

Introduction

The Klahoose First Nation recently held three engagement sessions to discuss the Incremental Treaty Agreement and gather feedback from Band Members on the criteria for making land purchases with funding from the Incremental Treaty Agreement. To reach as many Members as possible, we conducted one hybrid session that was held both online and in person at Squirrel Cove and three online sessions were scheduled in the month of May. One online session was canceled due to lack of community members registering for the meeting which resulted in there only being two online sessions.

This report summarizes the key points and concerns raised by the community during these sessions.

Structure of Community Engagement Sessions

During our Community Engagement Sessions, Chief Steven Brown and Kathy Francis, Chief Treaty Negotiator, provided a comprehensive breakdown of what an Incremental Treaty Agreement (ITA) entails. The 3y began by discussing the previous ITA that Klahoose signed, which secured the Community Forest Agreement (CFA) in the Toba Valley, a key economic driver for Klahoose.

The sessions then delved into the specifics of the current ITA offerings. Detailed information was provided about potential lands that could be purchased, with an emphasis on zoning types, preferred locations, and the pros and cons of various options. The goal was to outline the kind of possible opportunities.

Engagement was the core focus of these sessions. Participants were encouraged to contribute through open-ended and specific questions, fostering a dynamic, fireside chat atmosphere. This format allowed for a lot of back-and-forth conversation, where attendees could share, and bounce ideas off one another.

The consultation included one hybrid session held at the Klahoose Multipurpose Building and two additional online meetings over Zoom. These sessions aimed to develop community-driven criteria for selecting lands to purchase with ITA funds, ensuring that the decisions made reflect the collective vision and needs of the Klahoose Nation.

Notices to Membership



Member Engagement on Incremental Treaty Agreement

Engagement Dates

In these sessions, members will have the opportunity to:

- Receive an update on the ongoing Incremental Treaty Agreement.
- Give feedback and ask questions.

Tuesday, May 14th, 2024
5:00 PM Dinner, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm presentation/questions.
Combined in person and virtual session.

Thursday, May 16th, 2024.
5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Virtual only: see QR code or klahoose.org/members-portal

On-site: Mail Hall, Klahoose Multipurpose Building
Virtual: See QR code or klahoose.org/members-portal

You can register for these online sessions anytime!



For more information, please see our Klahoose Website Members Portal: klahoose.org/members-portal

ONLINE: klahoose.org/members-portal EMAIL: kathyfrancis@klahoose.org
PHONE: (250) 935-6536 ext 241 during business hours (Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 PM PST)



Event Reminder: ITA Engagement Session 1.

Tuesday May 14th, 2024, Dinner served at 5:00 PM, presentations & questions from 5:30 to 7:30 PM.

Klahoose First Nation has an opportunity to purchase lands through an Incremental Treaty Agreement and we want to hear from you!

Your input and participation is crucial as we navigate this important process together.

This session is in-person (toq) AND online.



 klahoose.org



Event Reminder: ITA Engagement Session 2.

Thursday May 16th, 2024, from 5:30 to 7:30 PM.

Klahoose First Nation has an opportunity to purchase lands through an Incremental Treaty Agreement (ITA) and we want to hear from you!

Your input and participation is crucial as we navigate this important process together.

This session is ONLY online.



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Event reminder: ITA Engagement Session 3

May 21st, 2024 - 5:30 to 7:30 PM

Klahoose First Nation has an opportunity to purchase lands through Incremental Treaty Agreement and we want to hear from you!

Your input and participation is crucial as we navigate this important process together.

This session is online.

Register through our Klahoose Website event calendar or QR Code.



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Event reminder: ITA Engagement Session 4
 May 25th, 2024 - 5:30 to 7:30 PM

Klahoose First Nation has an opportunity to purchase lands through Incremental Treaty Agreement and we want to hear from you!

Your input and participation is crucial as we navigate this important process together.

This session is online.

Register through our Klahoose Website event calendar or QR Code.




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EVENTS PAGE

Chief & Council

Klahoose Leadership Meetings VIA Zoom

- May 27th, 2024 - 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- June 10th, 2024 - 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- June 24th, 2024 - 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Coffee with Council Dates VIA Zoom (and times may vary)

- June 11th, 2024 - 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM

Want to register for these events or add them to your digital calendar?
 Go to klahoosa.org/eventcalendar or use this QR code!





