



Update: Northeast Land Transfers

Presentation to: Northeast Roundtable

By: Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

January 20, 2021

Objectives:

- Engagement from June to today
- Land transfer context
- Updates:
 - TLE and Site C status
 - Blueberry River TLE
 - Saulteau First Nations land selection overview
 - Saulteau First Nations TLE and Site C new parcels
- Next steps



Land Transfer Context



Treaty Land Entitlement

(Historic Treaty Settlement)

Canada, BC and First Nation

- Shortfall lands:
 - Making up for land owed over 100 years under Treaty 8 (righting a historic wrong)
 - Land transfer directly to Canada (to create Indian Reserve)
- Additional lands:
 - First Nation will purchase (Fair Market Value)
 - Land may considered for transfer to Canada as Addition to Reserve (ATR).

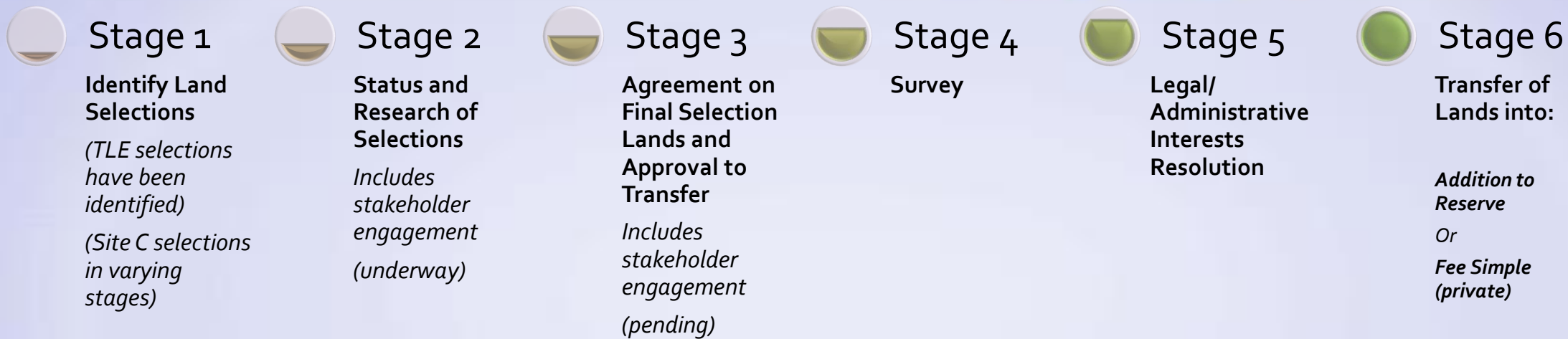
Site C Land Agreements

(Accommodation for project impacts)

BC Hydro, BC and First Nation

- Lands to accommodate for the adverse impacts of the Site C project to Treaty 8 rights.
- Lands will be transferred in fee simple (private) and the First Nations may apply to have some of their fee simple lands added to existing reserve land.
- Doig, Halfway, McLeod, Prophet, Saulteau

TLE and Site C Status



First Nation	Agreement	Process Stage	Comment
HRFN & WMFN BRFN & DRFN	TLE Settlement & Lands Agreements	Stage 2	Draft Agreements nearing completion & initialling
HRFN	Site C Lands Agreement	Stage 2	Land selections nearing final
DRFN	Site C Lands Agreement	Stage 1	Lands not yet identified
SFN	TLE Settlement & Lands Agreements	Stage 2	Land selection review in progress
SFN	Site C Lands Agreement	Stage 2	Land selection review in progress

Blueberry TLE Update



Red Creek & Charlie Lake

- March Open Houses
- Public session notes (shared in summer)
- Public interests/ concerns reflected in provincial briefings
- Provincial agency reviews and approvals

Pink Mountain

- Halfway Designated Recreation Trail
- Trail to be established in implementation
- Trail designated required before transferring overlap lands (Condition Precedent)

Settlement & Lands Agreements

- Draft nearly complete for Blueberry & Doig (joint claim)
- Provincial and federal reviews required (5-6 week timeframe)
- First Nations ratification required

