



# IMPACT ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

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scəwáθən məsteyəx<sup>w</sup>

TSAWWASSEN FIRST NATION



## Context

Tsawwassen First Nation (“TFN”) is a modern treaty nation. Its Treaty rights, and the principles and the context of the Treaty more broadly, create unique opportunities for engagement and collaboration.

The Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement (“the Treaty”) encapsulates TFN aspirations for its lands and waters, in part by clarifying the relationship between TFN and the Crown. The Treaty is both a rights recognition agreement, and an intergovernmental agreement. By living the mutual rights and responsibilities set out in the Treaty, the Treaty has the potential to renew the relationship between TFN and the Crown to one of equal partnership.

Our vision for Treaty has always extended to our full territory and has included a major emphasis on restoration, preserving, and strengthening of our stewardship and our culture. The following were guiding principles in our Treaty negotiations:

- Access to lands throughout our territory for traditional and cultural use purposes;
- Recognition and respect of our Aboriginal Title and Rights in and to our Traditional Territory;
- Ideals of land use and environmental stewardship which reflect our unique responsibility and connection to the land as Tsawwassen people;
- Recognition and acceptance that the connection of the Tsawwassen people to the land and waters within Tsawwassen Territory must be restored, maintained and strengthened;
- Restoration and enhancement of the fisheries and other aquatic and terrestrial resources in our Territory to historic levels of abundance, access, and quality.

The Treaty is rooted in the obligations that Tsawwassen people carry to:

- maintain the relationships Tsawwassen people have with the lands and waters in their territory;
- take care of the lands and waters in Tsawwassen territory.

These obligations are central to achieving a core aspiration of the Treaty, which is to protect what matters for the culture, heritage, harvesting and well-being of Tsawwassen people in the broadest sense. The Treaty is about the present and future identity of TFN, which is maintained through sustaining the reciprocal relationships with land and water.

# Impact Assessment

The TFN Impact Assessment Framework (“TFN IA”) outlines the process for evaluating potential development projects that impact TFN rights and interests. It is an important part of the material for Executive Council in determining if TFN will consent to a project. This TFN IA process will be used by the Nation for projects impacting TFN Lands and traditional territory. TFN’s Impact Assessment Framework has been made publicly available in order to proactively communicate TFN’s expectations for project assessments to proponents and the Crown.

This document is organized in three parts:

- Part 1: Treaty Objectives
- Part 2: The Stages of TFN IA
- Part 3: Participants and Roles in TFN IA



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## General Comments About the IA Process

1. TFN IA is adapted and customized according to the project. The following sections provide high-level steps for TFN IA. The precise assessment process and implementation of each step will depend on several factors including the nature and extent of the project, and TFN's interest and concern about the project.
2. Where the **Crown (British Columbia and/or Canada)** is also conducting an IA, TFN's process may be customized to support coordination and collaboration, pursuant to a **Naut'sa Mawt (working together as one, with a shared purpose and united voices) Agreement (Appendix 1)**. Potential for coordination and collaboration will be evaluated on a project-by-project basis.
3. TFN IA seeks to parallel, to the extent possible, Crown IA steps and timelines to enhance intergovernmental collaboration and provide some certainty for proponents.
4. TFN may use the IA Framework including the Treaty Objectives and assessment approach in non-regulatory IA settings (e.g. permitting or other consultation processes).
5. TFN expects proponents to begin establishing a relationship with the Nation at the earliest opportunity, before designing their project.
6. The proponent is expected to provide information to TFN as requested to inform assessment and decision-making, even if the information is not required under the Crown IA process.
7. TFN requires capacity funding to conduct assessments. TFN generally expects the proponent and Crown to provide this funding. Depending on the complexity of the project, funding may be required in order to do an initial review, determine whether the proposed project needs to undergo an IA, and negotiate process agreements with the Crown and/or project proponents.
8. The acceptance of capacity funds to complete TFN IA, and engagement or collaboration with the Crown or proponents never constitutes TFN support or consent for a project. Rather, funding and engagement supports TFN to make decisions about whether to consent to a project and the specific terms and conditions under which consent may be provided.
9. Respect, communication, and transparency is expected throughout TFN IA. TFN reserves the right to stop or to limit engagement with a proponent if they are disrespectful of TFN culture or protocols or show a lack of transparency or good faith.
10. TFN maintains ownership over knowledge shared during IA, decides what information to share, and may limit, or require additional agreements for sharing information during IA.

## Part 1:

# Treaty Objectives

A TFN IA is centered on the extent to which a project supports or impacts TFN's Treaty Objectives. The Treaty Objectives are TFN's decision-making criteria for projects:

### 1. **kwámkwám šxʷtákwákwš - kwámkwám stáʔləw (Healthy Rights – Healthy River)**

- Positive outcomes for the exercise of Tsawwassen's Indigenous rights, such as inherent, Treaty, and Aboriginal rights, including the physical environment in and around the Project area that supports the exercise of those rights.
- Positive outcomes for the right to harvest including the right to harvest fish, aquatic plants, wildlife, birds, terrestrial plants, bivalves, and crustaceans.
- This includes the experience of accessing land and harvesting practices, and the safety of harvesting foods and medicine, and food sovereignty.

