

scəwaθn məsteyəx^w Impact Assessment Framework: A Values-Centred Approach



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Welcome!



scəwaθn məsteyəx^w

- We are scəwaθn məsteyəx^w (Tsawwassen People – ‘People facing the sea’). Also known as Salmon people.
- We uphold the xeʔxeʔ sya ys (sacred traditions) of our kwθə syəwenełct (ancestors) who preserved our history, our hənqəminə̃m (language) and protected our inheritance.
- 516 Members, about half live on Tsawwassen Lands
- Population is young and growing – more than half of TFN under age of 30





Context


- There are over 600 First Nations communities in Canada, with over 200 in the Province of British Columbia (BC)
- BC has the greatest diversity of Indigenous cultures in Canada
- sc̓awaθən məsteyəx^w is one of four modern Treaty nations in BC



Tsawwassen Territory

- Located in the southwest corner of what is now known as British Columbia
- The STAL' ƏW (Fraser River) is our lifeblood, and the Salish Sea provided for us
- Today, we are an urban Nation, 40 km south of Vancouver and bordering the municipality of Delta
- Tsawwassen Lands 724 ha





Tsawwassen First Nation is
collaborating with the University of
British Columbia's Centre
for Environmental Assessment
Research to develop a **TFN Impact
Assessment Framework**





TFN Impact Assessment Framework

In Canada...

- British Columbia *Environmental Assessment Act 2018*
- Canadian *Impact Assessment Act 2019*
- TFN is currently participating in six IAs, all in various stages of the process
- *We are seeking to develop a TFN IA process*





TFN Impact Assessment Framework

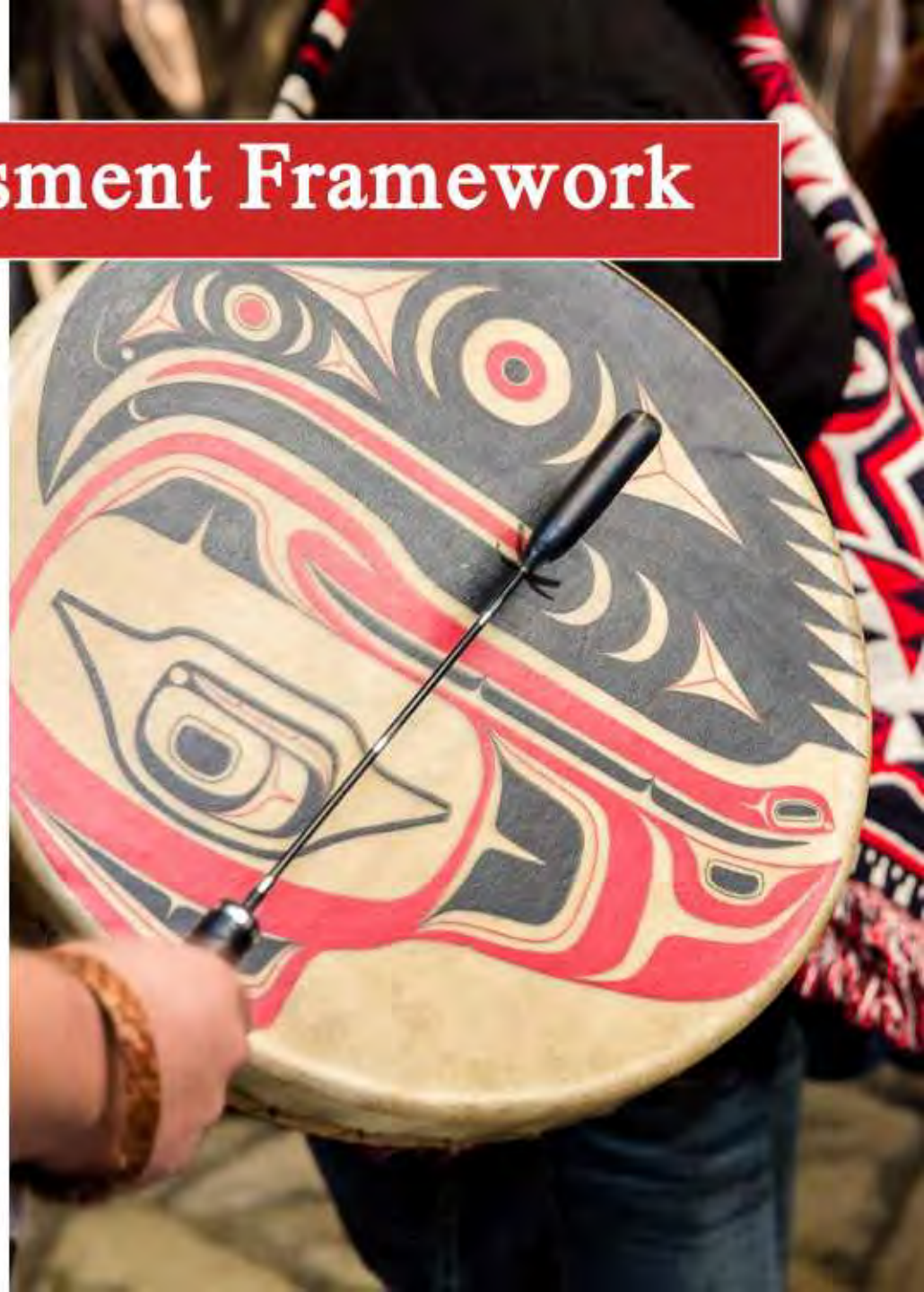
- Will serve as a guiding tool for future assessments of major projects
- Unique to TFN and reflect specific values, priorities, and requirements for proponents





TFN Impact Assessment Framework

- Will identify:
 - Guiding principles
 - Values
 - Process
 - Decision-making criteria
- Will be accessible to project developers, regulators & the public







TFN Impact Assessment Framework

- Review and evaluate previous IAs TFN has engaged on
 - Outcomes:
 - set of guiding principles for discussion
 - Interview/focus group questions
- Develop TFN IA Framework
 - Outcomes
 - Report and summary by end of year 2



Guiding Values



- Cumulative effects
- Respect and relationship building



What We Need to Know

- What will trigger a TFN IA?
 - Will there be different levels of review?
- What are the steps of TFN IA? What is expected of a proponent?
- What are the decision-making criteria?
- Who makes the decision and how is it communicated?
- What are the expectations for member engagement?



Challenges and Questions

- Capacity and knowledge among Members
- The need for a clear process, but also flexibility and adaptability
- Awareness of other Nations' territories and overlapping jurisdiction
- Cumulative effects and highly impacted landscapes

Let's continue the conversation!

Post questions and comments in the IAIA24 app.

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Thank you

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