

# **Treaty and Inherent Rights**

Based on International protocols when Treaty making

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The information working sessions will help to understand and use Treaty and Inherent Responsibilities and Rights while protecting them. Treaty 8 Beneficiary “vocations” and traditional family territories are protected for as long as the sun shines, grass grows and waters flow.

Participants will better understand how to exercise their many Birth, Inherent, Indigenous, Human and Treaty 8 Responsibilities and Rights in directing their futures without interference.

Learn why International Treaty 8 protects Indigenous sovereignty and can only be changed by the consensus of our village as descendants of those who took Treaty.

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## ***Inherent Sovereignty***

Existing Indigenous knowledge is the source of understanding for why our sovereignty exists and is held in large part by our Elders.

## ***Inherent Rights by Sector***

Existing Indigenous rights include all facets of life. From spiritual belief and practice to providing for every child born into a family, village and larger community in accordance with our traditions. From governance to economic autonomy generated from the sustainable use of the natural resources. From medicine, health care, to traditional technologies and ecological knowledge. From land management to traditional ceremony for birth, coming of age, marriage, elder and death. From teaching systems to adapting to modern use of technology in the learning process.

## ***Inherent Title to Lands, Resources, Water and Air***

### ***Granted to our Nations and Peoples by the Creator***

Existing Indigenous lands throughout the Americas, are held as given by the Creator. Using the Doctrine of Discovery and the Indian Act leaves most Indigenous groups with little or no way to benefit from traditional title to their lands. For example, the understanding that collective responsibilities and rights guided by honesty and transparency is all we need to be united. The present situation, existing because colonial authorities claim at least 2000 % jurisdiction over 100 % of Treaty 8 lands requires truth and reconciliation just to get started on the right foot.

## ***Inherent Title to Lands, Resources, Water and Air (cont)***

### ***National Powers of Treaty Making***

International Treaties exist between sovereign Indigenous Peoples and the British Crown so that bilateral arrangements and agreements honour numbered Treaties. These arrangements cannot be restricted by the Crown who continue to make rules, enforce decisions about resource use without the knowledge and consent from our Elders, Heads of families and descendants.

### ***Recognized, Confirmed and Guaranteed***

Existing Indigenous Responsibilities and Rights no longer require Indigenous People to prove it. We have the knowledge and tools, like UNDRIP and other agreements, to provide the framework for Indigenous People to engage in a reconciliation process based on truth.

### ***International Treaty 8***

An 1899 peace treaty was made to provide safe land access to the gold fields that we now know as the Klondike goldrush. Discovery Days, still celebrated annually in Dawson City commemorates the August 17, 1898 announcement that gold had been discovered.

### ***Identify the Implementation Plan***

Our responsibility is to take what we know and prepare our leaders and workers to use existing knowledge of Indigenous Elders. Using sample strategies to focus on how we start work where we are at and with the resources that are available. This step includes approval by all members.

### ***Inherent Rights, Treaty, and Treaty Rights***

These Rights all require our responsibility for knowing, exercising and protecting them because our ancestors made sure that they will exist for as long as the sun shines, the grass grows and water flows.

### ***Review the National Powers of Treaty Making***

Indigenous people have the power and responsibility to make Treaty. Those powers are not defined or to be denied by other People's laws. Those laws cannot remove People from their traditional land, change their membership or change their traditional way of decision making though Indigenous People in Canada have been subjected to enforced changes for over 500 years.

Our Elders hold the knowledge and experience which is key to rebuilding traditional decision making and then exercising all the responsibilities and rights the Indigenous People hold.