### 2. **Healthy Culture – Strong šxʷkʷecxənəm (Stewardship):**

- Furtherance of Tsawwassen's vision for šxʷkʷecxənəm under the Treaty in and around the proposed Project area, and ensuring continuity and revitalization of culture for future generations.
- The həŋqəmiŋəŋ word šxʷkʷecxənəm means to be stewards of the land. The “šxʷ” in the word changes a word to a noun, while “kʷec” means to look or watch, “xən” is to do with a foot, and “əm” means the person that is doing the action. Thus, a rough translation of šxʷkʷecxənəm to English would be a person that is looking or watching on foot — or “acting as a lookout.”
- The term šxʷkʷecxənəm encompasses three distinct elements that are not fully captured in the English translation:
  - First, šxʷkʷecxənəm encompasses a number of practices close to the land and water.
  - Second, the “šxʷ” in the word changing a word to a noun highlights that stewardship is also a matter of TFN identity. This is a state of being that is integral to who we are as Tsawwassen people because it reflects our holistic world view that everything is interconnected, both in physical and spiritual realities.

- Third, šxʷkʷecxənəm is a relationship and it goes beyond a simple desire to ensure resource abundance. TFN stewardship is a relationship built on respect and gratitude for having healthy waters, lands, and species in the territory that exist in equilibrium with the social, cultural, and economic lives and activities of Tsawwassen members. šxʷkʷecxənəm requires a fully realized, reciprocal relationship between TFN members, the land and sea, and the human and non-human inhabitants.
- šxʷkʷecxənəm is a core part of TFN vision for the future. A good Project outcome is one where šxʷkʷecxənəm is advanced.

### 3. Healthy Relationships

- Creation of the foundation for a positive relationship between the proponent and Tsawwassen that is based on mutual respect and recognition of Tsawwassen as a Treaty Nation.
- TFN IA requires that proponents develop and maintain a respectful relationship with TFN throughout the entirety of IA and the project life.
- Proponents must educate themselves on TFN policies, laws, and the legal landscape of TFN territory and Lands.
- TFN also expects the advancement of the government-to-government relationship established in the Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement.

### 4. Healthy Future for Future Generations

- Meaningful progress towards a future state of TFN territory in the vicinity of the proposed Project site that supports the Treaty rights, healthy and balanced economic growth, and interests of Tsawwassen’s future generations.
- Consideration must be given to Tsawwassen’s urban setting and the extent of dispossession and exclusion that has occurred and continues to occur in Tsawwassen Territory. Tsawwassen people are actively regathering stories and relearning connections.
- Current conditions in TFN territory reflect a highly impacted environment.

- Sustainability cannot be achieved without the proper acknowledgment and management of cumulative effects. This requires a clear understanding of how new projects may interact with existing impacts to further degrade the natural environment and impact Tsawwassen’s rights, culture, and interests. The TFN IA will evaluate projects according to whether they can support TFN’s aspired conditions for meaningful and full expression of rights.

### TFN IA and UNDRIP

The TFN Impact Assessment Framework is grounded in the rights affirmed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples including the right to Free, Prior, and Informed Consent. This recognizes that decision-making is inseparable from the exercise of Indigenous self-determination and the protection of lands, waters, and resources.



## Part 2: IA Process

TFN IA is focused on securing the information required to evaluate the project in the context of the above Treaty Objectives. TFN IA has six stages shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1

### 1. Relationship Building – Crown and Proponents

This is the only part of TFN IA that does not correspond to a Crown IA stage. This is because it is expected that proponents begin establishing a relationship with TFN before they initiate a Crown IA application process. It is also expected that relationship building continues throughout the entire IA process and post decision. For the Crown, the Treaty relationship with Tsawwassen is continuously evolving. It is expected that the Crown and proponent come to any IA process with an understanding of the Treaty context.

Relationship building begins with understanding the Tsawwassen Treaty. The following are pillars of our understanding of Treaty:

- **Treaty is intended to support nation-building:** The Treaty is intended to support Tsawwassen and Canadian nation-building and promote Tsawwassen self-determination and reconciliation.
- **Treaty creates new relationships:** Treaty established a new government-to-government relationship between Tsawwassen First Nation and the Governments of Canada and British Columbia. The Treaty reflects a major shift in the relationship between Tsawwassen, Canada and British Columbia.
- **Treaty supports reconnection to our Territory:** Treaty is intended to clarify and support our ability to engage in the practice of rights across our territory.
- **Treaty is a pathway to restoration of Territory and culture:** The Treaty establishes Tsawwassen's harvesting rights, and recognizes its aspiration to preserve and promote its culture, language and heritage.

Proponents should begin developing a respectful relationship with TFN at the earliest opportunity, in the ideation phase, and before designing their project. They will need to:

- learn about TFN through information available on TFN's website, and educate themselves on TFN policies, laws, and the legal landscape of TFN Lands and territory including the Treaty and all available guidance documents;
- reach out to TFN leadership and staff representatives and offer to meet with them in person;
- share information about their proposed project and answer questions in a timely and transparent way, using plain language;
- provide TFN with the opportunity to share knowledge, have input on project design and site selection, and to co-develop baseline information in support of any upcoming project application;
- become aware of Tsawwassen's Treaty Objectives for the project area. TFN will expect assessment of impacts of projects to their Treaty Objectives. The Valued Components that should be used when conducting that assessment are Stewardship and Governance, Harvesting, and Cultural Continuity, as set out below.
- become informed about the Tsawwassen-led assessment process, so that they may collaborate on implications of the Tsawwassen-led assessment, and collaborate on incorporating Tsawwassen Indigenous Knowledge and perspectives into the project application.

