KITSELAS
TREATY INFORMATION SOURCE

Kitselas Constitution

WHAT IS A CONSTITUTION?

A constitution is a set of rules that people agree to follow in order to be governed fairly.

It explains the legal rights of the people and the roles and responsibilities of the elected and administrative government. It's like a rulebook that explains what leaders of the Kitselas Nation can and can't do, and what the people's rights are. It's similar to Canada's Constitution, but it only applies to the Kitselas Nation and .

WHY DO WE NEED A CONSTITUTION?

We need a constitution because it helps us take control of our future and create a government that meets our needs.

After Treaty, the *Indian Act* will no longer apply to the Kitselas People.
an essential part of concluding Treaty negotiations, because it shows that we have our own set of rules and can govern ourselves. Having a constitution is crucial for Kitselas to have control over our own future and build a government that works for us.

WHAT SHOULD A CONSTITUTION CONTAIN?

A constitution is a rulebook that tells people how their government should work. It explains the rights that everyone has, how the government works, and who has power.

The Kitselas Constitution is an example of this. It explains the rights and systems that the Kitselas People agree to follow, based on cultural, historic, and modern democratic principles. The Constitution is like a guidebook that explains how the Kitselas Government should work and make decisions in a fair and predictable way, while also making sure that everyone's rights are respected.

HOW DID THE KITSELAS PEOPLE DEVELOP OUR CONSTITUTION?

The Kitselas Constitution is our Constitution.

It has been developed over the past years with input from our community members and experts. The Treaty Team has hosted several workshops to gather feedback from the community, and the first full draft of the Constitution was shared with Kitselas Members in 2022. The draft you received includes feedback from the community workshops last year.

CONSTITUTION WORKSHOPS

Please read the draft Constitution that we sent you and ask us any questions you have.

Starting in April 2023, we will have four or five more workshops where you can learn more about the Constitution and give us your feedback. Our elected leaders will also be involved in the discussion.

LEARN ABOUT TREATY AND ASK QUESTIONS

You can learn more about the Treaty and ask questions at events that we will have until the ratification votes in 2024 to approve the Constitution and Treaty. We will even come to your door to talk about it! All community members are welcome to attend meetings and events.

It's up to you, the People, to decide if we should adopt the Kitselas Constitution and Treaty. We hope you will join us in this important journey to control our own future. The 'Countdown to Treaty' has begun!