

File No. 400.70 Nexwagwez?an

"There for us"

June 2018

Dear CRD Board Chair Margo Wagner,

We are writing to share with you the Dasigox Tribal Park Community Vision and Management Goals summary document.

This document represents the public outcome of our initial management planning work for the area. It reflects the Xeni Gwet'in and Yuneŝit'in's community vision and priority goals for each of three aspects of the Tribal Park: ecological stewardship, sustainable economic development and cultural revitalization. Many Tŝilhqot'in community members have contributed to these plans to date, and now the document is being shared with the broader community and general public for feedback.

As you know, the Tsilhqot'in communities of Xeni Gwet'in and Yunesit'in, with the support of the Tŝilhgot'in National Government, announced Dasigox Tribal Park in October 2014. Also known as Nexwagwez?an ("there for us"), it is a proposed land, water and wildlife management area located in traditional Tŝilhqot'in territory. It is located about 125 kilometres southwest of Williams Lake, BC and includes about 300,000 hectares of wilderness and wildlife habitat, connecting a number of existing protected areas and wildlife corridors.

Tribal parks are Indigenous-led conservation areas for land, water and wildlife that also offer options for aligning and reconciling competing interests in the region. In the case of the Dasigox, it is intended to advance an alternative vision for the management and governance of the area - one that allows us to protect the land and revitalize Tŝilhqot'in culture, while also creating opportunities for sustainable economic development for both Tsilhqot'in and the broader community.

We believe Dasiqox Tribal Park to be a tangible expression of reconciliation that provides us with a historic opportunity to redefine our relationship with our non-Indigenous neighbours in the region. Dasiqox gives British Columbia an opportunity to find a new way forward where Indigenous values and laws are taken into consideration when making decisions about the land, and that will guide us in reconciling competing interests and plans for the land.

We would like to hear from you and get your comments and feedback on the vision and this work. We will be welcoming comments on this document until July 31, 2018. Electronic copies are available at dasigox.org.

If you have any questions or are interested in discussing our vision further, please to not hesitate to get in touch.

Yuneŝit'in Government

Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Government