The best proponents will take the information gathered during the relationship-building phase and design the project in such a manner that Tsawwassen's Treaty Objectives can be realized.

TFN has established engagement and reconciliation principles for IA (Table 1 & Table 2). TFN will continually evaluate the extent to which these principles are being upheld during the IA process.

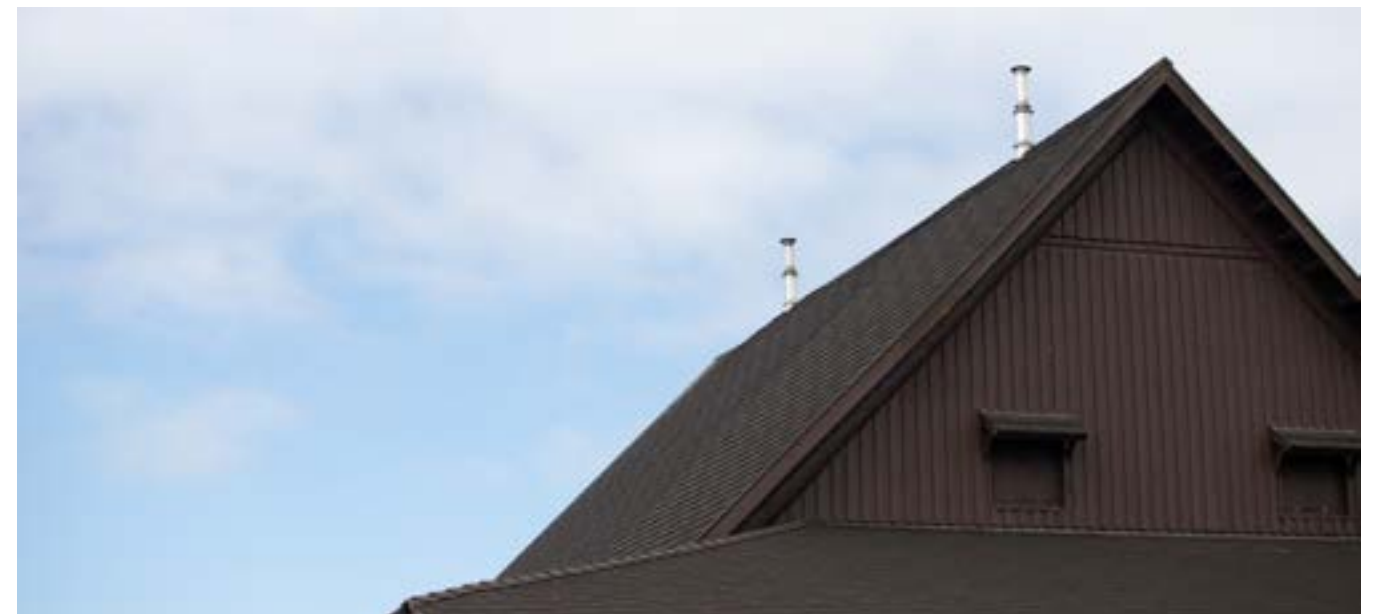


**Treaty-specific IA Engagement Principles:**  
**All parties will:**

1. Recognize the significance of the Tsawwassen Treaty and work together to identify opportunities to advance Tsawwassen’s Treaty aspirations (as described in the preamble to the Treaty and Tsawwassen’s declaration of nationhood and strategic plan) throughout the IA process and life of the proposed Project.
2. Participate in discussions with a view to reconciliation and strengthening relationships, recognizing Tsawwassen’s role and responsibility to the Tsawwassen Territory. The Parties will engage in the IA Process in a manner that respects Tsawwassen Territory.
3. Honour and respect Tsawwassen’s aspirations (including ʂxʷkʷecxənəm, Tsawwassen’s approach to stewardship) through the Treaty; consider the potential impacts of the project through that lens, and collaboratively work together to implement a path forward. This means that the Parties will work to advance ʂxʷkʷecxənəm within the context of the project to serve the goal that a good project outcome is one where ʂxʷkʷecxənəm is advanced.
4. Engage in dialogue through clear and open communication on an ongoing and timely basis for their mutual interest and benefit; the Parties value processes that are clear, efficient, and where information is shared readily.
5. Recognize the significance of the Project area to Tsawwassen identity and culture and understand that this context is crucial for discussions and considerations. Parties will engage in the IA process in a manner that seeks to sustain Tsawwassen identity so that it may continue for future generations.
6. Recognize the importance of developing ways to implement free, informed, and prior consent (FPIC) and work to achieve consent on mitigation strategies to address cumulative effects. The parties will work together to identify mitigations, conditions, and accommodation measures. This means that collaboration is needed to address cumulative effects, looking beyond positions of “agreeing to disagree”

**Treaty-specific IA Engagement Principles:**  
**All parties will:**

7. Commit to working together in a respectful manner, with the objective of agreeing on how to move forward where disagreements arise. This includes communicating and working collectively and creatively on a solution to proceed, while also respecting and acknowledging each other’s accountabilities and perspectives.
8. Commit to transparency and open communication. TFN decision-makers use an evidence-based approach and must be presented with all necessary information to enable informed decision-making.
9. Understand the need for creative solutions. Come to issues, discussions, and meetings with an open mind, open ears, respect, and a collaborative spirit to better understand each other’s interests, build trust and find workable solutions. The parties will approach their work in a solutions-oriented manner and in a manner that supports course correction where necessary.
10. Seek to reach agreement on resourcing the capacity Tsawwassen needs to carry out its work and recognize that the IA process places a burden on TFN. In this regard, the efficiency of the process is paramount, whereby amendments to certificates, permits, and authorizations are minimized.



