



**T̂silhqot'in National
Government**

**T̂si Ts'edetalhdêz Gwá
Dechen Dé̂ẑiltan**

Mining Policy



Yunešit'in



Tsideldel



ʔEsdilagh



Tl'etingox



Xeni Gwet'in



Tl'esqox



Dedication




William Myers Xinli will be remembered and cherished by many. He was known to love his family, sharing his knowledge with respect to working with youth, trapping and T̓silhqot'in values, language and culture. William was an amazing help to the development of the Mining Policy; he connected with many of the fluent T̓silhqot'in speakers throughout the territory to ensure that this policy framed the T̓silhqot'in Vision and Values. The Mining Policy is therefore dedicated to William Myers Xinli's memory and is intended to promote understanding and respect for T̓silhqot'in nen (lands, habitat, environment, ecosystems) and specifically resources such as traditional medicine and food.



Chief Joe Alphonse, Tl'etinqox
Tribal Chair, T̓silhqot'in National Government

Chief Troy Baptiste,
ʔEsdilagh


Chief Francis Laceese,
Tl'esqox



Chief Otis Guichon, Tâideldel
Vice-Tribal Chair, Tâilhqot'in National Government

Chief Roger William,
Xeni Gwet'in

Chief Lennon Solomon,
Yunešit'in



We, the T̕ilhqot̕'in, or People of the River, are made of up six communities: ʔEsdilagh, Tl'esqox, Tl'etinqox-t'in, T̕ideldel, Xenigwet'in and Yune̕it'in. Our ancestral nen (land) includes the d̕elh (mountains) and the ʔElhdaqox (Fraser River).



As T̕ilhqot̕'in, we have occupied our ancestral *nen* since time immemorial. We have never ceded or surrendered our rights or our sacred responsibilities to our *nen*. Our future is as firmly tied to the *nen* as our past. We will continue to sustain our communities from our *nen* and resources, we will forge a strong future for our next generations and we will hold true to our identity as T̕ilhqot̕'in people.

**Tsilhqot'in nídlin qwéntéx ?élhch'ántád
?elhgha?eyowh dézilts'ish: ?Esdilagh,
Tl'ésqòx, Tl'etinqòx, Tâideldel, Xeni, Gex
Nats'enaghinlht'i. ?Undídánh yédanx
néxwenén dâelhch'ed gúdín ?Élhdaqòx
gwéts'én gágúlhchúgh hágúnt'íh.**

Tsilhqot'in nídlin, ?undídanh yédanx néxwedení nén jégughintén ?eyed shunk'ah gútén hagunt'íh. Lha ?eyun tl'agwéžit'ásh, lha jidežílghálh, hínk'an néxwenén yádí gúl?ín ?éyed chuh lha jidežílghálh. Nénján gú?en xúlh't'í jíd déni-nídlin nén ?eyed gwet'áyénentaghátan, ?undídánh néxwedení nén gwét'ájéyenaghintán gágúnt'íh jíd hátaghádínlh. Nexwenén hínk'an gán néndid béts'enz dížt'í xáxénish bet'ád gúzun jíd déni-taghádílhl. Nexwesqíqí jintsél hínk'an ?élhghe?én gubesqíqí shúnk'ah lhá



jegwesdláx ?eyen guzun jíd déni-julí gwéqa nentaghált'í. Tsilhqot'in nídlin gagulhnaž néndúwh nénk'egúh détaghálts'ilh hagúnt'íh.



Guiding Principle

The T̓silhqot̓in Nation will consider culturally and ecologically conscious development of mineral resources in the T̓silhqot̓in traditional territory, provided the ecological and cultural values of the T̓silhqot̓in are respected and there are significant long-term social and economic benefits for T̓silhqot̓in communities. Relationships between the T̓silhqot̓in and mining and exploration companies must be built on a foundation of respect for T̓silhqot̓in values, rights and governance, and real partnerships built on trust and recognition that the land comes before money. The T̓silhqot̓in Mining Policy is without prejudice to our Aboriginal rights and title.



Purpose

The T̓silhqot̓in Nation has created this law to:

1. Communicate T̓silhqot̓in values about our *nen*;
2. Provide greater certainty for mining and exploration companies; and
3. Ensure meaningful T̓silhqot̓in participation in mining and exploration.



