

Village of Hines Creek  
File No.  
Approved For Payment  
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MAR 05 2019

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Doig River First Nation  
PO Box 56  
Rose Prairie, BC  
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ph. (250) 827-3776 fx. (250) 827-3778

January 12, 2019

Dear: Leanne Walmsley, CAO

**Re: Doig River First Nation Proposal to Complete K'ih Tsaa?dze Tribal Park - Pathway to Canada Target 1 Challenge**

Doig River First Nation (DRFN) is preparing a proposal for funding from the Pathway to Canada Target 1 Challenge to complete and finalize the process for establishing the K'ih Tsaa?dze Tribal Park as an Indigenous Protected and Conserved area.

We announced K'ih Tsaa?dze ("kih-tsay-tsay") in 2011. The area is located about 40 kilometres northeast of Fort St. John, consisting of 90,000-hectares of land straddling the B.C.-Alberta border. It is a unique, world class example of highly productive, biologically diverse boreal ecosystems, including rare and endangered species. This combination of biological richness and biological diversity found in K'ih Tsaa?dze Tribal Park is unparalleled across the circumpolar boreal forest.

More information about K'ih Tsaa?dze and the Pathway to Canada Target 1 Challenge is enclosed with this letter.

We would like to discuss this project with you, answer any questions you may have, understand your views, and ideally gain your support for establishing the K'ih Tsaa?dze Tribal Park as an Indigenous Protected and Conserved area. I hope you will consider the benefits of this proposal.

A member of our consulting team, Laureen Whyte of Arbutus Consulting, will contact you by phone or email soon to inquire if you are interested and would discuss with us further.

Yours truly,



Trevor Makadahay

Chief, Doig River First Nation

cc. Cec Heron, Interim Lands Manager, Doig River First Nation

Lauren Whyte, Arbutus Consulting

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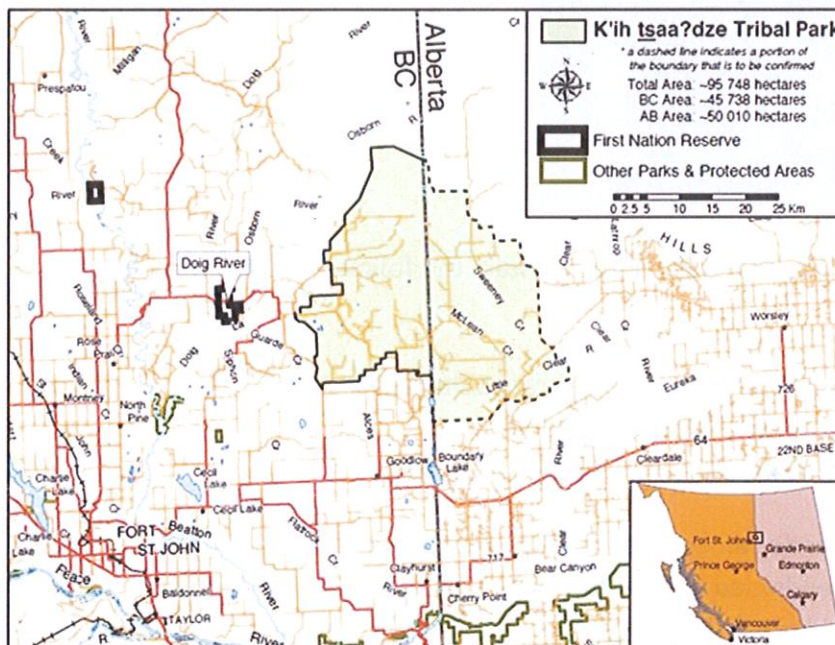
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## K'ih Tsaa?dze Tribal Park and the Pathway to Canada Target 1 Challenge

### K'ih Tsaa?dze Tribal Park Background

K'ih Tsaa?dze Tribal Park (pronounced kih tsad zey) was announced by Doig River First Nation in 2011. It will encompass 44,690 ha of boreal forest, including wetlands, deciduous forests, mixed wood forests and coniferous forest. It is a unique, world class example of highly productive, biologically diverse boreal ecosystems, including rare species. This combination of biological richness and biological diversity found in K'ih Tsaa?dze Tribal Park is unparalleled across the circumpolar boreal forest.