**IA Reconciliation Principles:  
The Crown will:**

1. Honour and respect the commitments enshrined within the Tsawwassen Treaty. The Crown will embody the foundational principle of: One Treaty; One Voice. This means the Crown will seek an outcome where the voices of the Treaty partners are unified with respect to the Project, rather than presenting competing narratives. The Crown will work to ensure all Parties understand the significance of the Treaty.
2. Recognize that reconciliation through the Treaty relationship requires government-to-government partnership throughout the IA of the Project. The Crown will work to embody the foundational principle of: “Nothing about us without us.”
3. Seek to advance reconciliation through regulatory coordination, efficiency, and cooperation. The Crown will make decisions that honour the responsibilities of each government, while seeking to strengthen the government-to-government relationship through coordinated efforts and working as Treaty partners. The Crown will strive and make all best efforts to ensure that all Parties honour timelines that allow Tsawwassen to carry out its responsibilities as a government.
4. Recognize that the implementation of Tsawwassen’s self-government strategic vision – as expressed through the governing Strategic Plan and operationalized according to the priorities of elected leadership – is part of supporting the exercise of Tsawwassen’s right to self-determination. This means that the Parties will assess how Project impacts may be detrimental to Tsawwassen’s vision and will strive and make all best efforts to develop TFN appropriate accommodations for any impacts that cannot be mitigated.
5. Recognize that UNDRIP provides a foundation to advance Tsawwassen self-determination, nationhood, and the government-to-government relationship.
6. Respect TFN’s IA process, decision-making criteria, and right to governance and decision-making authority over TFN lands and projects that impact TFN rights and wellbeing.
7. Materials pertaining to TFN are prepared for a TFN audience, and specific to the requirements outlined in TFN IA. This includes a commitment to open communication, clarity (i.e. plain language and lack of ambiguity), and transparency.

**2. Planning**

**Project Description and Review**

In situations where the proponent is also completing a Crown IA, TFN may coordinate the project description with those required by Crown authorities, however TFN requires specific information including:

- a preliminary analysis of the potential impacts of the project informed by **TFN Treaty Objectives**
- a preliminary analysis of extent to which the project can support “aspired use” for VCs identified under **TFN Treaty Objectives**
- the rationale for the project, and how the proponent arrived at the project idea and plan. This would include a description of the project site, timing of project activities, and design decision options including alternative means for carrying out the project and alternatives to the project. This document should be no longer than ten pages, and drafted in plain language.
- an expectation that, in the Relationship Building phase, proponents have included TFN input into project design and are therefore able to communicate how TFN feedback has shaped the project.
- an answer to any formal questions or information requests made by TFN

TFN will review the project description and make a decision about whether the project will undergo TFN IA. There are three possible outcomes at this stage, illustrated in Figure 2.

