

Weyt'k (Hello)

Tk'emlúps (Kamloops) Indian Band (TIB) is proud to be the first major contributor and sponsor for the Green Dream Home and pleased that this technologically advanced eco-friendly home is situated on-reserve within the award winning Sun Rivers Golf Resort Community -- the first fully geo-technically heated and cooled community in Canada.

The word "Tk'emlúps" (tik-kumm-loops) means "where the rivers meet" and for centuries has been the home of the Tk'emlupsemc... the 'people of the confluence'. For those who are unfamiliar with the Tk'emlúps Indian Reserve, it is located at the confluence of the North and South Thompson Rivers and adjacent to the City of Kamloops in the Southern Interior of British Columbia.

Tk'emlúps Indian Reserve #1 is the largest reserve in British Columbia and has traditionally held great economic importance for our Secwepemc (Shuswap) Nation as it is the hub of historical traffic and trade routes. Approximately 1,100 members strong, TIB is one of 17 Secwepemc (Shuswap) Nation Bands. Tk'emlúps is regarded as one of the most progressive First Nations in Canada. Today it continues to strive for further business, environmental, and socially responsible advancements.

The diverse economic development initiatives undertaken by TIB provide meaningful employment and numerous business opportunities for our Band and community members alike. Band business ventures include the Spiyu7ullucw Ranch, Tk'emlúps Petroleum, Tk'emlúps Car Wash, Secwepemc Museum and Heritage Park, Mt. Paul Industrial Park, Kamloops Indian Band Development Corporation, Kamloops Indian Band Utility Corporation, TIB Forestry Corporation, Mount Paul Centre, Chief Louis Centre, and a number of other projects which are under development.

The reserve is also home to over 370 non-Band owned businesses and provides land and office space to a number of government agencies, a Simon Fraser Satellite Campus, All Nations Trust Company, and numerous other First Nation service organizations. Together, these businesses and organizations employ close to 6,000 employees, many of whom live off reserve and contribute greatly to the neighboring City of Kamloops economy. It is estimated that the Band contributes some 250 million dollars annually to the regional economy, primarily through its work as an employer, landlord, business operator and tax collector.

TIB has benefited greatly by attracting and fostering good business relationships and partnerships and the Band's leadership hopes to continue along those lines for generations to come.

More recently, TIB signed a ground breaking mine revenue sharing agreement with New Gold Inc., the Provincial Government, and the Skeetchestn Indian Band; which includes the right of first refusal on mine vendor contracts, and a Band member recruiting (for employment) program.

Band representatives sit on many local boards which grant the responsibility to deliver various community services. These include:

- Participation in a local mountain sheep management society, through which the Band provides guiding and license auction services.
- Membership in the local forestry management agency, which includes fiber management, allocation and tenure initiatives.
- Membership in the Thompson Nicola Tourism Association which promotes local attractions including the Band's annual Pow Wow, Museum and Ethno-Botanical Garden.

TIB has made significant contributions to Aboriginal leasing and taxation initiatives. Two national organizations, the First Nations Alliance for Land Management and the First Nations Tax Commission, grew out of the efforts of TIB's Lands Department (Freda Jules) and a former Chief (Manny Jules).

As well, in 2008, TIB was recognized for its efforts and successes by being awarded the Economic Developer of the Year by the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers.

The TIB Value Statement is:

“With teamwork we create action and pride”.

The collective effort of our team – the Band's leadership, staff, and community members - has resulted in a thriving community and the building of many successful associations and partnerships.

Once again, the Tk'emlúps Indian Band is very proud to play a role in this progressive project. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us for more information.