

# REBUILDING OUR SYILX NATION + RECOGNITION

**We need our own  
Syilx Nation  
government  
to represent us as  
Syilx People,  
in order to  
fully govern and  
benefit from our  
Title and Rights.**

**Our Aboriginal  
Title and Rights are  
held collectively at the  
Syilx Nation level,  
not at the  
community Band level.**

**We give up nothing as  
a Nation or People  
with a Recognition  
Agreement.**

**Our Title and Rights  
are inherent and  
cannot be changed  
or extinguished.**

Upholding their mandate to protect and advance Syilx People's Title and Rights, the Chiefs Executive Council has been negotiating with Canada at a *Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination* table.

**We know who we are.** Through this process, the government of Canada can finally and formally *tell itself* and all of its bodies to recognize the Syilx People and our Syilx Nation. This is a much more effective path than continually fighting for our rights in costly endless court cases.

Recognition of the Syilx People, developing *ankc'xw'ipla?ntat ut ysat i? ks sactxat'stim* – *our laws and responsibilities*, and establishing our Syilx Nation government are vital steps to fully realize our collective title and rights under *Section 35* of the Canadian Constitution, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

This is not a treaty. It is not a land claim settlement. It does not set up a municipal level government. It has nothing to do with a corporation. We give up nothing! Instead, Canada will be legally bound to stop its denial and recognize the Syilx Nation and our People's inherent Title and Rights.

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip states: "This is the path to a more just future where we never again have to struggle at every turn to assert our identity and rights as a Nation."

The Chiefs Executive Council will continue in its role as governance body through transition to our own Nation level government. *ankc'xw'ipla?ntat ut ysat i? ks sactxat'stim* – *our laws and responsibilities* must be set out and approved by Syilx Nation members through the community-led process to rebuild our Syilx Nation government.

Recognition by the federal government will create a new Nation-to-Nation fiscal relationship with Canada and support access to Nation rebuilding and then ongoing Syilx Nation governance funding.

Stronger intergovernmental relations and respect for Syilx decision-making authority in Syilx territory will support the full realization of our inherent and collectively held Title and Rights.

