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**COVER PAGE**

**TŜILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT**

**TSI TS'EDETALHDEZ GWÁ DECHEN TS'EDÍLHTÁN**

**MINING POLICY**

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## INSIDE COVER:

### T̓SILHQOT̓'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

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**We, the T̓silhqot̓'in, or *People of the River*, are made of up six communities: ʔEsdilagh, Tl'esqox, Tl'etinqox-t'in, Tsi Del Del, Xeni Gwet'in and Yunesit'in. Our ancestral *nen* (land) includes the *dzelh* (mountains) and the ʔElhdaqox (Fraser River).**

**As T̓silhqot̓'in, we have occupied our ancestral *nen* since time immemorial. We have never ceded or surrendered our rights or our sacred responsibilities to our *nen*. Our future is as firmly tied to the *nen* as our past. We will continue to sustain our communities from our *nen* and resources, we will forge a strong future for our next generations and we will hold true to our identity as T̓silhqot̓'in people.**



T̓silhqút̓ín nídlin qwéntéx ʔélhchʔántád ʔelhghaʔeyowh déžilt̓ʔish: Esdilagh, Tlʔésqòx, Tlʔetinqòx, T̓si Del Del, Xení, Gex Nátsʔénaghinlht̓i. ʔUndídánh yédanx néxwenén d̓zelhchʔed gúdín ʔÉlhdaqòx gwétsʔén gágúlhchúgh hágúntʔih.

T̓silhqút̓ín nídlin, ʔundídánh yédanx néxwedení nén jégughintén ʔeyed shunkʔah gútén haguntʔih. Lha ʔeyun tlʔagwéžítʔash, lha jidežílghálh, hínkʔan néxwenén yádí gúlʔín ʔéyed chuh lha jidežílghálh. Nénján gúʔen xúlhtʔí jíd déni-nídlin nén ʔeyed gwetʔáyénentaghátan, ʔundídánh néxwedení nén gwétʔájéyénaghintán gágúntʔih jíd hátaghádínlh. Nexwenén hínkʔan gán néndid bétsʔenz dížtí xáxénish betʔád gúzun jíd déni-taghadlílh. Nexwesqíqí jintsél hínkʔan ʔélgheʔén gubesqíqí shúnkʔah lhá jegwesdláx ʔeyen guzun jíd déni-julí gwéqa nentagháltʔí. T̓silhqút̓ín nídlin gagulhnaž néndúwh nénkʔegúh détaghált̓ʔilh hágúntʔih.

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CHIEF JOE ALPHONSE, TL'ETINQOX-T'IN  
TRIBAL CHAIR, T'SILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

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CHIEF BERNIE MACK, ?ESDILAGH

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CHIEF FRANCIS LACEESE, TL'ESQOX

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CHIEF PERCY GUICHON, TSI DELDEL

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CHIEF RUSSELL MYERS ROSS, YUNESIT'IN

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CHIEF ROGER WILLIAM, XENI GWET'IN  
VICE-TRIBAL CHAIR, T'SILHQOT'IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

## GUIDING PRINCIPLE

The T̓ìlhqot̓'in Nation will consider culturally and ecologically conscious development of mineral resources in the T̓ìlhqot̓'in traditional territory, provided the ecological and cultural values of the T̓ìlhqot̓'in are respected and there are significant long-term social and economic benefits for T̓ìlhqot̓'in communities. Relationships between the T̓ìlhqot̓'in and mining and exploration companies must be built on a foundation of respect for T̓ìlhqot̓'in values, rights and governance, and real partnerships built on trust and recognition that the land comes before money. The T̓ìlhqot̓'in Mining Policy is without prejudice to our Aboriginal rights and title.

## PURPOSE

The T̓ìlhqot̓'in Nation has created this law to:

1. communicate T̓ìlhqot̓'in values about our *nen*;
2. provide greater certainty for mining and exploration companies; and
3. ensure meaningful T̓ìlhqot̓'in participation in mining and exploration.

