



GITANYOW HEREDITARY CHIEFS

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November 25, 2024

**NOTICE TO TENURE & LICENSE HOLDERS, PERMIT HOLDERS, AFFECTED PARTIES,
PROVINCIAL MINISTRIES, LOCAL & OTHER GOVERNMENTS**

RE: Proposed New Indigenous Protected Area in Cranberry and Kiteen Watersheds

To Whom It May Concern:

We write to you as a recorded holder of land and water-based interests to ensure you are aware of the proposed Ganeda Indigenous Protected Area in the Cranberry and Kiteen Watersheds and to invite you to engage in dialogue with the Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs Office regarding potential impacts of the protected area to your provincial tenure, license, permit or other authorization.

Wilp Watakhayetsw and Gamlakyeltxw are operating under their inherent and ancestral responsibilities as stewards of their Lax'yip (territory) and Gitanyow Ayookw (laws) striving to protect critical salmon spawning and migration habitat, as well as high valued moose habitat, and numerous historic and contemporary cultural sites.

We are increasingly concerned with the climate crisis that is affecting global populations, including throughout the Gitanyow Lax'yip demonstrated by unprecedented drought and extreme weather and wildfire. This is an opportunity to step forward and show leadership in not only environmental protection supporting global conservation targets, but in respecting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

Gitanyow and the provincial government have a long-standing government-to-government land use plan that is adaptive in nature based on new data and information. Gitanyow invites provincial representatives to consider the Ganeda Indigenous Protected Area in the context of the [Gitanyow Lax'yip Land Use Plan](#) and to explore potential provincial regulatory tools to recognize the protection of this important area.

Attached you will find a map and accompanying shape files of the area in question. If your license, tenure, permit or other authorization is within this area or surrounding areas and you would like to set up a meeting to discuss the proposed Ganeda Indigenous Protected Area and what it means for your company or government's interests in the area, please contact

Tara Marsden at Tara.Marsden@gitanyowchiefs.com or 250-842-3297 to set up a meeting or inquire via letter or email.

Over the next 3 months, we invite dialogue and comment on the proposed protected area including discussion on potential allowable and prohibited activities in the protected area, and special management direction and considerations. We also invite dialogue on alignment of the potential protected area with provincial, federal and municipal government plans, policies, laws and regulations. Please provide any responses no later than end of day February 28, 2025. Please send all correspondence to Tara.Marsden@gitanyowchiefs.com

Following the 3-month engagement period, we will share the results of the engagement with affected parties and incorporate where necessary into the Declaration and Management Plan for the Ganeda Indigenous Protected Area. A celebratory event to commemorate the Declaration and Management Plan establishing the Ganeda Indigenous Protected Area will be held thereafter and an invitation will be sent to you.

Sincerely,



Simoogit Watakhayetsw/Deborah Good



Simoogit Sindih/Graham Morgan

Simoogit Gamlakyeltxw/Wil Marsden

Attachments: Map and shapefiles of Proposed Ganeda Indigenous Protected Area