Dechen Ts'edíhtán Néndíd Beghád Hágwétát'ílh

Tsìlhqot'in nídlín néndúwh jíd déchen nídénitan: Nexwenén tsi jedetalhdež ʔéyen nén gán néndíd xánélhyax sútsél ghajaghétátínlh hínk'an núlh gatš'i chuh sútsél ghajaghíztán séʔágwétát'ílh. Nexwedení ʔech'an gúts'ílhʔín séx ʔéjedetat'íes ʔegúh hínk'ed Tsìlhqot'in nídlín néxwets'én séʔágúnt'ih. Tsi jedetalhdež ʔéyen Tsìlhqot'in yádí jílhʔín ʔégú ts'ídaneš jíd ʔélhéhl ʔánájétat'ín. Tsìlhqot'in gubagughížʔán, guberíghs hágwélésnih, xúgúlht'í déchen jedílhán téʔagúnt'ih ʔéyed, tsi jedetalhdež ʔéyen yádí jegúlhʔín ʔégú ts'ídaneš jíd ʔélhéhl ʔánájétat'ín. Hínk'an Tsìlhqot'in nén ʔeyed séneya ch'á jégwedílhí jégwétálhtsax. Néndíd tsi ts'edelhdež gwá dechen ts'edílhán ʔalyágh ʔéyi Tsìlhqot'in nén jéguntén hínk'an xúgúlht'í gúbagughížʔán ʔeyed lha gwets'ah tásdláx hánt'ih (Lha bíd néxwerights ʔídetezaghádínsh).

Néndíd dest'és ʔeyed gwéqa hánt'ih

Tailhqút'in nídlín dest'és ch'ed gwéché'ih té/anáts'état'ín / alyágh /eyed néndúwh gágwétát'ílh gú'ít'in:

1. Nenduwgh gwédéžílti gádetaghádínlh;
2. Tsi ts'edetalhdež gwagwélʔiny jíd

jíʔáts'edút'anx gwetaghálsílh dest'és bíd déchen nídénitan bech'ih téʔanátaghant'ín hínk'ed; hínk'an

3. Tsìlhqot'in tsi ts'edetalhdež seʔágúnt'ih jedính hínk'ed gúyen tsi jedetalhdéž níjégwetaqáhl.



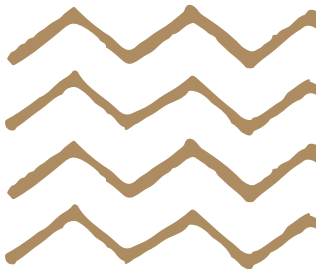
Objectives



- **MINIMIZE NEGATIVE IMPACTS** of mining and exploration to protect the environment and the continuity of the T̓silhqot̓in way of life.
- **MAXIMIZE BENEFITS TO T̓silhqot̓in COMMUNITIES** to the greatest extent possible.
- **BUILD RELATIONSHIPS** between the T̓silhqot̓in and mining and exploration companies.
- **CLARIFY DECISION-MAKING** responsibilities and processes of the T̓silhqot̓in.

Néndúwh Gágwetanih

- Ch'í?ín jíd nén ts'égwetalhtsanx ?egun dzánh ts'égwenilht'í hínk'an ?élhch'íz nenduw Tšilhqot'in xúgúlht'í jíd déni-jinlin ?egúh gágúwét'í qé?áts'etat'ínlh.
- Séneya tši ts'edelhdež bet'senz xánégush ts'edetatl'és hínk'an bet'ád se?áts'etat'ílh gú?én jíd lhan ?esgúl táh gwech'íxétaláx, bíd qúngh ?agwetaghál?ínsh, doctor náníl?ínsh hínk'an néxweghú nats'enil?ínsh gwech'íxétaláx, gágúnt'ih gán néndid gwéch'íxétaláx gúžít'in Tšilhqot'in nents'in jédíltš'ish ?égun néntugúsh qé?ats'etat'ínlh.
- Tsi jedelhdež béh Tšilhqot'in guzun jíd ?élhéhl ?ánájút'ín qájégugheta?á.



- Tšilhqot'in tši ts'edetalhdež sé?ágúnt'ih jedinh hínk'ed destl'és bíd déchen níjédénintan xúgúlht'í jíd sútsél níjégughétá?alh hínk'an xúgúlht'í jíd ?ánágwétat'ín níjégughétá?alh sútsél gájedetanílh.




