



T'it'q'et

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Statement from Chief Courteney Adolph-Jones

"T'it'q'et Council's primary goal is to protect our lands and assets for future generations.

"Council supports the continued use of our land for a forestry facility. However, our community has been patiently negotiating with the federal government and facility operators for almost 10 years to come to an agreement that would protect our land and allow the facility to continue to operate. The decision to give notice of eviction is part of a legal process that we must undertake in order to ensure that our asset is protected if the facility operator chooses not to sign a lease by the end of March 2020.

"Again, the facility has been operating on our lands without a proper legal agreement for nearly a decade. The decision to give notice was not motivated by any outside political events. In fact, on December 14, 2019, Council gave the current tenants notice of the deadline of March 29, 2020, to come to an agreement. That notice was provided as part of an ongoing legal process to protect our land and be clear that the current tenants cannot continue to operate indefinitely without a proper legal agreement.

"Council recognizes the employment benefits from the facility and the wider impact that it has on the region. We remain hopeful that the current tenant will continue to negotiate and come to an agreement so that all parties can benefit from the continued use of our land."

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