



K'ómoks First Nation

3330 Comox Rd., Courtenay BC, V9N 3P8 Ph: 250.339.4545 F: 250.339.7053 E: reception@komoks.ca

May 23, 2024

Geoff Garbutt, CAO
City of Courtenay
830 Cliffe Avenue,
Courtenay, BC, V9N 2J7

Dear Geoff Garbutt, CAO,

Re: K'ómoks First Nation Addition to Reserve Letter of Support

K'ómoks First Nation (KFN) is proceeding with an Addition to Reserve Application to the Government of Canada for three parcels (198 acres/80 hectares) of fee-simple land held by the Nation in the Union Bay area (Southlands Project).

As part of this process, we are seeking a Letter of Support from the City of Courtenay. We hope to work together with you and other First Nations, local, provincial, and federal government entities, and interested parties on our shared obligations and common interests through reconciliation and partnership building.

As you know, land is central to First Nation identity, knowledge, and economic resilience. Promoting the inherent right for First Nations to govern their lands, territories and resources is critical to creating pathways for self-determination and prosperity. KFN is seeking to act on this inherent right through the completion of an Addition to Reserve Process for the portions of District Lots 28, 31, and 32 Nelson District, as shown on Attachment No. 1. These lands are currently held fee-simple by KFN and were purchased approximately 11 years ago to enable future economic development initiatives. As time has advanced, the potential use of the lands has changed and the Nation is at an important decision-point.

At issue for the Nation is the shortage of buildable land for member housing. K'ómoks IR#1 is nearing full buildout and can no longer serve as the location for future member housing or other community needs. The Puntledge and Goose Spit IRs are heavily encumbered by environmental constraints, while the Salmon River IR is both distant and impacted by accessibility issues (see Attachment No. 2 for the location of KFN Reserve Lands). As such, KFN is applying to amend the status of a current KFN holding in the Union Bay area from fee-simple to Reserve Lands. It is anticipated that the future uses will also include administrative, community-support functions, and economic development initiatives.

The subject parcels form a 198 acre/80 hectare holding. Currently, the lands are undeveloped and contain regenerating forests, wetland areas, and passive recreation.

The federal responsibility for the Addition to Reserve process is shared between the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and the Minister of Indigenous Services Canada. The ATR process acts as a redress mechanism for past injustices by the Government of Canada. As part of this process, we are required to seek Letters of Support and hope that City of Courtenay will provide a positive response for this initiative. Attachment No. 3 provides a draft template for your consideration.

We request this response by June 10, 2024. Should you have any questions or wish to receive further information, please contact Carol McColl, K'ómoks First Nation Lands Manager by phone at 250-339-4545 ext. 125 or by email at carol.mccoll@komoks.ca.

Sincerely,



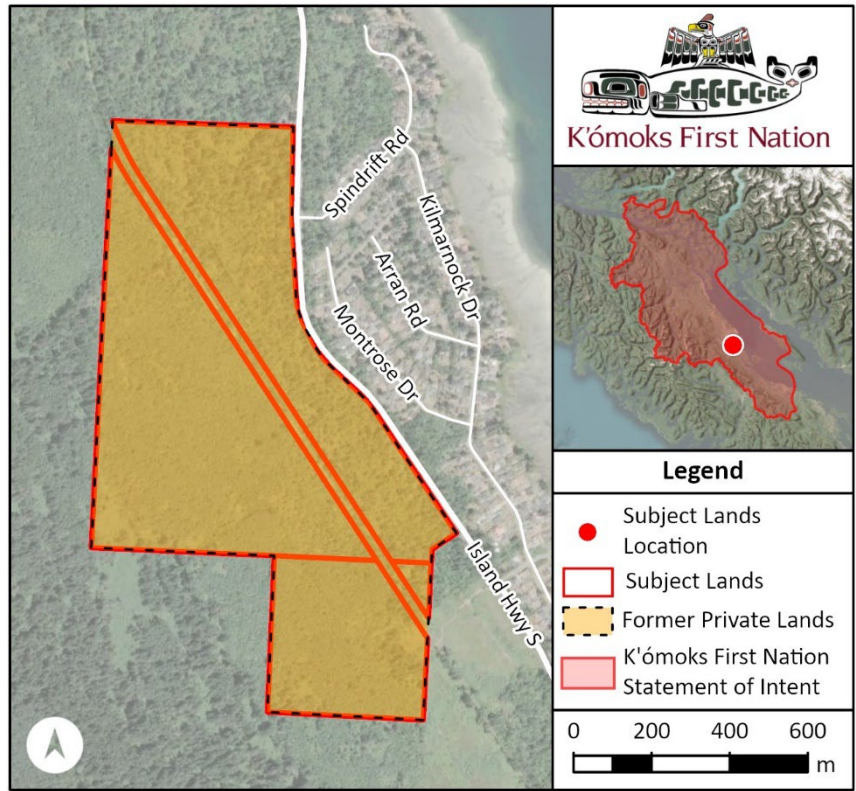
Ken Price
Chief, K'ómoks First Nation

cc: Chief & Council
cc: Treaty Team
cc: Intergovernmental Relations
cc: Tina McLean, CAO
cc: Carol McColl, Lands Manager