Actions

1. Minimize Negative Impacts



We will:

- a. Protect our critical environmental, cultural and spiritual sites and areas of the T̓silhqot̓'in traditional territory to remain as they have always been.
 - b. Ensure mining and exploration projects are designed, managed and monitored to protect the environment, minimize disturbance and include T̓silhqot̓'in-led cumulative impact and cultural impact assessments.
 - c. Ensure that the *nen* is returned to a state acceptable to the T̓silhqot̓'in.
 - d. Protect our relationship with the *nen* and sustain our culture.
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Néndúwh Gátaghádínlh

1. Ch'í?ín jíd Nén Ts'égulhtsánx

Tsìlhqot'in nídín néndúwh gátaghádínlh:

a. Nents'in gwét'áyénítán yádí gúl?ín té?agúnt'ín ?égúh gwaxétághatan, nenk'eguh gágúghínt'í ?egúh gágwétát'ílh ?egun nentaghált'í. Nénch'éd nendidégát's'í, nén, tú, hínk'an núlh tah, xúgulht'í jíd nén jí?ánáts'ét'ín, deni gujelex tá?agúnt'íh, deni nats'edághélk'én tá?agúnt'íh hágwéhlídinh.

b. Gúyen tsi jedetalhdež ?éyen dest'l'és ch'ed gwech'éjédejis sútsél gubéhl gwéníl?ín ?egúh sé?ágwétat'ílh. Nénch'éd nendidégát's'í, nulh, lhuy, tu, xugúlht'í jíd nén bet'ád déni-tsilin tá?agúnt'íh ts'egulhtsánx gwech'á gubéhl tedetaghált's'ílh.



c. Nenduwih nén ts'égughinhtsén ?egúh Tsìlhqot'in gubíní ch'íh xúgulht'í jíd sé?ánáts'egwetaliilh ?egúh jíd sé?ánájegulax qá?agubetaghályílh.

d. Xúgulht'í jíd nén jí?ánáait'ín jideghúdínsh gwéch'á ?éhlch'íz nén xúghílt'ín ?egúh gátaghát'ínlh.



Actions

2. Maximize Benefits to T̂silhqot'in Communities

We will:

- a. Increase the capacity in training of T̂silhqot'in members to meaningfully participate in jobs, training, and contracts associated with mining and exploration.
- b. Consider partnership and ownership opportunities with mining and exploration companies.
- c. Ensure T̂silhqot'in priority with regards to securing meaningful jobs, training, procurement and contracts with mining and exploration companies.
- d. Promote awareness of T̂silhqot'in culture, social circumstances, and spiritual beliefs.
- e. Require exploration agreements (for mineral exploration companies) and impact benefit agreements (for mining companies) prior to approval of any exploration or mining project.
- f. Require resource revenue from mining projects.
- g. Promote diverse sustainable economies that do not rely on non-renewable resource extraction.



Néndúwh Gágwetanih

2. T̄silhqot'in séneya bíd séʔájétat'ílh gúʔén jíd
lhan gubets'en néntugúsh qéʔagwetaghályílh.

T̄silhqot'in nídlín néndúwh gátaghádínlh:

- a. Tsi ts'edetilhdež hínk'ed
T̄silhqot'in guqa gúʔén
jíd jélan ʔejedutl'és
qá gágúlhanwh jíd
ʔánájét'ín jiguts'edulhʔánx
qáʔagwetaghályílh.
- b. Tsi jedetalhdež ʔéyen
T̄silhqot'in bélh ʔéhlélh
nájéguwêlnhagh ʔegúh jíd
gúbets'enz jegwetalhtsilh.
- c. T̄silhqot'in ʔeyen
gágúlhanwh jíd ʔánájét'ín
jiguts'edaghinlhʔín ch'íz
ʔéjedetatl'és ʔech'an
gúts'ílhʔín gúts'etalhʔal
nígughétághat'alh.
- d. Tsi jedetalhdež ʔéyen
T̄silhqot'in nídlín xúgúlht'í
jíd déni-nídlín, xúgúlht'í
jíd gwétah gudídlán,
- xents'ágúlt'íh téʔagúnt'íh
ʔeyed jegwenuwêlhʔín
qáʔágubetaghádílílh.
- e. T̄silhqot'in nídlín tsi
jedetalhdež ʔéyen háʔen
gúlhidính ʔégúh hínk'an
jíʔágwedétátanx.
- f. Gademen ts'én
néntegwish gánt'i xún
nexwets'én néntegúsh
jíd déchen níjédúwétán
qáʔagubetaghályílh.
- g. ʔEts'edetl'és lha
gwechugh nen bets'enz
lhan gwats'aghetelhnish
gánt'i gúʔén jíd gúnít'in.