## Dechen Ts'edíłhtán Néndíd Beghád Hágwétát'íłh

### Néndíd Beghád Hágwétát'íłh

Tsilhqút'ín nídłín néndúwh jíd déchen nídénitan: Nexwenén tši jedetalhdež ?éyen nén gán néndíd xánélhyax sútsél ghajaghétátínłh hínk'an núlł gatš'i chuh sútsél ghajaghíztán sé?ágwétát'íłh. Nexwedení ?ech'an gúts'íłh?ín séx ?éjedetatl'és ?egúłh hínk'ed Tsilhqút'ín nídłín néxwets'én sé?ágúnt'ih. Tši jedetalhdež ?éyen Tsilhqút'ín yádí jílłh?ín ?égú tš'ídaneš jíd ?élhélł ?ánájétát'ín. Tsilhqút'ín gubagughíž?án, guberíghts hágwélésnih, xúgúłłt'í déchen jedíłhtán té?agúnt'ih ?éyed, tši jedetalhdež ?éyen yádí jegúłłh?ín ?egú tš'ídaneš jíd ?élhélł ?ánájétát'ín. Hínk'an Tsilhqút'ín nén ?eyed séneya ch'á jégwedíłłt'í jégwétálłtsax. Néndíd tši ts'edelhdež gwá dechen ts'edíłhtán ?alyágh ?éyi Tsilhqút'ín nén jéguntén hínk'an xúgúłłt'í gúbagughíž?án ?eyed lha gwets'ah tásdláx hánt'ih (Lha bíđ néxweríghts ?ídetezaghádínsh).

### Néndíd destl'és /eyed gwéqa hánt'ih

Tsilhqút'ín nídłín destl'és ch'ed gwéč'ih té?anáts'étát'ín ?alyágh ?eyed néndúwh gágwétát'íłh gúžít'in:

1. Nenduwh gwédéžíłłt'í gádetaghádínłh;
2. Tši ts'edetalhdež gwagwél?iny jíd jí?áts'edút'anx gwetaghálłtsíłłh destl'és bíđ déchen nídénitan beč'íłł té?anátagħant'ín hínk'ed; hínk'an
3. Tsilhqút'ín tši ts'edetalhdež sé?ágúnt'ih jedinh hínk'ed gúyén tši jedetalhdéž níjégwetaqálłh.

## OBJECTIVES

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- **MINIMIZE NEGATIVE IMPACTS** of mining and exploration to protect the environment and the continuity of the Tsilhqot'in way of life.
- **MAXIMIZE BENEFITS TO TSHILHQOT'IN COMMUNITIES** to the greatest extent possible.
- **BUILD RELATIONSHIPS** between the Tsilhqot'in and mining and exploration companies.
- **CLARIFY DECISION-MAKING** responsibilities and processes of the Tsilhqot'in.



## Néndúwh Gágwetanih

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- Ch'í?ín jíd nén ts'égwetalhtsanx ?egun dzánh ts'égwenilht'í hínk'an ?élhch'íz nenduw Tsilhqút'ín xúgúlht'í jíd déni-jinlin ?egúh gágúwét'í qé?áts'etat'ínlh.
- Séneya tsi ts'edelhdež bets'enz xánégush ts'edetal'és hínk'an bet'ád se?áts'etat'ílh gú?én jíd lhan ?esgúl táh gwech'ixétaláx, bíd qúng h ?agwetaghál?ínsh, doctor náníl?ínsh hínk'an néxweghú nats'enil?ínsh gwech'ixétaláx, gágúnt'ih gán néndid gwéch'ixétaláx gúžít'in Tsilhqút'ín nents'in jédílhst`ish ?égun néntugúsh qé?ats'etat'ínlh.
- Tsi jedelhdež béh Tsilhqút'ín guzun jíd ?élhélh ?ánájút'ín qájégugheta?á.
- Tsilhqút'ín tsi ts'edetalhdež sé?ágúnt'ih jedinh hínk'ed destl'és bíd déchen níjédénintan xúgúlht'í jíd sútsél níjégughétá?alh hínk'an xúgúlht'í jíd ?ánágwétat'ín níjégughétá?alh sútsél gájedetanih.

