



# Kátł'odeeche First Nation

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June 30, 2020

## **Attention: Third Party Interest Holders**

### **RE: Ratification Vote Regarding the Kátł'odeeche First Nation Land Law and Individual Agreement**

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Please be advised that the Kátł'odeeche First Nation will be conducting a ratification vote to decide whether to adopt a Land Law development pursuant to the *Framework Agreement on First Nations Land Management* and the *First Nation and the First Nations Land Management Act*. Attached you will find a summary of the proposed *Kátł'odeeche First Nation Land Law*. If you would like a copy please visit [www.katlodeechelandcode.com](http://www.katlodeechelandcode.com)

Upon successful ratification of the Land Law and Individual Agreement with Canada, the Kátł'odeeche First Nation Land Law is adopted and all agreements with Third-party interests holders on Kátł'odeeche First Nation Land will continue to apply according to their terms and conditions until they expire. Once expired, all discussions, negotiations or arrangements for new interests will be made directly with the Kátł'odeeche First Nation in accordance with the Land Law.

Notification of implementation of the *KFN Land Law* will be sent to all third-party interest holders. Please contact me directly if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Victoria St Jean  
Manager of Lands  
Kátł'odeeche First Nations



#### Enclosures:

- Summary of the First Nations Land Management Act (Bill C-49)
- Summary of the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management
- Summary of the Kátł'odeeche First Nation Land Law

# Information to Third Parties with Interest in Kátł'odeeche First Nation Land

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**K**átł'odeeche First Nation will be holding a Ratification Vote on **July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020** to determine if Registered Voters approve the Kátł'odeeche First Nation Land Law and Individual Agreement. A positive ratification will remove Kátł'odeeche First Nation from the Lands provisions of the *Indian Act*, and restore Kátł'odeeche First Nation jurisdiction over the management, protection, development, conservation, possession, disposition, and control of Kátł'odeeche First Nation Land. The Kátł'odeeche First Nation Land Law will take effect on **September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020** if ratified, and any permits or leases in Kátł'odeeche First Nation Land will continue in force in accordance with its terms and conditions, under the authority of Kátł'odeeche First Nation rather than Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC).

For more information about the Kátł'odeeche First Nation Land Law and the management of First Nation land, contact: Victoria St Jean - KFN Lands Manager  
(867) 874-6701 Ext 1013 or email [kfinlands@katlodeeche.com](mailto:kfinlands@katlodeeche.com)

## Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management

(Summary)

**A Government to Government agreement giving First Nations an option to manage their reserve lands outside the Indian Act.**

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**T**he *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management*, signed on February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1996, is a **Government to Government Agreement** between Canada and certain First Nations that allows First Nations to opt out of the Lands provisions of the Indian Act. It sets out the principal components of a new land management process for reserve lands. It is **not** a treaty and does not affect treaty or other constitutional rights of the First Nation.

The *Framework Agreement* states that a First Nation exercises its land management option by drafting a **Land Law (Code)**, negotiating an **Individual Agreement**, and developing a **Community Ratification Process** to allow members, both on an off reserve to ratify the documents. An independent verifier selected jointly by the First Nation and Canada will confirm that the *Community Ratification process* and *Land Law (Code)* are consistent with the *Framework Agreement*. First Nations will have all the legal status and powers needed to manage and govern their lands and resources, except for control over title or the power to sell it. Canada will enter into funding arrangements to ensure that First Nations have the resources to develop and operate under their *Land Law (Code)*. Preserving the quantity and quality of existing First Nation lands is a fundamental principle of the *Framework Agreement*. Canada will remain liable for any act or omission that occurred before the Land Law comes into effect. First Nations can deal with disputes outside the court in relation to its lands and resources, or implementation of the *Framework Agreement*.

# First Nations Land Management Act (1999 c. 24)

(Summary)

**An Act providing for the ratification and bringing into effect of the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management.**

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**T**his Act is the **Federal Law that was required for Canada to ratify the *Framework Agreement*** and was given Royal Assent on June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1999. It implements those clauses of the *Framework Agreement* that affect third parties, other federal laws, or those considered important enough to be repeated in the legislation. It confirms that title to First Nation lands will not be affected by the Act and those **lands will continue to be reserves and to be constitutionally protected.**

Canada will remain liable for actions taken before the Land Law takes effect. The Act cancels the Land Management provisions of the *Indian Act* for those First Nations that adopt a *Land Law (Code)*. The powers of a First Nation to manage its reserve lands and resources, receive and use land revenues, and its legal capacity for land purposes are included in the Act. *Land Laws (Code)* will have the effect of Law and will be recognized by the courts. After adopting a *Land Law (Code)*, the First Nation will assume responsibility for its Land Management actions.

## Kátl'odeeche First Nation Land Law

(Summary)

**A Community Developed Law that provides for the bringing into effect of the *Framework Agreement on Land Management*.**

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**T**he *Kátl'odeeche First Nation Land Law* is the **First Nation Law that will ratify the *Framework Agreement*** and will be voted on by eligible members on **July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. It confirms the collective interests and rights of members, and includes all Kátl'odeeche First Nation Reserve Lands, now and in the future. It is the enabling legislation that provides management responsibilities. It states that members in assembly make and ratify all lands laws and outlines the community approval process.

The *Land Law* sets out rules for accountability that will oversee land management responsibilities on behalf of all members, as well as a staff position to administer the *Land Law*. It clarifies the rights of members and non-members to First Nation land and establishes a dispute resolution mechanism to deal with lands related issues should they arise. It contains provision for enforcement of our laws withing the territorial court system.