



**HAISLA
NATION**

For Immediate Release

FROM: Haisla Nation Elected Chief and Council
DATE: April 17, 2026
SUBJECT: Update on Kitselas Treaty and Haisla Nation Response

Haisla Nation Council would like to provide an update to our membership regarding the proposed Kitselas Treaty, which has recently advanced to the legislative stage.

We recognize that this is an important and sensitive issue for our community. The lands and waters being discussed are not just areas on a map, they are part of our wa'wais, our history, and our responsibilities as Haisla people.

Over the past several years, and consistently over the last 14+ years, Haisla Nation has clearly communicated to the Crown that aspects of the proposed Kitselas Treaty directly impact our Aboriginal rights and title. This includes concerns related to the proposed transfer of lands and the recognition of harvesting rights within Haisla territory.

We also want to acknowledge the strong familial connections and shared history between Haisla and our Kitselas neighbours. These relationships are important to us, and we remain committed to protecting and maintaining them with respect and care. At the same time, these relationships do not change our responsibility to uphold and protect Haisla rights, title, and governance over our territory.

What We Want You to Know

- Haisla Nation **does not support the Kitselas Treaty in its current form**
- We have been **actively engaging with Canada and British Columbia** to address these concerns
- We have made it clear that the Crown must **avoid and properly address impacts to Haisla rights and title**
- We are **carefully reviewing all available options** to protect our lands, waters, and governance authority

Our Approach

Council and administration are working closely with legal counsel, knowledge holders, and leadership to ensure that:

- Our position is grounded in **Haisla law, history, and governance systems**
- Our **wa'wais and stewardship responsibilities are upheld**
- Our response reflects both **our rights and our responsibilities to future generations**

We are also considering all appropriate next steps, including legal, political, and Nation-to-Nation discussions.

Request for Community Knowledge

We recognize that knowledge of our lands, waters, and history is held within our community.

If you are a Haisla member and have knowledge, history, or information that you feel may be relevant to this matter, we encourage you to reach out to us. Your input may help inform and strengthen our work as we move forward.

Please contact the Haisla Nation Administration Office, 250-639-9361, to connect with the appropriate department.

Commitment to Our Members

We understand that matters like this raise questions and concerns. Please know:

- We are **actively engaged and taking this matter seriously**
- We are working to ensure that **Haisla interests are protected now and into the future**
- We will continue to **keep membership informed** as this situation evolves

At this time, we are being mindful about what information can be shared publicly while this work is ongoing.

Haisla Nation has always stood strong in protecting our territory, our rights, and our people. That continues today.