These ecological landscapes and sites have, and continue to be critical for the survival of Doig River First Nation's way of life, culture, and will contribute to the [Canadian Nature Fund Challenge](#) objective of protecting 17% of terrestrial areas through networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.



*K'ih Tsaa?dze represents a small portion of our land that is still whole – in its natural state. As such, K'ih Tsaa?dze sustains Doig River people by providing foods, medicines, shelter, pure air, pure water, and spiritual sustenance. Like the land, we are whole when we travel and live in K'ih Tsaa?dze.*

*K'ih Tsaa?dze represents a relatively undisturbed part of our and where we can be ourselves, and pass on our way of life and belief system – our culture – to our youth, and future generations. Thus protection of K'ih Tsaa?dze is necessary for the survival of Doig River people.*

Excerpt from: "K'ih Tsaa?dze Tribal Park, Doig River Community Vision"

The area is located about 40 kilometres northeast of Fort St. John, consisting of 90,000-hectares of land straddling the B.C.-Alberta border and contains old-growth spruce forest and wetlands, crucial habitat for caribou and grizzly bear.



Our objectives in establishing K'ih Tsaa?dze are to maintain the following within the defined area:

1. Maintain Doig River traditional and contemporary cultural uses
2. Restore ecological integrity and biological diversity
3. Maintain natural ecological integrity and biological diversity

K'ih Tsaa?dze will be managed under an ecosystem-based conservation plan (EBCP), prepared by Doig River First Nation, and endorsed by the Provinces of BC and Alberta. The focus of the plan will be to protect, and/or where necessary, restore natural ecological and cultural integrity within K'ih Tsaa?dze. The philosophy, principles and process for the K'ih Tsaa?dze EBCP will be finalized during discussions between Doig River First Nations and the provinces.

Extensive oil and gas and forestry development has occurred throughout much of Doig River First Nation's territory, including K'ih Tsaa?dze. Doig River First Nation is willing to make reasonable accommodations to phase out this development within K'ih Tsaa?dze.

## Pathway to Canada Target 1 Challenge

The Pathway to Canada Target 1 Challenge is part of Canada's Nature Fund. It will leverage provinces and territories, Indigenous people and the private and non-profit sectors to collaborate towards making significant progress in meeting the terrestrial elements of Target 1 of Canada's 2020 Biodiversity Goals and Targets. Target 1 states: "By 2020, at least 17% of terrestrial areas and inland water, and 10% of coastal and marine areas, are conserved through networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures."

Proponents from across the public and private sectors, as well as provinces, territories and indigenous organizations are encouraged to submit applications for conservation activities that complement and contribute to Target 1.

The Pathway to Canada Target 1 Challenge expected results are to:

- promote and support enhanced collaboration on the establishment of new Protected and Conserved Areas and the enhancement of the ecological integrity and connectivity of Canada's network
- leverage federal investment by at least 1:1 (cash and in-kind) for all eligible recipients except Indigenous recipients where the required match would be at least 0.2:1 (cash and in-kind) for the establishment and administration of Protected and Conserved Areas and the enhancement of the integrity and connectivity of Canada's network
- develop and establish Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas and other Protected and Conserved Areas in support of Target 1 and consistent with the objective of reconciliation

Priorities will include:

- the proposed size of new Protected and Conserved Areas (i.e., contribution to coverage)
- contribution to ecological integrity and connectivity
- economic and cultural benefits
- co-benefits to species at risk and addressing climate change

For more information, go to <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/environmental-funding/programs/pathway-canada-target-1-challenge.html>