## ACTIONS

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### 1. MINIMIZE NEGATIVE IMPACTS

We will:

- a. Protect our critical environmental, cultural and spiritual sites and areas of the T̓silhqot̓in traditional territory to remain as they have always been.
- b. ensure mining and exploration projects are designed, managed and monitored to protect the environment, minimize disturbance and include T̓silhqot̓in-led cumulative impact and cultural impact assessments.
- c. ensure that the *nen* is returned to a state acceptable to the T̓silhqot̓in.
- d. protect our relationship with the *nen* and sustain our culture.

## Néndúwh Gátaghádínlh

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### 1. Ch'í?ín jíd Nén Ts'égulhsánx

Tsilhqút'in nídlín néndúwh gátaghádínlh:

- a. Nents'in gwét'áyénítán yádí gúl?ín té?agúnt'in ?égúh gwaxétághatan, nenk'eguh gágúghínt'í ?egúh gágwétát'ílh ?egun nentaghált'í. Nénch'éd nendidégát's'i, nén, tú, hínk'an núlh tah, xúgulht'í jíd nén jí?ánáts'ét'in, deni gujelex tá?agúnt'íh, deni nats'edághélk'én tá?agúnt'íh hágwéhlídinh.
- b. Gúyen tsi jedetalhdež ?éyen destl'és ch'ed gwech'éjédejis sútsél gubélh gwéníl?ín ?egúh sé?ágwétat'ílh. Nénch'éd nendidégát's'i, nulh, lhuy, tu, xugúlht'í jíd nén bet'ád déni-ts'ilin tá?agúnt'íh ts'egulhsánx gwech'á gubélh tedetaghált's'ílh.
- c. Nendúwh nén ts'égughinlhtsén ?egúh Tsilhqút'in gubíní ch'íh xúgulht'í jíd sé?ánáts'egwetálih ?egúh jíd sé?ánájegulax qá?agubetaghályílh.
- d. Xúgulht'í jíd nén jí?ánásit'in jideghúdínsh gwéech'á ?élhch'íz nén xúghílt'in ?egúh gátaghát'ínlh.

## **2. MAXIMIZE BENEFITS TO T̓SILHQOT̓IN**

We will:

- a. increase the capacity in training of T̓silhqot̓in members to meaningfully participate in jobs, training, and contracts associated with mining and exploration.
- b. consider partnership and ownership opportunities with mining and exploration companies.
- c. Ensure T̓silhqot̓in priority with regards to securing meaningful jobs, training, procurement and contracts with mining and exploration companies.
- d. promote awareness of T̓silhqot̓in culture, social circumstances, and spiritual beliefs.
- e. require exploration agreements (for mineral exploration companies) and impact benefit agreements (for mining companies) prior to approval of any exploration or mining project.
- f. require resource revenue from mining projects.
- g. promote diverse sustainable economies that do not rely on non-renewable resource extraction.

**2. Tsilhqút'in séneya bíd sé?ájétat'ílh gú?én jíd lhan gubets'en néntugúsh qé?agwetaghályílh.**

Tsilhqút'in nídlín néndúwh gátaghádínlh:

- a. Tsi ts'edetilhdež hínk'ed Tsilhqút'in guqa gú?én jíd jélan ?ejedutl'és qá gágúlhanwh jíd ?ánájét'in jiguts'edulh?ánx qá?agwetaghályílh.
- b. Tsi jedetalhdež ?éyen Tsilhqút'in bélh ?élhélh nájéguwêlnagh ?egúh jíd gúbets'enz jegwetalhtsilh.
- c. Tsilhqút'in ?eyen gágúlhanwh jíd ?ánájét'in jiguts'edaghínlh?ín ch'íz ?éjedetatl'és ?ech'an gúts'ílh?ín gúts'etalh?alh níngughétághat'alh.
- d. Tsi jedetalhdež ?éyen Tsilhqút'in nídlín xúgúlht'í jíd déni-nídlín, xúgúlht'í jíd gwétah gudídlán, xents'ágúlt'íh té?agúnt'íh ?eyed jegwenuwêlh?ín qá?águbetaghádílílh.
- e. Tsilhqút'in nídlín tsi jedetalhdež ?éyen há?enh gúlhidính ?égúh hínk'an jí?ágwedétátanx.
- f. Gademén ts'én néntegwísh gánt'i xún nexwets'én néntegúsh jíd déchen níjédúwétán qá?agubetaghályílh.
- g. ?Ets'edeti'és lha gwechugh nen bets'enz lhan gwats'aghetelhnish gánt'i gú?én jíd gúnít'in.

