



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

As Chief of Tsawwassen First Nation, I want to officially welcome you to our lands. Our people are deeply connected to the water and Mother Earth upon which you stand.

Tsawwassen means "Land facing the sea" in our language, hə́ŋqəmiḥə́m. We are also known as the Salmon People, as our traditions are deeply rooted to fishing and canoeing.

Today, we are a modern and progressive Treaty Nation. The Treaty we signed in 2009 with the federal and provincial governments has given us the powers, clarity and legal certainty to develop our ambitious plans for the future.

Those plans were envisioned not just for the prosperity of the Tsawwassen people, but for the benefit of all who come here. We invite you to read on in this brochure to learn more about what you can expect here on Tsawwassen Lands.

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Ken Baird, swənnəset

CONTACT US

General Inquiries

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Consultation Committee

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Property Taxes

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Lands Department

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TSAWWASSEN FIRST NATION

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WELCOME TO TSAWWASSEN FIRST NATION

Whether you're a visitor, a leaseholder, or a new resident, there are some things you may want to know about our lands, people and government.

WE ARE A TREATY FIRST NATION

You may hear Tsawwassen First Nation referred to as a "reserve" or an "Indian Band" but those terms are incorrect. Since 2009, TFN has been a self-governing First Nation with the powers, clarity, certainty and transparency of other governments. We can create laws, make decisions about our lands, and practice traditional and ceremonial rites.



GOVERNANCE

The governance structure at Tsawwassen First Nation is set out in the treaty and Tsawwassen Law. The Tsawwassen Legislature is the highest body of the Tsawwassen Government, comprising 13 Legislators and the Chief, all of whom are elected by Tsawwassen Members. The top four vote getting Members of the Legislature, plus the Chief, are appointed to Executive Council, which is responsible for regulations, many policies, and overall financial management.

INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

Beginning this year (2019), your property taxes and utilities have been set by the TFN government. Those property taxes fund local government expenditures.

Residents have direct input into property tax rates through representation on the Property Taxation Authority, a regulatory body created in conjunction with our Treaty. As well, TFN uses a Consultation Committee on issues that significantly and directly impact residents.

For more information on the Property Tax Authority, contact the Finance Department.

- Property taxes and utilities can be paid online with your financial institution by selecting TFN as a bill payee, either as “Tsawwassen First Nation – Property Tax” or “Tsawwassen First Nation – Utility”. Your account number is listed on your property taxation notice or utility bill.
- Residents can also deliver payment in person at the administration building located at 1926 Tsawwassen Drive, or by cheque or bank draft via Canada Post with the included tear away payment stub.

Boulevard Maintenance

Residents are responsible for maintaining their own lawns to the back of the curb and removing snow and ice from sidewalks bordering their property. Tsawwassen Government is responsible for maintaining bioswales, trees in the boulevards, and ornamental gardens, except in areas subject to a works-and-services agreement with a developer, where the developer maintains these responsibilities.

Compliance and Enforcement

Fire and police services on Tsawwassen Lands are provided by Delta Police and Delta Fire. In an emergency, call 911. If you have a concern that is non-urgent in nature, such as noise or property concerns, you can contact TFN Enforcement.

Permits and Licenses

All development and construction on TFN Lands must comply with TFN regulations and the BC Building Code to ensure structures are safe to use and protected from fire, water and sewer damage. Permits are available from the TFN Lands Office (2460 Falcon Way)

Development-related applications (building, plumbing, soil transport and tree removal permits)

TFN Animal Control Regulation requires dog owners obtain a license each year

Business Licenses are available in person, via email or regular mail to the Lands Office.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

On June 21 of each year, all Canadians come together to celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day, an event which honours the culture and contributions of Canada’s First Peoples.

All residents of TFN are welcome to attend festivities at our TFN Sports Field (2311 Tsawwassen Drive North) for numerous family and cultural activities, food, and games.