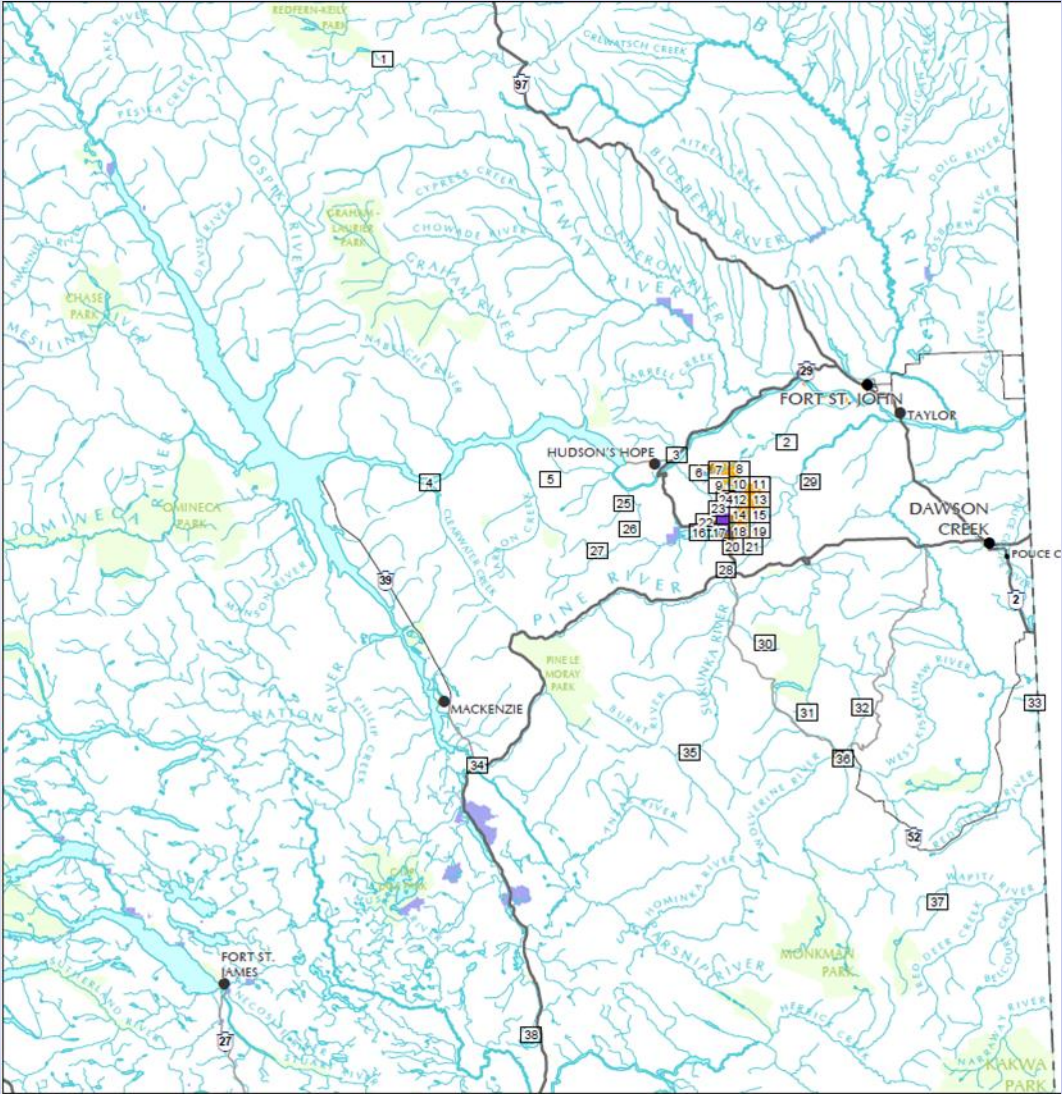
Saulteau First Nations Land Selection Overview