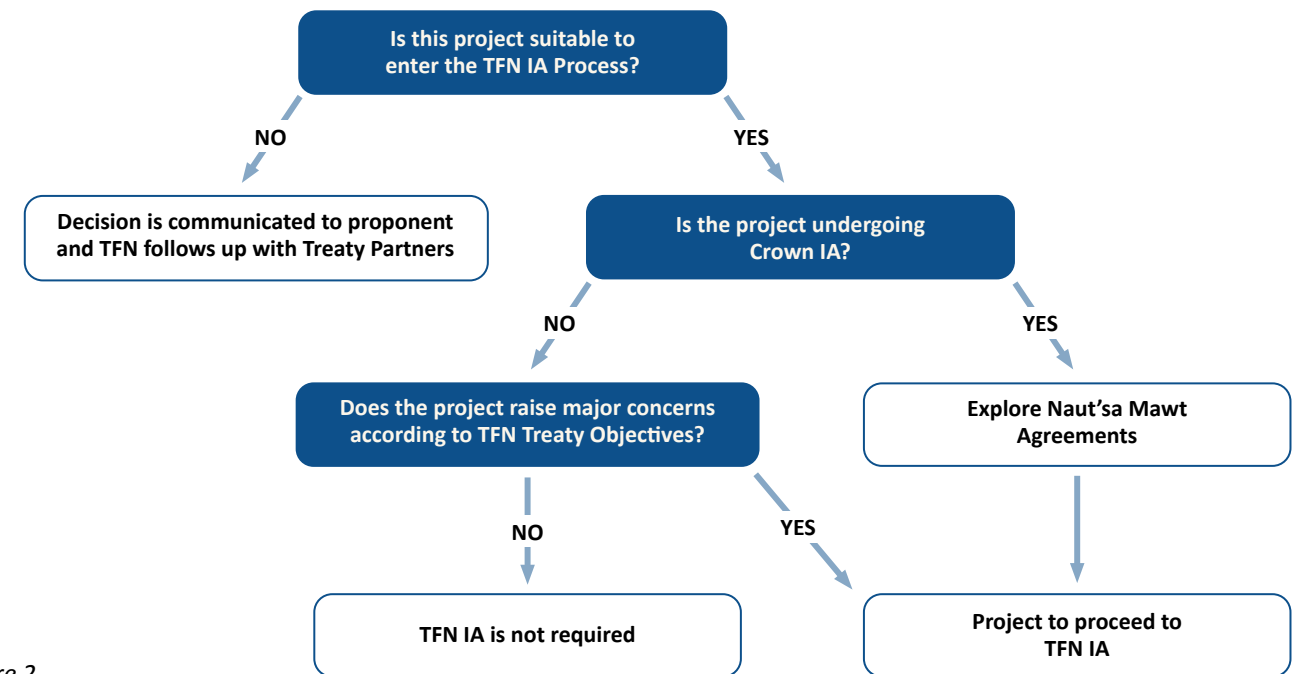


Figure 2

### Possible Planning Decision Outcomes:

- Project is not suitable to enter the TFN IA process
  - If it is determined that the project is not suitable to enter the TFN IA process, this likely means that the proponent has not met TFN’s Engagement principles, has not built a respectful and healthy relationship with TFN, and/or has not provided the information required as part of the TFN IA Planning phase.
- Project to proceed to TFN IA
  - In the event that the Crown is also completing an IA, TFN will explore entering into a Naut’sa Mawt (“Working as One”) Agreement in order to coordinate the TFN and Crown IA processes, and provide efficiency and clarity for all parties.
  - These agreements will be negotiated on a project-by-project basis. Some general expectations for Naut’sa Mawt Agreements are provided in Appendix 1.
  - In the event that TFN IA applies to a project that is exempt from or not undergoing Crown IA, TFN will outline process expectations with the project proponent.
  - A Naut’sa Mawt Agreement will be based on the principle of “One Treaty One Voice”, whereby TFN and the relevant governments (BC and/or Canada) attempt to reach consensus on project effects/impacts on the exercise of Treaty rights (i.e. avoid competing explanations of project effects/impacts).
- TFN IA is not required
  - If a project does not raise major concerns in relation to TFN’s Treaty Objectives, and a Crown IA is not being completed, the project may not require a TFN IA.
  - In this case, the project will remain subject to other consultation and engagement requirements as applicable.

The planning decision and reasons for the decision will be communicated to the proponent and the Crown.

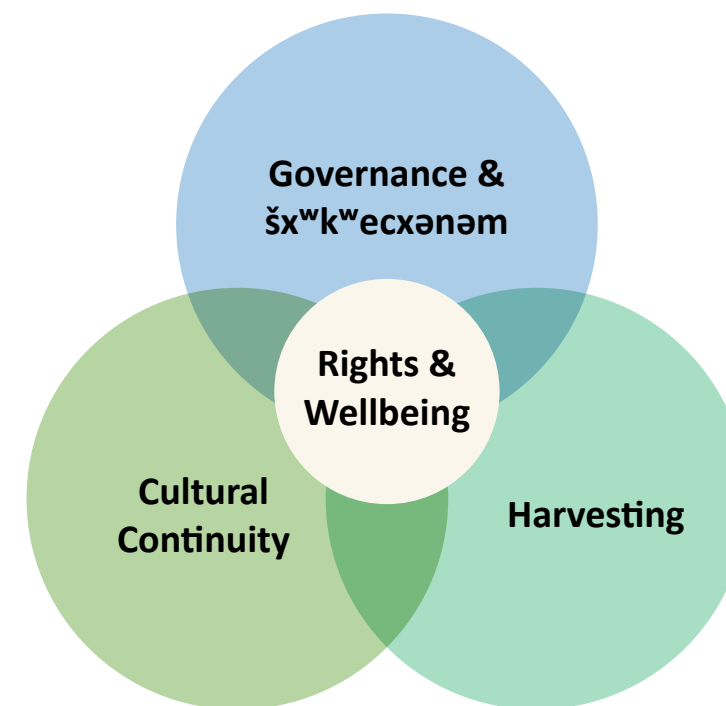
The specific requirements for the remainder of the assessment (should the project be deemed suitable to enter TFN IA) will be outlined according to the project and the nature of Naut’sa Mawt Agreements.

### Some general guidelines for TFN IA are provided below:

TFN will identify key Valued Components (VCs) under the three interrelated priorities for protecting TFN Rights and Wellbeing: Governance and šxʷkʷecxənəm, Cultural Continuity, and Harvesting.

The specific VCs identified will depend on the project, its potential impacts, and the concerns of TFN members. If applicable, and pursuant to a Naut’sa Mawt Agreements, TFN may coordinate with the Crown on the selection of VCs. However, the scope of the VCs and impacts that require consideration under TFN IA may be beyond the set of VCs identified through Crown IA processes.

