

Cooperative Engagement Process for Economic Activities Proposed in the Traditional Territory of the First Nation of Na Cho Nyak Dun



NA-CHO NYAK DUN FIRST NATION

The relationship between industry in the Traditional Territory of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun and the Chief and Council of the Na-Cho Nyak Dun is very important as we move forward together to capitalize on the economic opportunities as they are presented. The following protocol has been developed specifically to enhance the relationship between industry and the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun.

The ultimate goal of developing this initiative is the well being of our community. It is our belief that following this protocol will create an opportunity to establish a balance between community, environment and industry needs. We hope that all parties will benefit from equity in communication, decision-making and creation of new opportunities for our growth and human development.

STEP A Initial Contact

1. Request a meeting, in writing, with Chief and Council including a copy to the Lands and Resources Department. Included in the package there should be a briefing note with information about the company, the proposed project and the associated timelines.
2. Council will ask the Lands and Resources Department to review the information and make a recommendation to Council to either meet with the company or not to meet with the company.
3. Chief and Council will make a decision based on the Lands and Resources Department recommendation regarding a meeting with the company.
4. If the decision is made to meet with the company the Lands and Resources Department will be directed to develop questions for the meeting with the Company and to identify if any additional information is needed. They will also draft a letter of response for Chief and Council to send to the Company.
5. Chief and Council will send the letter to the Company with the associated request for information
6. Once all of the information has been received Chief and Council will identify a time and date for a meeting and the Company will liaise with the Executive Assistant to coordinate a meeting. Council will have a series of pre-selected dates in their schedule to meet on economic initiatives. Every effort will be made to schedule dates within this framework.

STEP B Initial Meeting

1. If a meeting is arranged the following order will be followed.
 - a. Company Presentation
 - b. Questions and Answers
 - c. Chief and Council explains the follow up process
 - i. Internal discussion (involving the Lands and Resources Department
 - ii. Chief and Council will decide formally on the proponent's project by way of a Council motion, and will send a letter to the proponent identifying the decision and next steps if required.

STEP C Formal Engagement

1. If the project is consistent with goals and interests of the First Nation then the Company will be asked to:

- a. Contact the negotiation team to start the negotiation process and work toward the development of a cooperative agreement for Chief and Council consideration.
 - b. Continue the flow of information and discussion with NND Lands and Resources Department regarding the formal assessment and permitting processes (YESAA, land use permitting etc.) and seek NND input prior to the submission of assessment and permitting applications
 - c. Work toward reconciling any differences prior to the submission of applications
2. Apply to YESAB for an environmental assessment
 - a. YESAB releases draft report and NND Land & Resources provides comments
 - b. YESAB releases final report and recommendations; NND Land & Resources reviews final report and prepares comments for Council to use during government to government consultation.
 3. Government to Government consultations occur to review the report and decide to accept, reject, or vary the recommendations.
 - Discussion about concerns and issues
 - Accommodation of NND interest
 - Establish regulator to regulator discussions
 4. Regulators consult First Nation Land & Resources on draft permit
 - Regulator issues the land use permit with terms and conditions
 - Project proceeds in accordance with permit
 5. Regulators monitor project for compliance and inspect as required
 - NND Lands & Resources participates in process

Contact Information:

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