

## Tahltan Central Government – British Columbia Accord on Wildlife Management

Today, President Chad Norman Day of the Tahltan Central Government (TCG), Chief Carmen McPhee of the Tahltan Band, and Councillor John Nole of the Iskut Band Council are meeting with Ministers from the Province of British Columbia to firmly advance Tahltan efforts to establish world-class wildlife stewardship in Tahltan Territory - led by our Nation.

Tahltan Leadership are bringing to reality the long discussed Tahltan Central Government – British Columbia Accord on Wildlife Management. Joined by Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Murray Rankin, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, Bruce Ralston, Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, Josie Osborne, Minister of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship, and George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, Tahltan Leaders shared their concerns and visions for the future preservation and strengthening of our wildlife, culture and way of being.

The TCG has been working tirelessly over recent years to address the wildlife concerns of Tahltans, to protect our wildlife populations and strengthen our hunting rights. In collaboration with the Province, our work to date to protect Tahltan wildlife includes the Caribou Stewardship Project under the Tahltan Stewardship Initiative, and other joint programs such as Stone's Sheep monitoring, Klappan Moose Population Monitoring and Stewardship Planning, Community-based Moose Action Plans and wildlife health as part of the 3 Nations Collaborative Stewardship Framework. Our Wildlife Department, Directed by Lance Nagwan along with Interim Wildlife Director Westin Creyke, strive to protect wildlife in Tahltan Territory for Tahltan people focusing heavily on caribou restoration and predator management.

Since time immemorial, the Tahltan Nation's identity and the essence of who we are as a distinct society has been connected to our land. We are the land. We are our wildlife. Through this work, we are standing up for our rights as Tahltan people, demanding respect of our knowledge and values, and fighting for our future generations. Our vision and commitment to establish a world-class wildlife stewardship regime in Tahltan Territory builds on years of efforts to advance wildlife stewardship in Tahltan Territory.

We want to include all Tahltans in this important work. Later in September, our Wildlife Department and team led by Interim Director, Westin Creyke will be visiting Tahltans for dinner in Telegraph Creek, Dease Lake and Iskut to share what we have been up to and seek your guidance as we move forward and make change together. We will also be holding online engagement sessions. Stay tuned for details to be shared in the coming days about location, dates and times.

Learn more about our ongoing stewardship work at any time by exploring our Tahltan Stewardship Initiative website: <https://tsi.tahltan.org/>

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