



## COUNCIL OF THE HAIDA NATION

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September 10, 2019

After four years of negotiation with Canada, Coastal First Nation (CFN) has successfully entered into a reconciliation agreement regarding commercial fishing called the Fisheries Resource Reconciliation Agreement (FRRA). This agreement is intended to increase commercial fishing access for signatory nations. Through this arrangement, citizens who wish to fish commercially should be able to do so, while the signatory nations also secure a role in management and protection of coastal waters, as well as restoration and enhancement programs.

While commercial fishing was once the centre to the economy of all Coastal Nations, access has diminished through various licencing schemes and programs.

While the CHN was not initially a part of this arrangement, it has now secured the option to become a party to the FRRA. In securing this option, the CHN retains the ability to opt out at any time. The FRRA has been reviewed by CHN elected and hereditary leaders and the nation's legal counsel and will be brought to Haida citizens throughout the next few months. If we determine to stay in, this would be in addition to what has already been negotiated, however our late arrival means certain aspects have yet to be secured.

Between now and March 31, 2020 the CHN will be hosting information sessions and providing full details about the agreement. After feedback from Haida citizens and further negotiations with Canada, a final decision will be made about whether or not to go this course.

Please stay tuned for meeting announcements.

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The Haida Nation is one of the founding members of Coastal First Nations. CFN member nations include: Skidegate Band Council, Old Massett Village Council, Wuikinuxv, Heiltsuk, Kitasoo/Xaixais, Nuxalk, Gitga'at, Metlakatla. CFN is not a Rights and Title holder, it is a collective effort to advance the common cause of its member nations.