Total parcels: 55

TLE parcels: 19

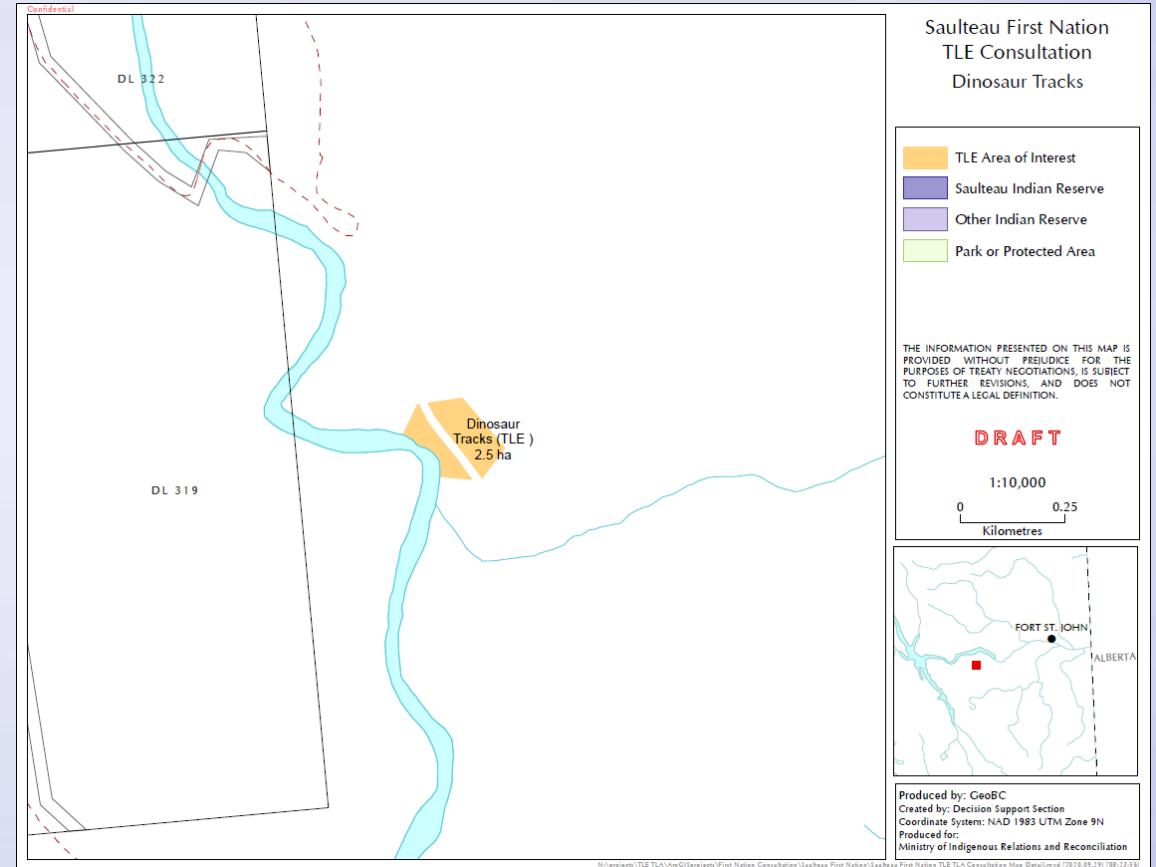
Site C parcels: 36

Category	Amount
Site C Land Agreement	6,626.4 ha
TLE Shortfall	1,344.19 ha
TLE Additional	16,401.82 ha
TLE Total	17,746.01 ha