### **3. BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS**

We will:

- a. expect open and honest dialogue with all mining and exploration companies in the T̓ilhqot̓in traditional territory.
- b. implement a clear, certain process whereby mining and exploration companies can meaningfully engage with the T̓ilhqot̓in.
- c. educate mining and exploration companies about T̓ilhqot̓in rights & way of life.
- d. contribute traditional and scientific knowledge to discussions regarding mining and exploration projects.

### 3. Guzun Jíd ?Élhélh ?Ánághút'in Gúžít'in

Tsilhqút'in nídlín néndúwh gátaghádínlh:

- a. Tsilhqút'in nídlín nexwenén tší jedetalhdež ?éyen tš'idaneš jíd nexwélh yájelhtig ?éguh gúžít'in.
- b. Tši jedelhdež ?éyen sútsél nexwélh gwánayajeltish gúžít'in. Tši jedetalhdež destl'és bech'ih té?anáts'ét'in beghád xúgúlht'í jíd nexwélh gwánayajeltish hínk'an xúgúlht'í gúbélh ?ánátághát'in guba?ataghályílh.
- c. Tši jedetalhdež ?éyen Tsilhqút'in nídlín xúgúlht'í jíd nexwagughíž?án, xúgúlht'í jíd déni-nídlín ?eyed jegwenuwelh?in qá?águbetaghádílhl.
- d. Tši jedetalhdež nexwélh nén gwanayajetaltish hínk'ed deni nexwedení guzun jíd nén néndidégáts'i xúgúlht'í jíd bíd ?anáts'ét'in té?agúnt'ih tah, dádáben, nížt'an te?ant'i, néndidégáts'i yádí ts'ílh?ín tah, ?esqi helin danh jígháts'énelhten nížán, gágúlhánwh ?égúyenižen ?éyen gubélh yátalhtig.

#### **4. CLARIFY DECISION-MAKING**

We will:

- a. exercise and communicate Tsilhqot'in decision-making responsibility regarding mining, exploration and reclamation projects.
- b. implement streamlined and stable engagement and decision-making processes regarding mining and exploration projects.
- c. require exploration agreements (for mineral exploration companies) and impact benefit agreements (for mining companies) as the basis for granting the free, prior and informed consent of the Tsilhqot'in for projects.



#### **4. Xúgwétáht'ílh ?egúh sútsél gádetaghádínlh**

Tsilhqút'in nídlín néndúwh gátaghádínlh

- a. Tsi ts'edetalhdež Tsilhqút'in nídlín xún xúgwétáht'ílh gádetaghádínlh hínk'an gúyen tsi jedetalhdež xúgúht'í jíd nájégugheta?á gágulhétághadínlh.
- b. Sútsél xúgwétáht'ílh bech'íh té?anáts'ét'in beghád gúyen tsi jedetalhdež ?éyen ?ínlhétah ?ajetanilh hínk'ed nexwujedaghilhqed hínk'an gájetanilh.
- c. Guyen tsi dižti qajenentatalh ?eyen gajut'in qa gubelh ?elhelh nigughetaghát'alh hínk'an guyen tsi jedetalhdež newenen jegulhtsanx gwech'a dechen nijedetatinlh jid gubelh nigughetaghát'alh, ?eguh gubelh gajagh hínk'an Tsilhqut'in nidlin gubelh gužit'in didinh ji?ajedetat'anx.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

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The Mining Policy will be implemented through guidelines and template agreements that will direct engagement for industry proponents and for the negotiation of agreements.

## **Beghád téʔanágwétat'ín**

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Néndíd destl'és bíd déchen nídenitan ʔéyi beghád téʔanágwétat'ín hínk'an xúgúlht'í ʔéhléhl nít'ségughétát'alh ʔalyágh ʔéyi bíd gúyen tsi jedetalhdež xúgúlht'í jíd néxwélh ʔánájétat'ín hínk'an xúgúlht'í jíd bíd ʔéhléhl nígúghétághat'alh jighágubentalten.