



# Update: Northeast Land Transfer Process

Presentation to: Northeast Roundtable

By: Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

March 10, 2021

### **Outline:**

- Land transfer context
- Settlement Structure
- Land Transfer Process
  - Overview
  - Stage 2 steps
  - Stage 3 steps
- Current status

### **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 be 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 Legal Settlement Structure

### Settlement Agreement

Overarching terms of final TLE Settlement:

West Moberly & Halfway River,Blueberry River & Doig River

### Lands Agreement

Specific terms for land transfers per First Nation:

West Moberly,Halfway River,Blueberry River,Doig River

- Canada is a co-signatory along with historic First Nations
- Financial compensation
- General land transfer terms
- Releases and indemnities
- Ratification process/ requirements
- Land Quantum
- Land Categories
  - Shortfall
  - Additional Land: ATR and Fee Simple
- Land transfer process
  - Land selections at the time of initialing
  - Alternate or future lands process
  - Conditions Precedent, etc.
  - Valuation process

#### **TLE First Nations:**

- Halfway & West Moberly
- Doig & Blueberry
- Saulteau

### **Land Transfer Process**





### Stage 1

Identify Land Selections

(TLE selections have been identified)

(Site C selections in varying stages)



### Stage 2

Status and Research of Land Selections

(negotiations)

Includes stakeholder engagement

(underway)



### Stage 3

Agreement on Final Selection Lands/Approval to Transfer

(implementation)

Includes stakeholder engagement (pending)



### Stage 4

Survey



### Stage 5

Legal/ Administrative Interests Resolution



#### Stage 6

Transfer of Lands into:

Addition to Reserve

Or

Fee Simple (private)

### Stage 2: Status & Research

Finalize Provincial Lands Review Finalize Pre-Agreement Consultation & Stakeholder Engagement Review and Initial Settlement & Lands Agreements

First Nations
Ratification
Process

Sign Final Agreements

- Finalize provincial lands review
- Finalize draft
   Settlement & Lands
   Agreements
- Close parcel-wide First Nations consultation
- Close parcel-wide stakeholder engagement (all comments received - mitigation measures considered)
- Federal & provincial final reviews
- Initialing of agreements

 First Nations community voting process

### Stage 3: Implementation



### Address outstanding issues

Conditions Precedent to be addressed

Provincial decisions required (resolve permits, tenures, authorizations)

### **First Nations Consultation**

Consultation on overlapping territories

Required on provincial decisions

Implement Approaches to Resolve Overlaps & Approve Final Parcels

### Tenure holder engagement

To resolve overlaps with impacts (ranges from notification to in-depth engagements and negotiations)

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

Parcel-specific issues

(e.g. Halfway River Trail at Pink Mountain)

### **Land Transfer Process**





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First Nation	Agreement	<b>Process Stage</b>	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

### How to provide feedback

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



## Thoughts...