

Statement of Intent

Tlowitsis Nation

1. **What is the First Nation Called?**

Tlowitsis First Nation (also known as the Tlowitsis Tribe)

2. **How is the governing body organized and established for the purposes of treaty negotiations?**

Other

Please Describe:

The governing body is the Tlowitsis council. This is a custom council under the Indian Act and works in consultation with the hereditary leadership of the Tlowitsis people.

3. **How did the governing body get its mandate from its constituents to enter into the treaty process?**

The Tlowitsis governing body received its mandate from its constituents to enter into the treaty process and to conduct treaty negotiations as a member of the Kwakiutl Laich-Kwil-Tach Nations Treaty Society (KLNTS). The process by which the mandate was received is described in the KLNTS Statement of Intent (SOI) December 1993 and again on February 8, 1994 and the KLNTS readiness submission March 27, 1997.

As a member of the KLNTS the Tlowitsis governing body received this mandate to negotiate a treaty through a series of joint community meetings, workshops and consultation and mandate approval processes in ancouer, Victoria, Fort Rupert, and Campbell River prior to the submission of KLNTS SOI. The mandate to negotiate a treaty was also confirmed during general assembly of the KLNTS in July and September of 1995.

In 1996 the Tlowitsis governing body reaffirmed its mandate to negotiate a treaty by questionnaire. "Out of 100 information packages, 37 questionnaires have been returned thus far with 1 against the treaty process" (pg 4 KLNTS Readiness Submission March 27, 1997).

As a member of KLNTS, the Tlowitsis First Nation has been negotiating an agreement in principal between 1997 and September 2004 and has participated in various community treaty mandate meetings and completed portions of several AIP chapters.

A new round of community meetings to further the dialogue with community members will take place on June 25, 2005 and July 2, 2005 in Vancouver, Victoria, Campbell River, and Port McNeil.

4. **Who are the people represented in the Statement of Intent?**

The aboriginal people represented in the statement of intent are all the members of the Tlowitsis Tribe.

5. **How many aboriginal people are represented in the statement of intent?**

The Tlowitsis First Nation represents 349 people.

6. **Is there any other First Nation that claims to represent the aboriginal people described in 4 and 5 above? If so, please list.**

No other First Nation claims to represent the aboriginal people described in 4 and 5 above.

7. **What is the First Nation's traditional territory in British Columbia? Please identify any First Nations with whom the First Nation has overlapping or shared territory**

A map detailing the traditional territory of the Tlowitsis First Nation is attached to this submission.

Preliminary discussion of shared territory is underway with the Tnak-teuk, Namgis, Xwemalhkwa (Homalco), Mamalaqualla nations. The only known overlap with members of the Hamatla treaty society is with the Comox and Cape Mudge Indian band, and efforts to establish a dialogue are ongoing. The above summary represents the only known First Nations with overlapping territorial interests.

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