Attachment No. 1: Subject Lands
Attachment No. 2: KFN Reserve Lands
Attachment No. 3: Response Letter Template

Attachment No. 1: Subject Lands, KFN Addition to Reserve Application

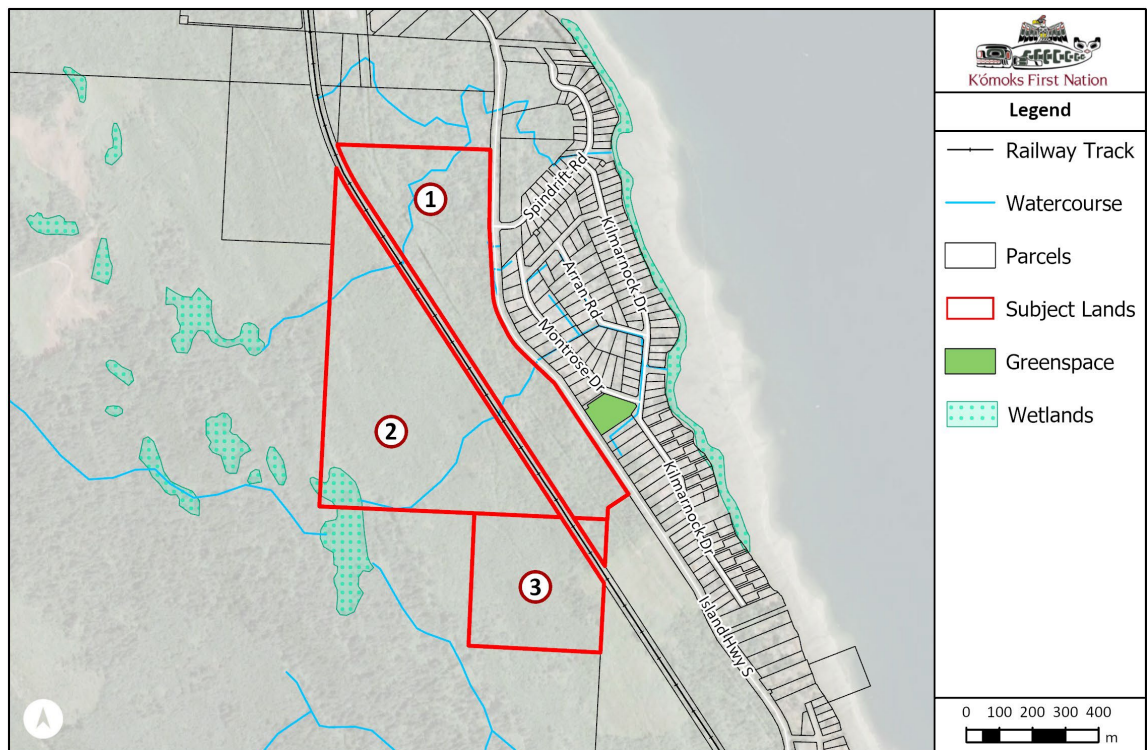
**Map 1: Subject Lands
(Total Area 198 ac/80 ha)**



**Map 2: Parcel Identification
(below)**

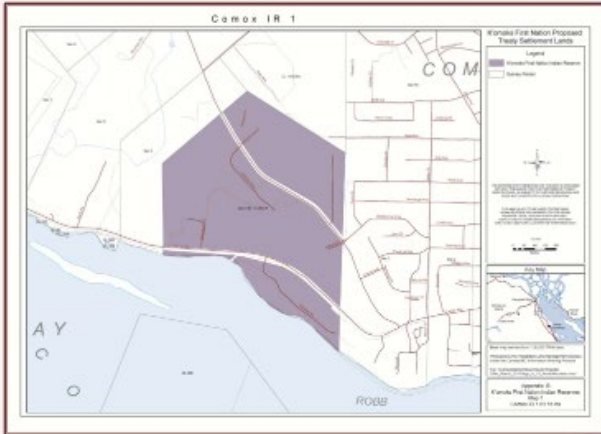
Legal Descriptions:

1. LOT 2 DISTRICT LOT 28
NELSON DISTRICT PLAN
EPP17930
2. LOT 3 DISTRICT LOTS 28
AND 31 NELSON DISTRICT
PLAN EPP17930
3. DISTRICT LOT 32, NELSON
DISTRICT



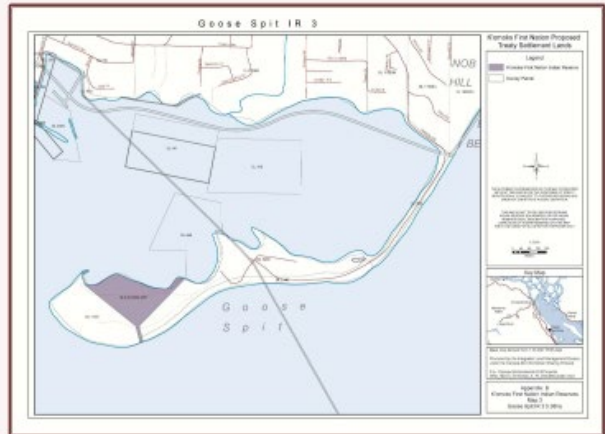
Attachment No. 2: KFN Reserve Lands

Comox IR 1



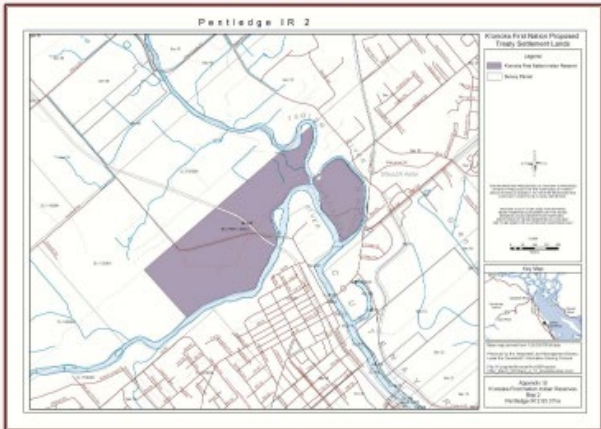
Total Area = 61.51 ha
(~ 152 acres)

Goose Spit IR 3



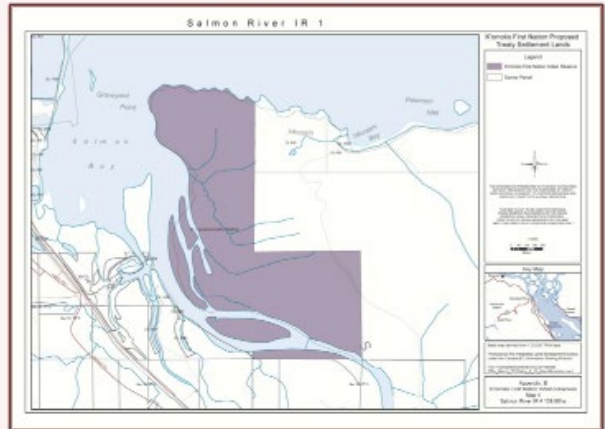
Total Area = 5.38 ha
(~ 13 acres)

Pentledge IR 2



Total Area = 83.31 ha
(~ 206 acres)

Salmon River IR 1



Total Area = 159.86 ha
(~ 395 acres)

Attachment No. 3: Response Letter Template

Letter Head

Insert date [please respond prior to June 10th, 2024]

Chief Ken Price
K'ómoks First Nation
3330 Comox Road
Courtenay BC V9N 3P8

Dear Chief Price,

Re: K'ómoks First Nation Addition to Reserve Application – Union Bay (Southlands Project)

In response to your recent letter requesting support for K'ómoks First Nation's (KFN) Addition to Reserve Application for the Southlands Project, we provide the following.

We understand that the purpose of this application is to address the shortage of buildable land for member housing and economic development activities. Further, we understand that the lands are currently held as fee-simple by the Nation.

We support this application for the following reasons (if applicable).

Add in reasons a, b, c.

Add in any comments and/or a reference to an Adopted Motion, Band Council Resolution, or other recommendation.

We understand that this letter will be provided to the Government of Canada as part of K'ómoks First Nation's (KFN) Addition to Reserve Application for the Southlands Project.

If there are any questions or if representatives of K'ómoks First Nation wish to meet to discuss this letter, please contact *contact person* at *telephone/email* at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Name and Title