

TREATY NEGOTIATIONS



OFFICE

REVITALIZING TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

**Presentation to Open Cabinet
November 22, 2002**

Our land asset

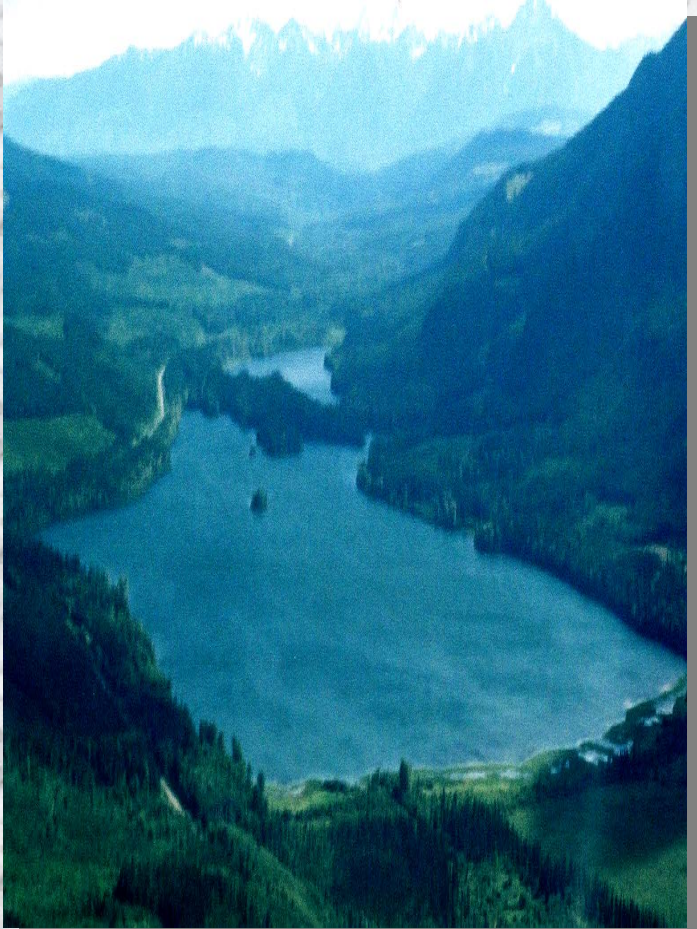
*The value of our lands
and resources
depreciates in the
absence of treaties*



New Direction

- Referendum on treaty principles
 - overwhelming support for treaty making
 - clear direction on approaches
- New mandates provided to negotiators
 - consistent with referendum
 - flexible and creative
 - designed to achieve success

Treaty objectives



***Treaties are about people,
land and relationships***

Certainty — the challenge

- Treaties must respond to multiple interests
- First Nations have constitutional rights
- Government needs to manage land assets
- Business needs clear rules to be successful
- First Nations seek economic opportunity

Certainty — a new approach

- New approach to achieving certainty:
 - rejects the use of extinguishment of rights
 - responds to unanticipated changes in rights
 - relies upon the entire treaty
- Allows for economic development

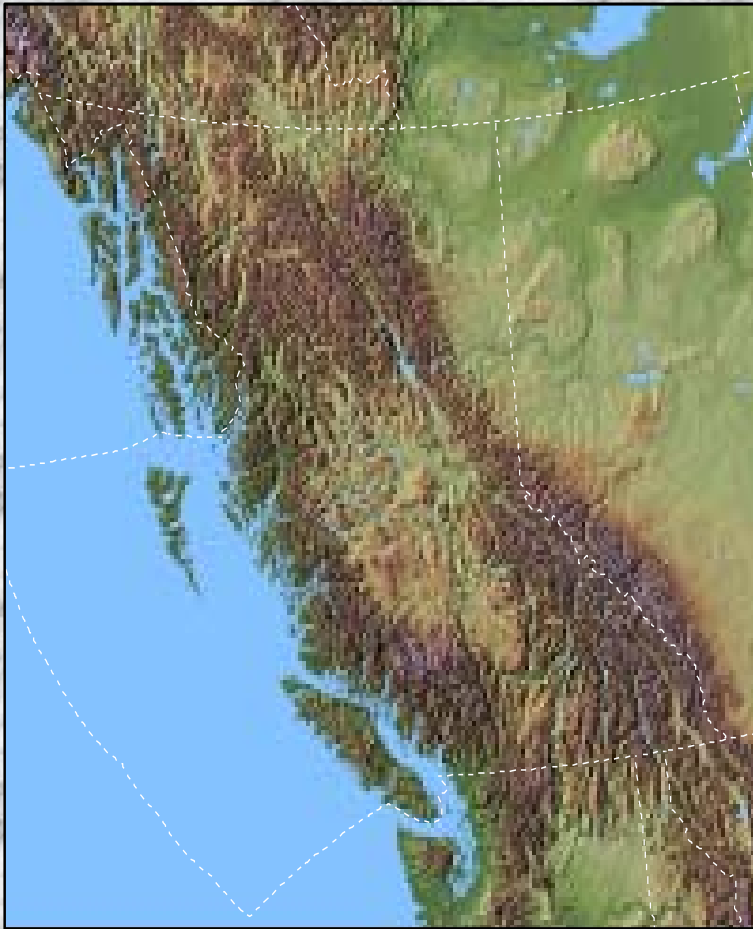
Self-Government — the challenge

- Aboriginal communities are unique
- Indian Act governance exists
- Arrangements that evolve over time
- Powers must match community needs
- Governance authorities work in harmony with neighbouring governments

Self-government — a new approach

- Right to negotiate an agreement
- Treaty authority to protect aboriginal identity and manage land assets
- Remaining authorities in delegated agreement
- Democratic, accountable and fiscally responsible arrangements

Expanding opportunities



Treaties establish recognition and reconciliation, new ways of working together and certainty on how we access and use lands and resources.