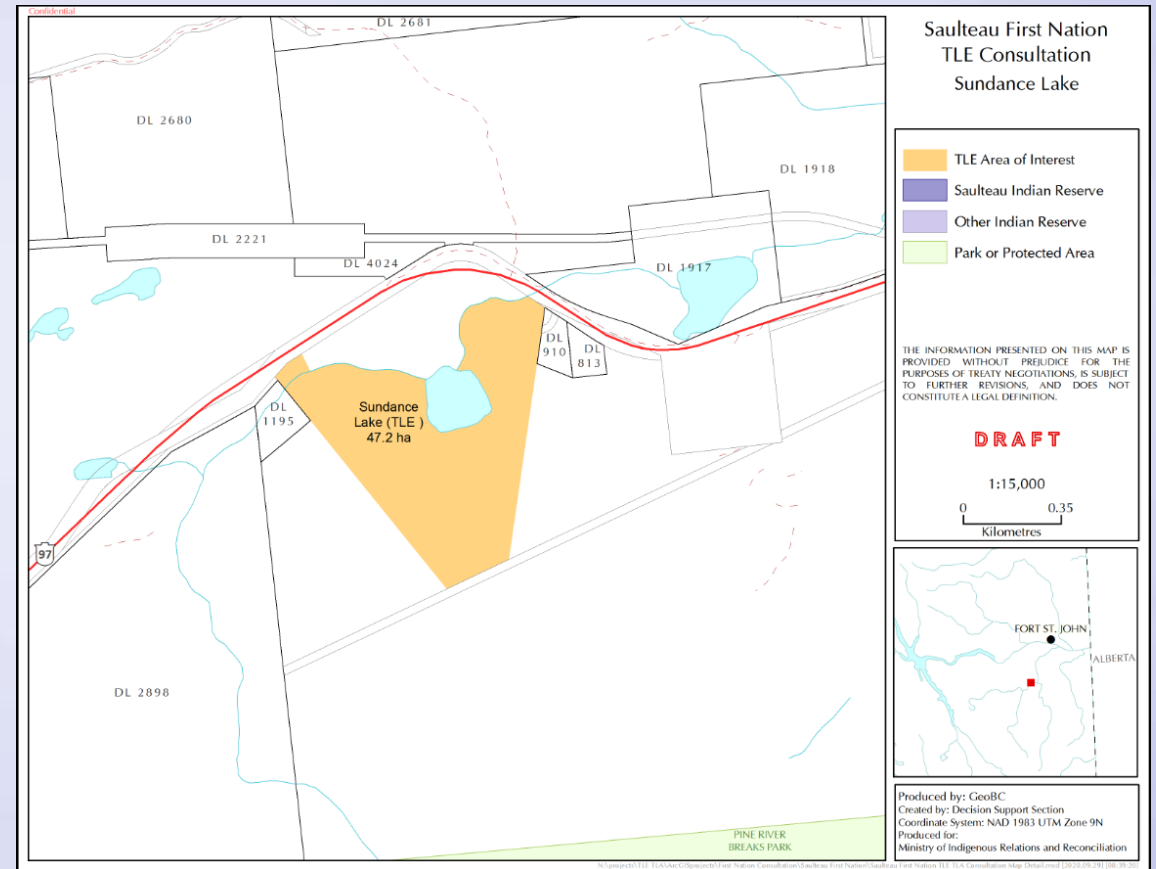
Dinosaur Tracks

- **Where:** West of Hudson's Hope
- **Size:** 2.51 ha (TLE)
- **Reasons for Selecting:**
 - Area is of cultural significance to Saulteau
 - Area of interest for paleontology
 - Tracks need protection due to erosion/vandalism.
 - Saulteau and Hudson's Hope have identified a shared interest to jointly protect these tracks.
 - Chief of SFN and Mayor of Hudson's Hope visited the site together.
 - A small area where protective measures can be implemented, accessed by road and Johnson Creek.
 - Saulteau sees benefits for the region.