Cockle digging at Savary Island
 Weekend of May 21th, 2024

Elders: Are you interested in sharing an upcoming cockle harvest from Savary Island this weekend?

Please contact Georgina Silby to inquire.
 P: (250) 935-6536 ext. 301
 E: events@klahoosa.org

CANCELLED - Member Engagement on Incremental Treaty Agreement. Session 4 - May 25th Online and @ Council Chambers, Multipurpose Building 5:30 PM - 7:00 Presentations and discussion.

Due to lack of registrants for this event, it is now canceled. There will be more information to come at a later date!

?emote (thanks) to all who attended the first 2 sessions, your input is greatly appreciated!

Cowichan Elders Luncheon
 Wednesday May 29th, 2024

Are you interested in attending the Cowichan Elders luncheon next week?

In addition to the luncheon, if there is interest, we may be able to arrange a visit with wool knowledge keepers before lunch for Klahoose Elders to discuss the traditional culture and history of rearing on the coast. Some expressed a wish to learn more about wool, the Salish dog, mountain goat hair, and traditional fibers and cultural practices.

Please let us know immediately (Monday, May 27th, 2024 3:30 PM) if you would like to make this trip so we can plan accordingly!



Overview of Incremental Treaty Agreement

The Klahoose First Nation actively engaged with Band Members to develop criteria for land selection under their Incremental Treaty Agreement (ITA). An Incremental Treaty Agreement is a preliminary agreement between the Province and a First Nation involved in Treaty negotiations, designed to provide early benefits such as land transfers or cash payments to the First Nation while negotiations continue. This mechanism addresses the long duration of Treaty negotiations, offering tangible benefits sooner.

Klahoose First Nation has signed two Incremental Treaty Agreement's. The first, signed in March 2009, involved a payment of \$2.25 million from the Province of British Columbia to Klahoose, which was used to purchase Tree Farm Licence 10 (TFL10) in the Toba Valley and fund a negotiation team, revitalizing Treaty negotiations. This acquisition proved to be very financially successful, making Klahoose the largest forestry tenure owner in their territory.