Actions

3. Building Relationships



We will:

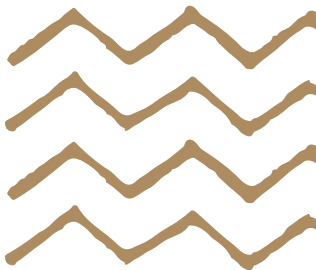
- a. Expect open and honest dialogue with all mining and exploration companies in the T̓silhqot̓in traditional territory.
 - b. Implement a clear, certain process whereby mining and exploration companies can meaningfully engage with the T̓silhqot̓in.
 - c. Educate mining and exploration companies about T̓silhqot̓in rights & way of life.
 - d. Contribute traditional and scientific knowledge to discussions regarding mining and exploration projects.
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Néndúwh Gágwetanih

3. Guzun Jíd ʔÉlhélh ʔÁnaghút'in Gúʔít'in

T̄silhqot'in nídlín néndúwh gátaghádínlh:

- T̄silhqot'in nídlín nexwenén tsí jedetalhdeʔ ʔéyen t̄s'idaneš jíd néxwélh yájelhtig ʔéguh gúʔít'in.
- Tsi jedelhdeʔ ʔéyen sútsél nexwélh gwánayajeltish gúʔít'in. Tsi jedetalhdeʔ destl'és bech'ih téʔanáts'ét'in beghád xúgúlht'í jíd néxwélh gwánayajeltish hínk'an xúgúlht'í gúbélh ʔánátághát'in gubaʔataghályílh.
- Tsi jedetalhdeʔ ʔéyen T̄silhqot'in nídlín xúgúlht'í jíd néxwaguhíʔʔán, xúgúlht'í jíd déni-nídlín ʔeyed jegwenuwélhʔin qáʔágubetaghádílihl.



- Tsi jedetalhdeʔ nexwélh nén gwanayajeltish hínk'ed deni nexwedení guzun jíd nén néndidégátš'i xúgúlht'í jíd bíd ʔanáts'ét'in téʔagúnt'ih tah, dádáben, níʔt'an teʔant'i, néndidégátš'i yádí ts'ílhʔin tah, ʔesqi helin danh jígháts'énelhten nízá, gágúlhánwh ʔégúyénižen ʔéyen gubélh yátalhtig.



Actions

4. Clarifying Decision Making



We will:

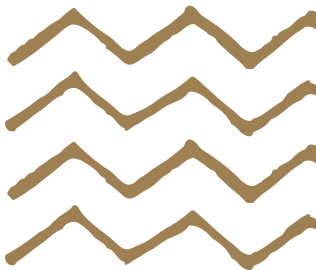
- a. Exercise and communicate Tsilhqot'in decision-making responsibility regarding mining, exploration and reclamation projects.
- b. Implement streamlined and stable engagement and decision-making processes regarding mining and exploration projects.
- c. Require exploration agreements (for mineral exploration companies) and impact benefit agreements (for mining companies) as the basis for granting the free, prior and informed consent of the Tsilhqot'in for projects.

Néndúwh Gágwetanih

4. Xúgwétáht'ílh ?egúh sútsél gádetaghádínlh

Tšilhqot'in nídlín néndúwh gátaghádínlh

- Tsi ts'edetalhdež Tšilhqot'in nídlín xún xúgwétáht'ílh gádetaghádínlh hínk'an gúyen tsi jedetalhdež xúgúhlt'í jíd nájégugheta?á gágulhétághadinlh.
- Sútsél xúgwétáht'ílh bech'íh té?anáts'ét'in beghád gúyen tsi jedetalhdež ?éyen ?inlhétah ?ajetanih hínk'ed nexwujedaghilhqed hínk'an gájetanih.
- Guyen tsi dižti qajenentatalh ?eyen gajut'in qa gubelh ?elhelh nigughetaghat'alh hínk'an guyen tsi



jedetalhdež newenen
jegulhta?anx gwegá
dechen nijedetatinlh jid
gubelh nigughetaghat'alh,
?eguh gubelh gajagh
hínk'an Tšilhqot'in nidlin
gubelh gužit'in didinh
ji?ajedetat'anx.



Implementation



The Mining Policy will be implemented through guidelines and template agreements that will direct engagement for industry proponents and for the negotiation of agreements.

The Mining Policy is a living document, will be periodically reviewed and may be revised by approval of the T̓silhqot'in Council of Chiefs.



To listen to this policy in
Tsilhqot'in scan here.





Tsilhqot'in
National Government
(2023)