

TREATY OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES INTERNATIONAL TIPI Treaty

PREAMBLE

Indian Nations, Tribes, First Nations, Indigenous Nations and Indigenous Peoples of the Pacific Basin, hereafter referred to as Nations, signatory to this Treaty in mutual recognition of our inherent sovereign powers, hereby re-establish political, social and economic relations, and cooperative control of natural resources essential to the cultural, spiritual and religious rights of our peoples.

PRINCIPLES

Recognizing each other as self-governing Nations, we subscribe to the following principles:

- A. The Creator has made us part of and spiritually inseparable from the environment. This truth brings us together.
- B. We share a cultural legacy of natural conservation and protection stemming from our inherent obligation to protect the land, water and natural resources within our traditional territories.
- C. The relationship between the Nations predates colonization and will continue forever.
- D. No State, Province or Nation-State is possessed of jurisdiction over any of our Nations, our peoples, or our traditional territories, except in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of that Nation.
- E. We have permanent control and enjoyment of our territories, waters and the resources therein.
- F. We have the sole right to control our culture, including archeological, historical and sacred sites, artifacts, designs, knowledge, and works of art.
- G. We have the right to control our economics including entering into agreements regarding trade and commerce.

COMMON OBJECTIVES

This Treaty seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- A. To strengthen the cooperative and supportive bond between each Nation in order to promote the rights of our peoples for the well being of all our future generations.
- B. To develop an effective and meaningful process to promote cooperation between the Nations on common issues, concerns, pursuits and initiatives.
- C. To enhance communication and the sharing of information between the Nations.

MUTUAL COVENANTS

We are committed to provide mutual assistance on the following basis:

Each Nation shall, to the best of its ability, exchange financial, economic, legal, political, and technical knowledge regarding common issues, pursuits, or initiatives.

Each Nation shall, to the best of its ability, do the following:

- (1) appoint a coordinator to implement the Treaty;
- (2) coordinate statements of policy and information of mutual and general concern to be disseminated to the media;
- (3) establish an inter-tribal communication network;
- (4) coordinate periodic reviews and strategy planning sessions to provide direct instruction or advice on additional commitments or follow up actions.

AMENDMENTS TO THIS TREATY

Any ratifying Nation may request an amendment to this Treaty. This Treaty may be amended at a special conference called for this purpose. Any amendment shall be subject to ratification by the customary or constitutional processes of each ratifying Nation. Unanimous consent of the ratifying Nations is required to amend this Treaty.

RATIFICATION

This Treaty shall come into force when the following Nations formally ratify the provisions according to their customary or constitutional processes. Following the coming into force of the Treaty, any other Nation may ratify this Treaty at their pleasure, with the consent of Nations already signatory to this Treaty.

Each Nation which ratifies this Treaty may place conditions on its participation. Each ratifying Nation may attach a Statement of Reservations indicating specific provisions of this Treaty, which shall apply to it under specific conditions. Each ratifying Nation may attach explanations or clarifications expressing different meanings associated with the provision through a Statement of Understandings. These Reservations of Understandings shall become a part of this Treaty and receive full respect by other ratifying Nations. Signed on behalf of the Nations on September 30, 1994, at the Squamish. And amended on June 11, 1997, at Kona, Hawai'i