Sundance

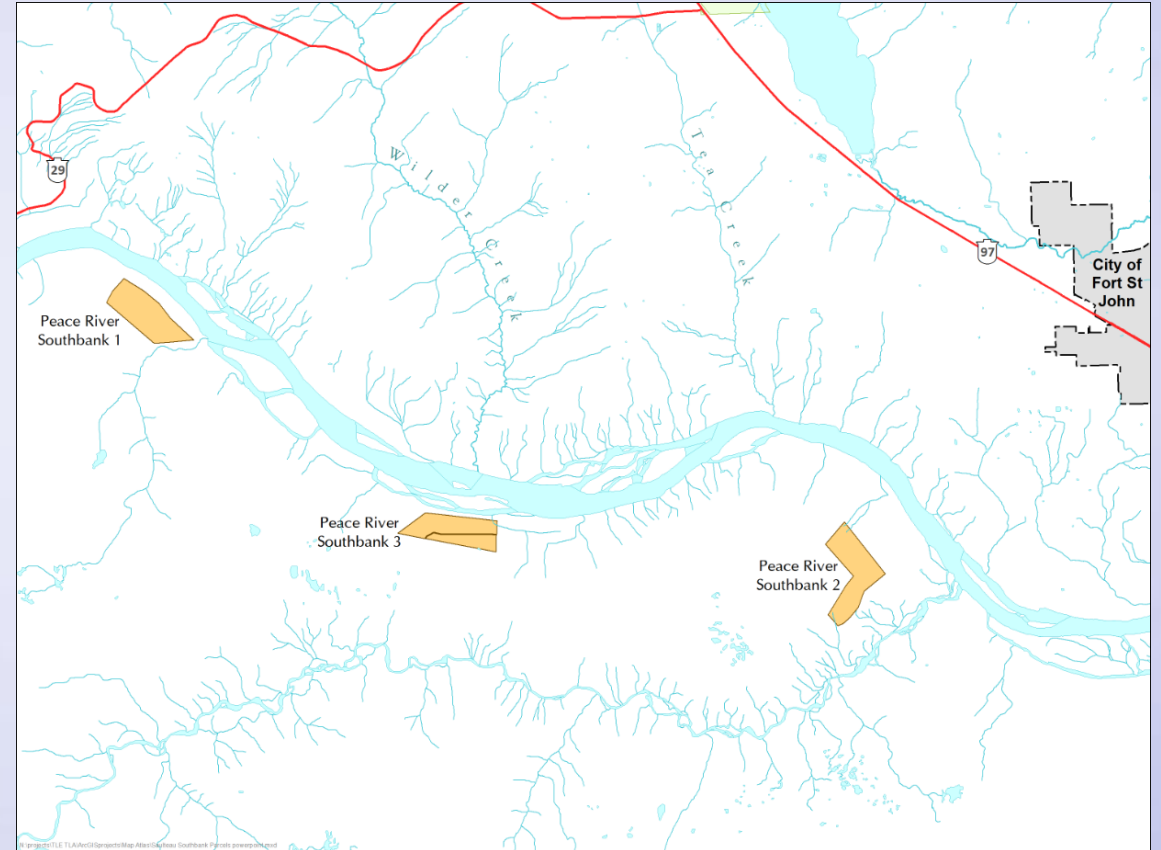
- **Where:** East of Chetwynd (next to highway 97)
- **Size:** 44.31 ha TLE
- **Reasons for Selecting:**
 - Area is of cultural and historical significance
 - Saulteau wishes to protect and maintain this area in its natural state.
 - Original site of a Sundance ceremony held by Saulteau elders. (Participants fast and pray for several days. Though outlawed by the *Indian Act* in the 1920s, it remains a most important indigenous religious ceremony.)
 - The boundaries were selected to include culturally significant areas, and to avoid overlaps with adjacent tenured areas



Southbank 1-3



- Where: Peace River south bank, west of FSJ
- Size: Southbank 1 – 101.98 ha (Site C)
Southbank 2 – 106.56 ha (Site C)
Southbank 3 – 90.98 ha (Site C)
- Reasons for Selecting:
 - Area of cultural significance to SFN and are within the Area of Critical Community Interest (ACCI).
 - Selected based on traditional use knowledge of high value use areas.
 - Boundaries set back from the Peace River to avoid overlaps with the flood impact zones.
 - Intent to protect and maintain these areas in their natural state for traditional activities, such as camping and exercise of Treaty rights.



Questions or Comments



- Questions or comments?
- Site specific comments on any land parcels?
- How do you suggest to avoid, mitigate or accommodate the impact you have identified?

How to provide feedback



- Written: comment forms | letters
- e-mail: MIRR.Northeast@gov.bc.ca
- govTogether website:
<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc/consultation/land-transfers-in-northeast-british-columbia/>
- MIRR contacts:
 - WMFN/HRFN/SFN (Dale Morgan or Renee Simard)
 - BRFN/DRFN (Kai Elmauer or Tara Forest)