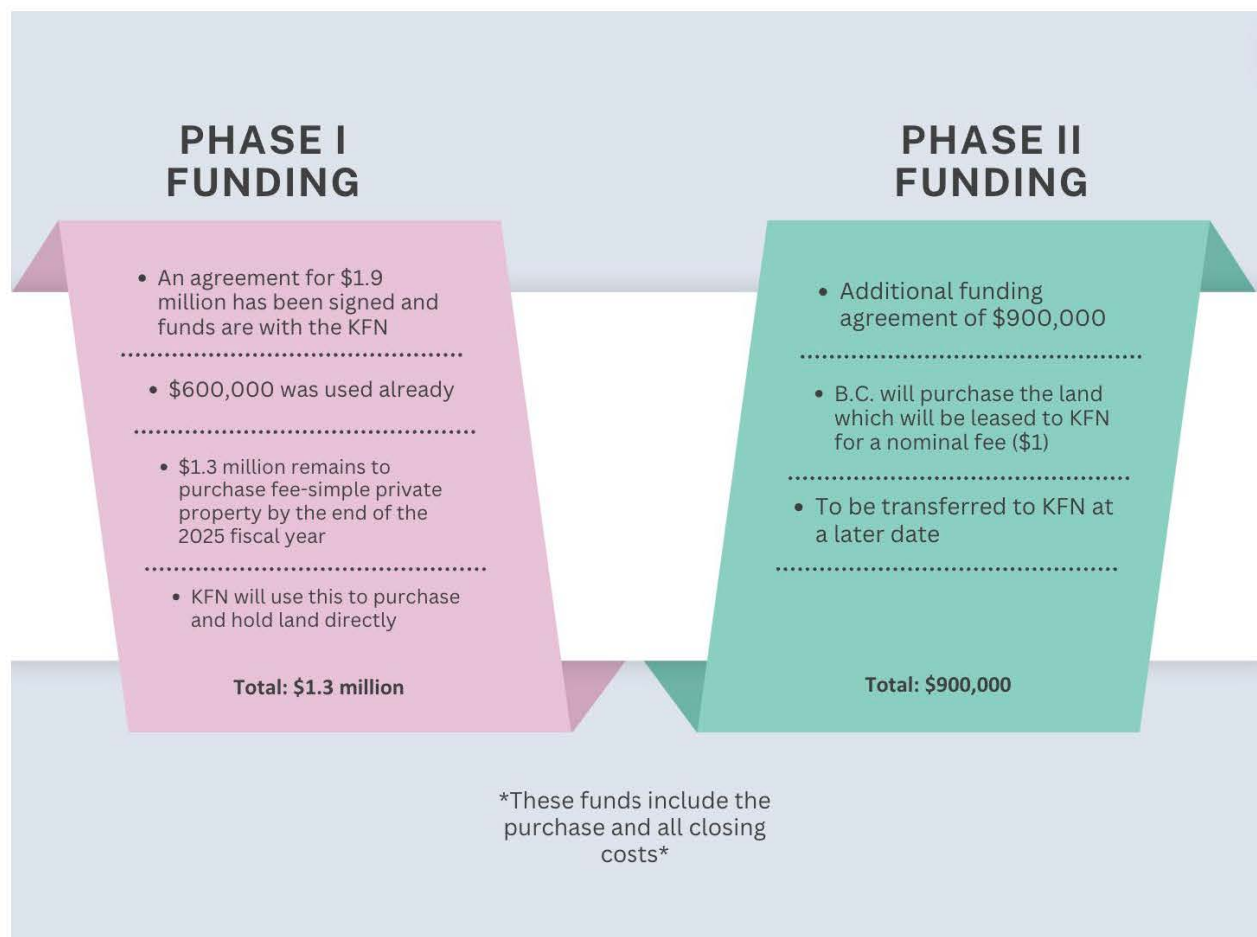
The second Incremental Treaty Agreement, signed in March 2023, provided \$1.9 million in funds for purchasing private lands within Klahoose territory. Part of this funding was used to acquire property at Manson's Landing, with an additional \$900,000 in funds committed by B.C. for future land purchases identified by Klahoose. These future acquisitions, managed under Phase II funding, will be bought and held by B.C. before transferring ownership to Klahoose. None of the Phase II funds have been utilized yet.

Lands bought through the 2023 Incremental Treaty Agreement can potentially be added to Klahoose Reserves. This requires an application to the Federal Government's Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) and cooperation with them to ensure the process is successful.

Klahoose Band Members do not lose any rights or tax exemption status through the Incremental Treaty Agreement. The Agreement does not affect Klahoose aboriginal title and rights or individual members' rights. The funds provided under the Incremental Treaty Agreement may be counted towards a final Treaty settlement, but if no Treaty is signed, Klahoose is not obligated to return acquired lands. This is a great benefit.

Membership involvement in land selection was extensive between 2017 and 2019, the Klahoose Treaty team and Council consulted with members through meetings in various locations and online. This engagement process was then renewed this spring to gather feedback and input on future land purchases under the Incremental Treaty Agreement.

On the Table for this Incremental Treaty Agreement



6. Creating Safe Spaces for Children
 - Ensuring the safety and well-being of children was a significant priority.
 - The community suggested using funding to create safe recreational and educational spaces for children.
7. Transforming Land Purchases through the Additions to Reserve (ATR) Process
 - The potential to transform land purchases through the ATR process resonated strongly with the community.
 - This would increase the Nation's reserve land base and provide greater control over land use and development.

Concerns Raised

1. Value of Available Lands
 - The community stressed the importance of evaluating the current and future value of available lands.
 - This includes considering both economic potential and cultural significance.

Conclusion

The feedback from these engagement sessions provides clear guidance on the community's priorities and concerns regarding land purchases with Incremental Treaty Agreement funding. The Klahoose First Nation aims to ensure that these investments support economic development, cultural preservation and the well-being of future generations while navigating the challenges of land availability and rising property prices. The Nation is committed to using the Incremental Treaty Agreement funding strategically to enhance its land base and secure a prosperous future for its members.