



Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council

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HESQUIAHT
HUPACASATH

HUU-AY-AHT
KA:'YU:'K'T'H'/CHE:K:TLES7ET'H'
MOWACHAHT/MUCHALAHT
NUCHATLAHT
TLA-O-QUI-AHT

TOQUAHT
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UCHUCKLESAHT
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Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council Congratulates and Celebrates with Nuchatlaht For Court Decision Identifying Aboriginal Title Lands

April 18, 2024– Hupacasath and Tseshaht Territories, Port Alberni, BC

The Supreme Court of BC has declared certain areas within Nuchatlaht territory to have met the criteria for Nuchatlaht Title. (aboriginal title). The NTC congratulates Nuchatlaht for their continued efforts and not giving up having lands in their territory declared to be theirs.

“When all other avenues like the BC Treaty Process and Reconciliation agreements did not work , the Nuchatlaht were forced to go to court to prove their title and we are happy they have had some success and wish them continued success as they appeal to have the remainder of their territory declared Nuchatlaht Title lands” declared President Judith Sayers.

Vice President Les Doiron also applauded the decision and said “for far too long, the Nuchatlaht have been living in their title lands and being left out of use of resources and land and it is about time that they can start benefitting from their own territory.”

In the original court hearing in 2023, Justice Myers dismissed Nuchatlaht claim for title to their claim area/territory, but held out the possibility that they might be able to establish title to limited areas. In August of 2023, Canada and BC agreed that Nuchatlaht could argue for title to limited based on the evidence presented at trial. In March of 2024 Nuchatlaht did so. While there is more that BC and Nuchatlaht have to resolve, this is a giant step forward to have lands into Nuchatlaht title and jurisdiction.

Judith Sayers concluded that “we are happy that Nuchatlaht took up the court offer to return to court to prove further that this is their lands and look forward to the conclusion when Nuchatlaht title is recognized by BC and Canada”

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About Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council

The Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council (NTC) provides programs and services to over 10,000 registered members. The role of the NTC is to represent 14 First Nations in three regions stretching 300 kilometers of the Pacific Coast of Vancouver Island from Brooks Peninsula in the north to Point-no-Point in the south. The NTC represents Ahousaht, Ditidaht, Ehattesaht/Chinehkint, Hesquiaht, Hupacasath, Huu-ay- aht, Kyuquot/Checklesah, Mowachaht /Muchalaht, Nuchatlaht, Tla-o-qui-aht, Toquaht, Tseshaht, Uchucklesaht and Ucluelet First Nations and provides a variety of programs and services to them.

For more information, please visit www.nuuchahnulth.org.