



The Hišuk ma c'awak Declaration

Preamble

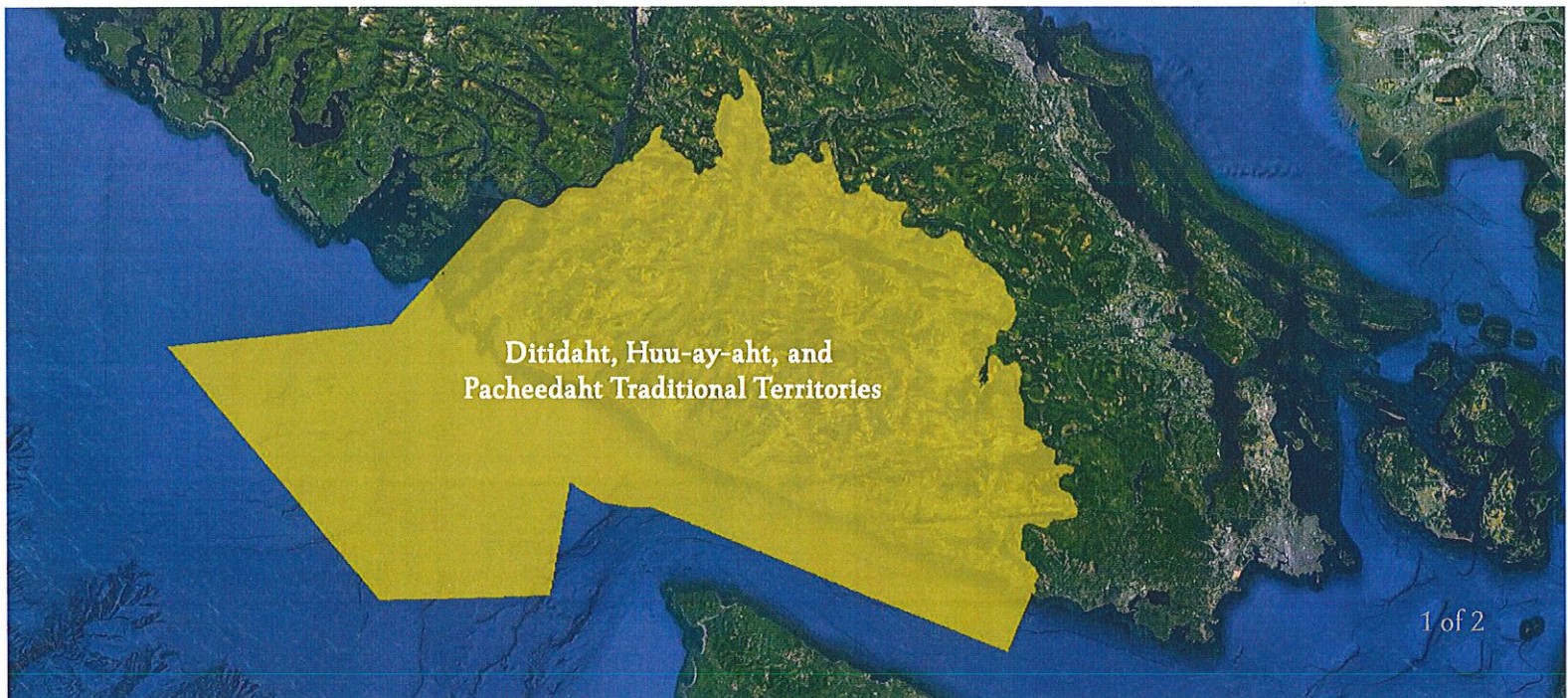
Our Nations, Ditidaht First Nation, Huu-ay-aht First Nations, and Pacheedaht First Nation, are stewards of the forests, fisheries and all other resources within our Hahoulthee (Traditional Territories). This has been our responsibility since time immemorial.

We are guided in this important work by our three sacred principles ʔiisaak (Utmost Respect), ʔuuʔaʔuk (Taking Care of), and Hišuk ma c'awak (Everything is Connected) and by our responsibilities to our future generations.

Our hereditary and elected leadership draw on the teachings of our ancestors, the wisdom of our Elders, the input of our Citizens/Members, the input of our valued partners, and the best available forestry, fishery and integrated resource management advice when making stewardship decisions in our Hahoulthee.

As Indigenous governments, it is our responsibility to decide what is best for our lands, our waters, our resources, and the wellbeing of present and future generations of Ditidaht, Huu-ay-aht and Pacheedaht people.

Hišuk ma c'awak – everything is connected.



Declaration

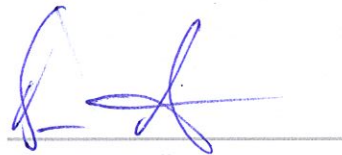
For most of the past 150 years we have watched as others decide what is best for our lands, for our waters and for our people. Our three sacred principles are often ignored. We are too often the last to benefit from what is taken out and the last to be asked what must be put back in. That time is over. It is time for our principles, authority and responsibilities to be respected so that we can work for win-win stewardship solutions to heal our lands, our waters and our people for the benefit of our current and future generations—this will take time.

From this day forward, in accordance with our traditional laws and our constitutionally protected Aboriginal Title, Aboriginal Rights, and Treaty Rights, we declare that our governance and stewardship responsibilities in our Hahoulthee must be acknowledged and respected. Third parties—whether they be companies, organizations, other governments, or individuals—have no right to speak on our behalf, or on behalf of the lands, waters and resources in our Hahoulthee. Moreover, for third parties to be welcome in our Hahoulthee, they must respect our governance and stewardship, our sacred principles, and our right to economically benefit from our resources.

Ditidaht First Nation



siituuxb
Paul Tate

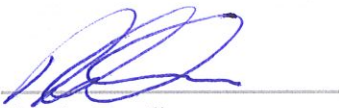


Chief Councillor
Brian Tate

Huu-ay-aht First Nations



Tayii H̱awiṯ X̱iiš̱in
Derek Peters

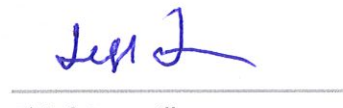


Chief Councillor
Robert J. Dennis, Sr

Pacheedaht First Nation



Hereditary Chief
Frank Queesto Jones



Chief Councillor
Jeff Jones