Potential impacts to the decision-making criteria and TFN Rights and Wellbeing are overlapping and highly interdependent and interconnected. Fishing, for example, may be considered as a harvesting activity, a cultural practice and as the expression of stewardship. While these rights overlap, the assessment considers each right separately (e.g., fishing in terms of amount of catch in the case of Harvesting, knowledge transmission in the case of Culture, and management objectives in the case of Stewardship and Governance).



**TFN requires a Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA) on the project.** TFN will consider information related to CEA submitted as part of Crown IA processes, if applicable. However, CEA under TFN IA is not applied only to residual adverse effects for select VCs, rather it is applied to the project as a whole. TFN's metric for CEA is the aspired use for full expression of Treaty Objectives. For many VCs the current condition reflects a highly impacted environment, and not an 'aspired use' state. This means that TFN CEA considers the extent to which the project offers, or can be designed to offer, a restorative path and does not rely exclusively on thresholds or adverse effects pathways.

### 3. Impact Statement

It is expected that proponents continue to adhere to the Engagement Principles outlined in Table 1 while forming their Impact Statements and be open to co-development of IA materials with TFN.

The best proponents will write their Impact Statement with awareness of TFN as an audience:

- technical information should be synthesized in a way that community members can understand;
- reporting should be organized in relation to community concerns; and
- reporting should include TFN-specific sections or content tied to TFN Treaty Objectives.

### 4. Assessment

A TFN IA Report is developed that outlines key issues, summarizes impacts on Treaty Objectives, potential conditions, and recommendations for Crown conditions (if applicable). TFN IA will consider information submitted as part of Crown IA processes (if applicable), but may make additional information requests in order to evaluate the project according to TFN Treaty Objectives. TFN IA will:

- consider and prioritize the information and opinions of our experts (i.e. elders, leadership, and harvesters)
- consider the information and advice of TFN staff with relevant knowledge and expertise;
- consider the views of TFN members
- consider the information and studies provided by the proponent
- consider information and studies completed as part of a Crown IA process
- consider information and studies completed as part of TFN's research and stewardship initiatives
- consider relevant information and knowledge provided by external experts

TFN will also evaluate the extent to which the IA engagement principles and reconciliation principles outlined in Part 1 are being upheld throughout the IA.

### Development of Project Accommodations and Mitigations

During the Assessment phase, TFN seeks to explore potential proponent mitigations and Crown accommodations, should the project be authorized by TFN (on-Lands), or approved by Canada or BC (off-Lands).

Proponents will be expected to be open to project modifications or mitigation measures that facilitate TFN achieving Treaty Objectives, in addition to measures that avoid or lessen adverse impacts

TFN's objective is for projects to have a 'net zero' or, where possible, a positive outcome for Treaty Objectives.

### 5. Review and Decision

TFN Executive Council ("**TFN EC**") is responsible for making the following decisions:

- For a project on-Tsawwassen Lands: an authorization decision;
- For a project in Tsawwassen Territory, off Tsawwassen-Lands: a consent decision

TFN EC makes all decisions in accordance with principles of administrative and procedural fairness.

At the end of a TFN IA, the Director of Territory Management shall provide the project proponent and the Crown with a report ("**TFN IA Report**"). The decision and reasons for the decision will be communicated by TFN to the proponent and the Crown.

TFN EC will make its authorization or consent decision on the project taking into account:

- The Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement (Treaty);
- Any relevant Tsawwassen laws, regulations, policies, or agreements;
- The TFN IA Report;
- Any proposed negotiated agreement, with the Crown and/or proponent;
- Any materials set out in a negotiated agreement, according to the terms in that agreement;
- Strategic advice from TFN Administration, such as the Director of Territory Management, the Director of Lands, and the Manager of Economic Development; Manager of Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability and Natural Resources
- Views of Tsawwassen Members;
- Any factors TFN EC considers relevant to whether a project is in the best interests of TFN.

