

# **Hul'qumi'num Community Lands Study**

**Report prepared for  
Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group**

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## The Hul'qumi'num Land Selection Study

Treaty negotiations leading to the framework agreement between the Hul'qumi'num peoples and the governments of Canada and British Columbia began in August 1996 and have now completed stage 3 of the treaty process. Negotiations on stage 4 (Agreement-in-Principle) started in July 2001. As part of the preparation for treaty negotiations, the Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group (HTG) commissioned a "Hul'qumi'num Land Selection Study" to help identify lands that may be required, and suitable, for inclusion in a final agreement. The Land Selection Study had three broad objectives:

1. to assess lands within the Hul'qumi'num territory for "social" values and uses;
2. to assess lands and resources within the territory for "economic" values and uses; and
3. to identify strategies for the Hul'qumi'num to retain a connection with their traditional territory.

This report deals with the first objective, what we will refer to as the "Hul'qumi'num Community Lands Study." In the context of the Land Selection Study, "social" values and uses are defined as those values and uses related to community settlement. This includes land to meet the housing and infrastructure (roads, power, water, sewer) needs of Hul'qumi'num communities, as well as for other key community services, such as schools, recreation, health care, community governance and administration, cultural activities, ecological protection, and basic commercial services (food stores, etc.).

This report does not deal with lands required to meet the "economic" (e.g., employment and income generation) needs of the Hul'qumi'num communities. The issue of economic lands is addressed in a separate report. Although this division between "social" and "economic" lands is somewhat artificial – clearly, "social" land uses such as schools and cultural centres are also key parts of any community's "economic" life – it is followed here to ease the analysis. The third objective of the Land Selection Study is also addressed in a separate report.

## **Purpose & Objectives of the Hul'qumi'num Community Lands Study**

The purpose of the Hul'qumi'num Community Lands Study is to provide information and options in the selection of lands to meet the long-term settlement needs of Hul'qumi'num communities. Specific objectives of the study include:

1. to provide a long-term (100-year) population projection for Hul'qumi'num communities;
2. to calculate the amount of land required to meet Hul'qumi'num settlement needs over the long-term; and
3. to identify specific lands that may be suitable to meet these needs.

## **Organization of the Report**

Parts 1-3 provide context and background information about Hul'qumi'num peoples and lands. Part 1 contains a description of historical patterns of land use and occupancy, with a particular focus on Hul'qumi'num permanent winter villages. Parts 2 and 3 focus on how Hul'qumi'num communities were affected by contact with European or Euro-American. In Part 2, the focus is on the early period of white colonization of Hul'qumi'num territory, the alienation of Hul'qumi'num lands, and the creation of Indian Reserves in the area. In Part 3, the focus is on population change during the period of contact and colonization.

Parts 4 and 5 focus on the present and future, providing information on the current and projected future Hul'qumi'num population (Part 4) and a description of the existing Hul'qumi'num land base (i.e., Indian Reserves).

Part 6 describes the amount of land that will be needed for community purposes by the year 2100.

Finally, Part 7 identifies and describes specific parcels of land that may be suitable for community settlement purposes.