation, and fisheries.

How Land Code Would Help:

- Land Code will enable Tahltan Band to create laws to limit access to reserve land to non-Tahltans for the purposes of hunting and fishing, and to make rules about how we allocate all our resources on reserve.
- It will allow us to protect fishing at places like Tahltan and hunting in areas like Sheslay to ensure that future generations have access to hunting and fishing at these significant sites.



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WHY LAND CODE FOR TAHLTAN BAND?

CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES

The Indian Act currently offers no mechanism to any rules we create to protect these sites. In the past Tahltan heritage sites such as the Old Village have been disturbed by unauthorized activities. Significant cultural heritage sites on reserve, such as sites where our ancestors are buried, do not currently have a heritage designation and remain officially unprotected.

How Land Code Would Help:

- A Land Code, developed by the membership, will allow us to designate sites such as Old Tahltan Village as protected and enforce protection laws created pursuant to the Land Code.

LHEIDLI T'ENNEH: PROTECTING THE FORT GEORGE CEMETERY

Under Land Code, Lheidli T'enneh designated an entire reserve located at the confluence of the Fraser and Nechako Rivers as a cultural/heritage to protect a historical burial ground for Lheidli T'enneh members. This designation protects the lands for continual use as a cemetery and a place to honour Lheidli ancestors, culture and traditions.

BUSINESS

Currently, under the Indian Act the Band has to get permission from the Minister of Indigenous Affairs to allow for commercial development of reserve lands and even to sign a lease. This means that when a Tahltan Band member wants to start a business on reserve they face delays and federal government processes that individuals and off reserve businesses would not.

How Land Code Would Help:

- Simplifies processes for Tahltan Band members to start businesses on reserve.
- Businesses and investors are more likely to work with First Nations with Land Codes because it simplifies procedures and provides more certainty, leading to more successful local economies.
- Under Land Code, we would set the terms for land related transactions, business licensing, zoning supported by a community plan and enforceable bylaws.

T'SOU-KE NATION: TIM HORTONS ON RESERVE

As a direct result of more favourable business conditions under Land Code, T'sou-ke Nation is expected to open a Tim Hortons in Spring 2017. This project between T'sou-ke, Tim Hortons, Esso, and On the Run Convenience and will provide T'Sou-ke with the ability to create on reserve wealth.



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Working with a Committee of members, Tahltan Band is working to develop our Land Code

LAND CODE WORKING TOGETHER

This is an important process for our community. We want all members on and off reserve to be involved in the development of the Land Code.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED



tahltan.ca/landcode



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COMMUNITY MEETINGS:

There will be another round of community meetings in Telegraph Creek and Dease Lake in 2017.

SURVEY:

Your feedback is important! Watch out for a survey asking for your input on the Land Code.

VOTING:

The ultimate way to have your voice heard on Land Code is to vote!

MEET OUR LAND CODE ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR TAMARA DENNIS



Tamara Dennis will be the point of contact working in community to ensure everyone is informed about the Land Code development and ratification. If you want to have a cup of coffee, run

into her around town, or want to set up a family meeting — Tamara will be happy to connect you with the right information about Land Code! You can email her directly at askus@tahltan.ca.

UPDATES

Do you want to receive information directly about upcoming meetings? Make sure to update your contact information with Tahltan Band — send your information to askus@tahltan.ca.