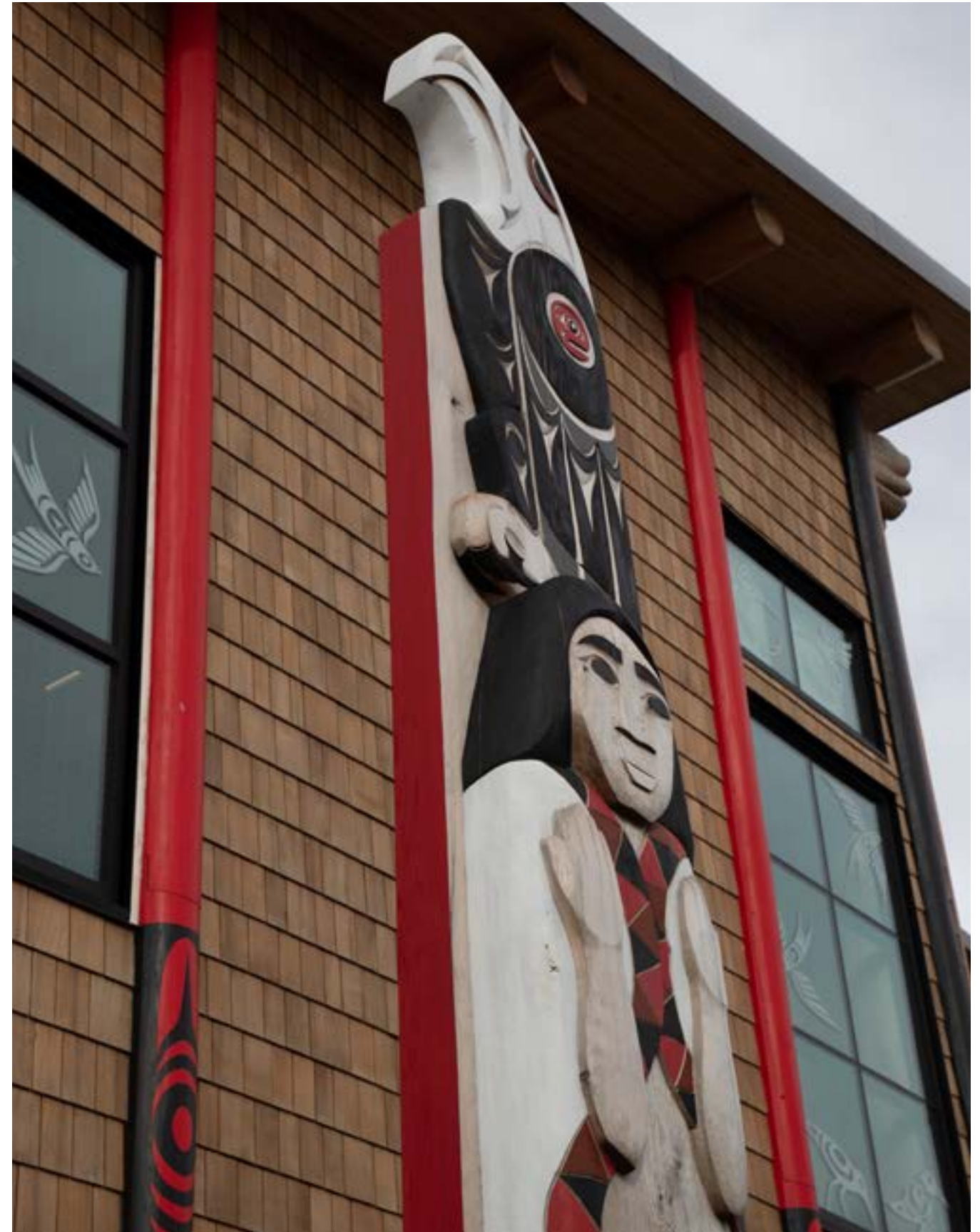
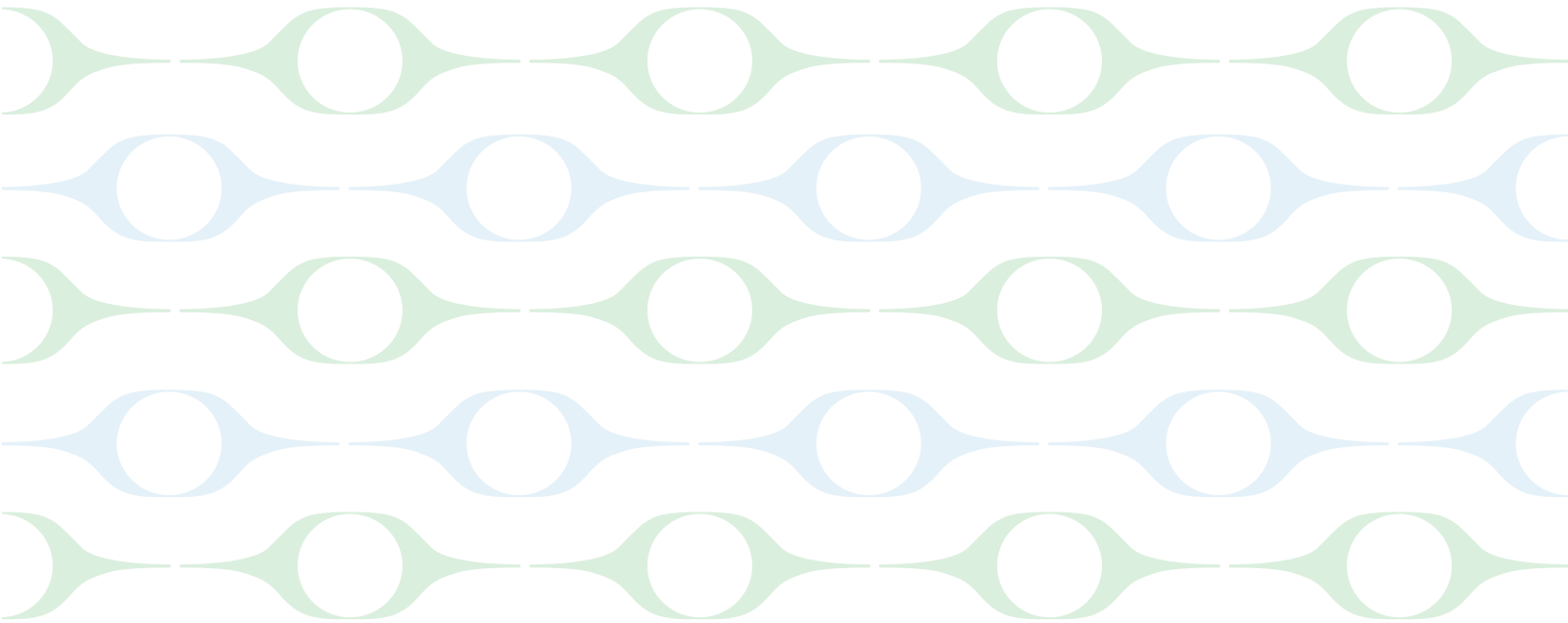
## 6. Post Assessment

If TFN consents to or authorizes the project, post assessment activities will include follow-up program, mitigation and compliance reports to ensure conditions are being upheld, and mitigation is effective. The specific reporting requirements, and ongoing capacity funding needs as applicable, will be specified as part of TFN's project decision. These activities may be coordinated with the Crown pursuant to a Naut'sa Mawt Agreement.

