



Reconciliation and Treaty Implementation of Tsawwassen Lands

Effective August 30, 2024, Tsawwassen Lands has been expanded to include 11 parcels in Brunswick Point.

BACKGROUND

Tsawwassen First Nation (TFN) is one of the first modern treaty nations under the BC Treaty Commission to expand its lands post-Treaty. This historic milestone in advancing reconciliation was achieved by successfully incorporating 11 parcels of land in Brunswick Point, traditionally known as Canoe Pass, into TFN jurisdiction. These lands, which were previously owned by TFN, are contiguous with Tsawwassen Lands and represent approximately one-third of the area known as “Specified Lands” under the Treaty. This incorporation covers approximately 173 acres or 70 hectares. The integration of these lands into Tsawwassen Lands marks a significant milestone in the implementation of the *Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement* (the “Treaty”).

COLLABORATION & PROCESS

This process, guided by the Treaty that TFN, the Government of Canada, and the Government of British Columbia signed, and became effective on April 3, 2009, is an example of reconciliation and collaboration. The Treaty is a landmark agreement that set out the framework for TFN to acquire and incorporate Specified Lands in Brunswick Point, which were historically governed by TFN prior to colonization. Throughout the incorporation process, TFN and its Treaty Partners worked collaboratively in a way that reflected government-to-government relationship, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous

Peoples and the spirit of reconciliation. This productive relationship supported the Treaty amendments to include the lands. TFN also worked collaboratively with regional stakeholders, such as the City of Delta and the Metro Vancouver Regional District, to ensure the seamless and beneficial incorporation of the lands for all residents. This included negotiating terms that respected the cultural and historical significance of the lands to the Tsawwassen People and ensuring that the integration process aligned with regional planning and development goals.

CULTURAL IMPORTANCE

This remarkable accomplishment reflects the vision of TFN ancestors, who governed this area before colonization and strengthens connections to their culture and heritage. Brunswick Point is deeply rooted in the history, culture, and heritage of the Tsawwassen People and continues to connect them to their ancestors, stories, lands, and waters, which sustain their community and way of life. Incorporating these lands helps preserve these connections, demonstrates reconciliation, and exercises and respects TFN’s Treaty rights.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Throughout the process of incorporating Brunswick Point Lands, TFN engaged with current lessees of the parcels. TFN aims to establish long-term relationships based on the shared values of food sovereignty and sustainability.

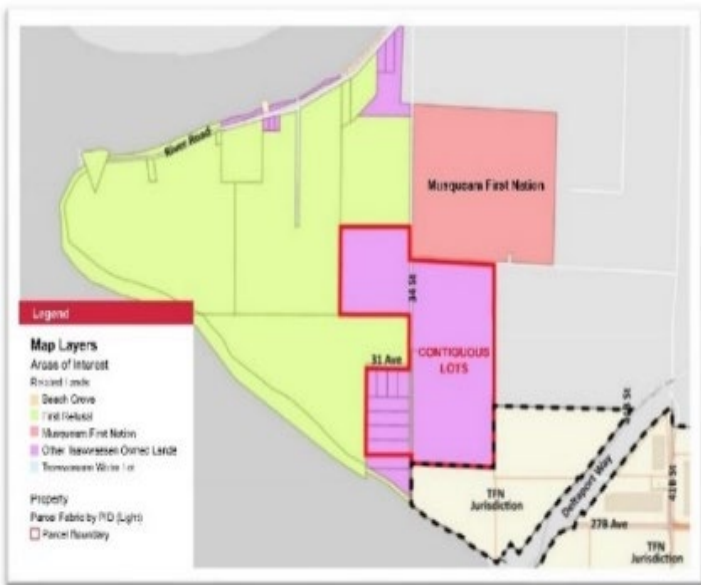
FUTURE PLANS

With the incorporation of Brunswick Point lands, TFN will assume full jurisdiction over these areas, including responsibilities related to property taxation, laws, and regulations. TFN is committed to promoting sustainable land use management to ensure the preservation and revitalization of the lands, waters and biodiversity of natural resources for the enjoyment of all Tsawwassen’s residents, and future generations.

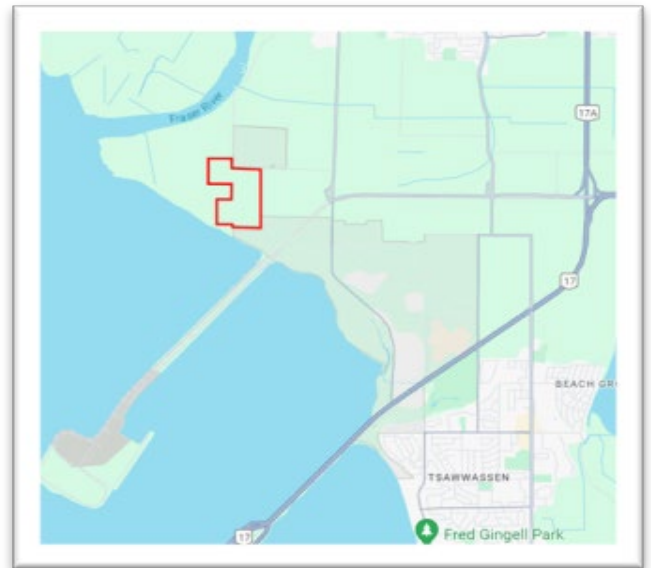
TFN’s long-term vision includes supporting its traditional link to the lands, including access to local healthy foods and traditional resource use.

By incorporating these lands, Tsawwassen members have a strengthened connection to the culture and ways of life, while supporting the TFN and the wider community to live healthy and thrive.

The successful incorporation of the lands aligns with TFN’s commitment to promoting local food production, food sovereignty, and land and soil sustainability. TFN aims to ensure that every member benefits equitably from the Nation’s resources while positioning Tsawwassen First Nation as a leader in economic growth and providing food security for the region.



Brunswick Point lands, outlined in red and coloured purple, that will be incorporated to Tsawwassen lands.



The Delta region. The red outline depicts the Brunswick Point lands to be incorporated into Tsawwassen lands.