



# T'KEMLÚPS TE SECWÉPEMC HERITAGE CONSERVATION BY-LAW UPDATE

## WHY IS T'KEMLÚPS TE SECWÉPEMC UPDATING THE HERITAGE CONSERVATION BY-LAW?

T'kemlúps te Secwépmc (TteS) is updating its on-reserve Heritage Conservation By-Law to better protect, preserve, and manage the community's cultural resources. This update is important because the current by-law, while effective, needs to be more comprehensive in addressing the evolving needs and challenges faced by the community in safeguarding its heritage sites, artifacts, and traditions.

One of the key reasons for the update is the growing recognition of the importance of integrating Indigenous knowledge and values into heritage conservation practices. The TteS leadership recognizes that the preservation of cultural heritage is not just about protecting physical sites and objects but also about ensuring that the community's history, stories, and traditions are passed down to future generations. This requires a by-law that reflects the unique cultural perspectives of the Secwépmc people.

Additionally, the updated by-law aims to strengthen the legal framework for protecting heritage resources on TteS reserve lands. As development pressures increase, it is vital to have clear and enforceable regulations to prevent damage to or loss of culturally significant sites. The new by-law will provide more robust protection measures, ensuring that any development or activity on reserve lands is carried out respectfully and in alignment with the community's heritage conservation goals.

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN THE BY-LAW UPDATE

The TteS leadership strongly believes that the success of this by-law update depends on the active participation of community members. The voices, experiences, and knowledge of TteS members are invaluable in shaping a by-law that truly reflects the community's needs and aspirations.

To ensure broad community involvement, TteS is inviting all members to participate in the by-law update process. This can be done in several ways:



### Feedback Sessions:

TteS will host a series of community meetings and workshops where members can learn more about the proposed changes and share their thoughts, concerns, and suggestions. These sessions are an opportunity for members to ask questions and engage directly with the team responsible for drafting the by-law.



### Surveys and Questionnaires:

For those unable to attend in-person sessions, TteS will circulate online surveys and questionnaires, allowing members to provide their feedback at their convenience. This ensures that every voice has the chance to be heard, even if attending a meeting in person is not possible.



### Online Platforms:

TteS will utilize online platforms to keep the community informed and engaged throughout the by-law update process. Regular updates will be posted on the TteS website and social media channels, where members can access information and submit their feedback electronically.



### Elders and Knowledge Keepers Consultations:

Recognizing the importance of traditional knowledge, TteS will hold special consultations with Elders, Knowledge Keepers, and the SNN Family Panel. Their insights will be crucial in ensuring that the by-law reflects and respects the cultural heritage of the Secwépemc people.

## CONCLUSION

Updating the TteS Heritage Conservation By-Law is a significant step toward preserving and protecting the cultural heritage of the Tkemlúps te Secwépemc community. By participating in the by-law update process, community members can help shape a future where the heritage of TteS is respected, preserved, and passed on to future generations. Your input is vital to this process, and we encourage all members to get involved and have their voices heard. Together, we can create a by-law that honours our past and safeguards our cultural legacy for the future.