Proponents are expected to maintain an ongoing relationship with TFN throughout the entire project lifecycle, consistent with the Engagement Principles outlined in Part 1. The scope and depth of TFN's involvement in post-approval oversight will be a key criterion in evaluating the project's alignment with Treaty Objectives.

TFN will be actively consulted about and involved in:

- Compliance and enforcement in coordination with project regulators (e.g., government-to-government, independent of project proponents).
- Mitigation and project oversight in collaboration with the proponent (e.g., through participation in an oversight committee).



## Part 3: TFN Participants and Roles

### TFN Governance Structure

- The institutions that govern TFN are set out in the Tsawwassen Constitution and include the Chief, the Tsawwassen Legislature, the Executive Council, and the Advisory Council.
- Executive Council is ultimately responsible for making a project consent or authorization decision
- The assessment process is likely to involve input from the Natural Resources Committee, Advisory Committee, TFN staff, and may involve input from the Tsawwassen Legislature, or other TFN entities as needed.

### Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and Harvesters

TFN elders, knowledge keepers, and harvesters will be consulted during the IA process. The individuals consulted may vary depending on the issue and project.

### Members

- TFN members living on Lands and off Lands members will have opportunities to learn about proposed projects and share their feedback and views relating to the decision-making criteria.
- TFN will hold meetings open to all interested members before the Planning Decision, during Assessment (before review/decision), and Post Decision (Figure 3). These meetings will allow members to ask questions about the project, share their views, give feedback to TFN decision-makers, and provide input into communication, monitoring, and adaptive management post-decision. Virtual and in person options will be available.
- These meetings are in addition to any proponent information sessions, or meetings required as part of Crown IA.

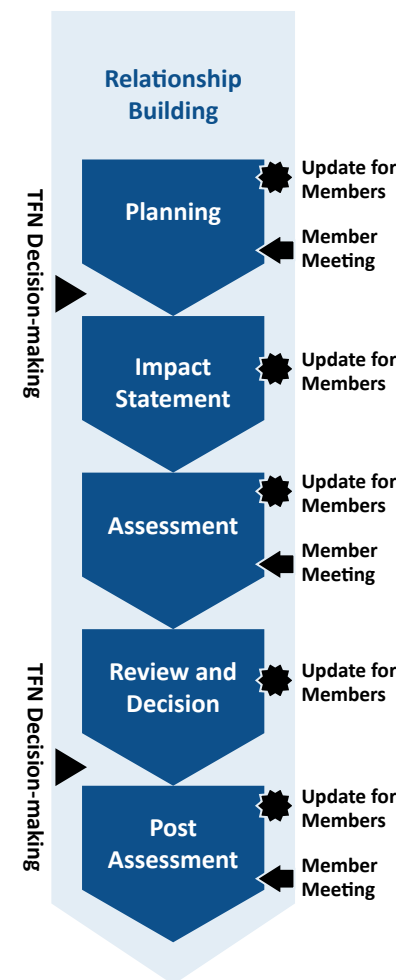


Figure 3

- TFN will also work with proponents to schedule information sessions and meetings as per the Crown IA process and IA engagement.
- Additional member meetings may be scheduled if issues or questions arise during the IA that require feedback from members.
- Members will also receive updates from TFN at each of the 6 stages of TFN IA. These updates will inform members of the work completed so far, the analysis of decision-making criteria, the next steps, and upcoming meetings or information sessions, and also invite comments and questions (Figure 3)
- Members are welcome to submit comments and questions to the identified IA Coordinator throughout the assessment.

### Appendix 1: Naut'sa Mawt Agreements

The purpose of a Naut'sa Mawt Agreement is to improve efficiency and coordination of the IA process in terms of expectations and timelines, and to provide clarity for all parties about how Crown IA and TFN IA work together. Guiding expectations for the relationship between TFN the Crown and project proponents are provided in Part 1, section 3 of this document. Naut'sa Mawt Agreements will be negotiated on a project-by-project basis, but in general should outline coordination of the IA processes and decision-making that reflects a government-to-government relationship and that honours the reconciliation principles outlined in Part 1, the Treaty, and recognizes that TFN's consent is a necessary condition for the project.

Agreements guiding the coordination of TFN and Crown IA should specify:

- Information needs and expectations for proponents in respect to each parties IA
- Timeline for each IA stage
- Conditions for project approval
- Follow-up/post IA enforcement
- Capacity funding needs
- Confidentiality of information and data sovereignty
- Explore potential for joint submissions, studies, or review teams