

Building Huu-ay-aht's Future

When citizens were asked to vote yes to Treaty and enroll as a Citizen, the Nation shared its vision of the benefits of Treaty through home visits, community engagements, and mailouts. Eight years later, where do we stand when it comes to Treaty implementation? Have the benefits materialized? We said....

Governance

Treaty will:

- Get Huu-ay-aht people out from under the Indian Act
- Make Huu-ay-aht government accountable to the People, not the Department of Indian Affairs
- Allow Huu-ay-aht to choose who is a Citizen of Huu-ay-aht
- Give Huu-ay-aht complete control of the Nation's budget
- Provide the tools and resources to pursue our strategic plans
- Give Huu-ay-aht First Nations law-making authority on Treaty Settlement Lands

Lands

Treaty will:

- Give Huu-ay-aht exclusive ownership and rights over Treaty Settlement Lands
- Give full management of the land and its resources to Huu-ay-aht
- Increase the land base of Huu-ay-aht
- Give more certainty to consultation required in Huu-ay-aht Traditional Territory
- Allow Huu-ay-aht to determine what resources can be extracted from Treaty Settlement Lands and who can extract them
- Constitutionally protect fish allocations

Wealth

Treaty will:

- Allow Huu-ay-aht to provide services to all citizens (not just those "on reserve")
- Will support all Huu-ay-aht Citizens, not just "status Indians"
- Generate wealth through land ownership, business partnerships, and taxes to provide additional programs and services

How has Huu-ay-aht Delivered on the Treaty?

Huu-ay-aht Mission – Pursuing self-reliance through economic opportunities, empowering and supporting citizens, stewardship of ḥahuuḷi, and revitalizing language and culture for all Huu-ay-aht

After Treaty

Governance

- The Huu-ay-aht government and administration have continued to work towards the Huu-ay-aht Mission and the Five Posts in the strategic plan for all citizens – infrastructure creation and renewal, conservation of natural resources in our ḥahuuḷi, revival of language and culture, citizen development through empowerment and support, and building a strong economy.
- The Huu-ay-aht Governance Act includes one elected Chief Councillor, five elected Councillors, and one appointed Ḥawiiḥ representative (as determined by the Ḥawiiḥ Council). Ḥawiiḥ Council are consulted often on information and decisions going to Executive Council.
- Huu-ay-aht First Nations is no longer governed by the Indian Act and has 17 laws and dozens of regulations and policies (available at www.huuayaht.org). Amendments and new laws need approval of the People's Assembly.
- Through the Citizenship and Treaty Enrollment Act, Huu-ay-aht determines who is enrolled in the community, such as those with Huu-ay-aht ancestry but for some reason did not qualify as "status."
- An annual budget is passed by the Huu-ay-aht Legislature every March.

Lands

- Huu-ay-aht Treaty Settlement Lands are made up of 1,077 of former reserves and 7,181 of Treaty Settlement Lands for a total of 10,536 hectares (with 2,278 pre-approved for addition, three parcels purchased since 2011) and are owned exclusively by Huu-ay-aht First Nations.
- The Lands Act and the Resource Harvesting Act and annual fisheries and harvest plans are managed through the Lands and Resources Department, with some activities managed collectively due to the nature of the Maa-nulth Harvesting Area and Maa-nulth Domestic Fishing Area (Maa-nulth Fisheries Committee and Maa-nulth Wildlife Council).
- Consultation on harvesting in traditional territory happens directly with each Nation, particularly with forestry companies, but also collectively through the Reasonable Opportunities Agreements and Monumental Cedar and Cypress Agreement
- Allocations for domestic fisheries are constitutionally protected and managed at the Nation level through the Lands and Natural Resources department, the Maa-nulth level through the Maa-nulth Fisheries Committee, and jointly with DFO (who still has a mandate to manage Canadian fisheries at the Joint Maa-nulth Fisheries Committee).

Wealth

- Huu-ay-aht law, government, and administration are able to provide services to all Huu-ay-aht Citizens no matter where they live. New programs for health, education, social services, family wellness, and cultural programs are available to all, as well as expanded programs for communications, lands and resources, capital and infrastructure, Finance, and Economic Development.
- Wealth is generated for the Nation through funding agreements, capital investments, land ownership, business ventures, business partnerships, and taxes which all becomes part of the Huu-ay-aht budget
- 2019 Tax agreement will be in place to direct portions of PST and GST charged on TSL to the Nation
- 2024 Tax agreement will be in place to direct portions of provincial and federal income tax of residents on TSL to the Nation (all residents)
- Annual reports from 2011/2012 to 2017/2018 are available on the Huu-ay-aht website and give a detailed report of the activities of the Nation.
- Materials provided to citizens pre-Treaty can be found at maanulth.ca under publications.
- Please see Programs and Services Guide for additional program details. A full list of Huu-ay-aht-owned businesses is available on the website.

Programs and Services

Before Treaty – Available to Huu-ay-at status Indians only	After Treaty – available to all enrolled Citizens
<p>Language and Culture</p> <p>Not funded (some funding accessed through joint initiatives and grants)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture nights in all major population centres • Community Camps • Men's Group and Women's Group • Cultural workshops (e.g. cedar stripping) • Cultural wellness staff and support
<p>Housing and Community Development</p> <p>Limited to “reserves” and conditions set by Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land and home ownership opportunities on TSL • Improved rental maintenance • Sub-division development in Anacla • Improved water and roads in Anacla • Emergency preparedness • Properties in Port Alberni • Expanded communications department • Capital and infrastructure investments
<p>Education and Employment</p> <p>Funding limited and conditional University degrees only, up to three students per year Services delivered by NTC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greatly expanded education funding and department • Funding available for upgrading, trades, certifications, and degrees - for example: 33 students funded for a variety of programs in 2018 • Employment and career support • Employment agreements with business partners • Youth education support • Support for entrepreneurs that are using NEDC • Education....
<p>Health and Wellness</p> <p>Funding limited and conditions set by INAC for medical services Home care only available on reserve Services delivered through Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greatly expanded Community Services Department • New Child and Family Wellness Department, including advocacy, protection and counselling • Expanded medical support and top-ups available to all citizens - for example: home care, medical supplies, expanded support in patient travel, dental, and eye care • Alternative therapies • Expanded food fish distribution system • Funeral assistance • Child care in Port Alberni • Crisis Grant • Youth and recreation programs • Social services are administered by Huu-ay-aht
<p>Elders</p> <p>Not funded</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly elders benefits • Na-naniiqsu group • Firewood delivery • Additional health benefits with elders in mind (see health and wellness)
<p>Businesses</p> <p>Forestry LP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses (business separate from government) • 10 operational businesses in Anacla and Bamfield • Three Natural Resource Operations • Kiixin Tours • Ability to enter in to major partnerships, such as Kwispaa LNG and Western Forest Products