

Columbia River Treaty 2019 Engagement Plan

Presented to the Columbia Basin Regional Advisory Committee
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Team

- B.C. Treaty Team
- B.C. Government Communications & Public Engagement
- Global Affairs Canada
- B.C. Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
- Input from Minister Katrine Conroy's office

Goals

- To ensure Columbia **Basin residents feel engaged and heard** throughout the Columbia River Treaty negotiation process, and **see their input reflected in modernized Treaty.**
- To **make progress on issues** raised by Canadian Columbia Basin residents related to the Columbia River Treaty footprint and operations.
- To **increase public understanding** of the Columbia River Treaty.
- To **encourage support and understanding from key U.S. stakeholders** of Canada/B.C.'s interests and positions.

Phases

- **2012 – 2013: Columbia River Treaty Review**
- **2014 – 2017: Prepare for negotiations**
- **2018: Begin negotiations**
 - Confirm priority interests with Columbia Basin public
 - Share updates on negotiations
 - Broaden awareness of how the Treaty affects the Canadian Columbia Basin
- **2019: Continue negotiations**
 - Make progress on community interests
 - Broaden community engagement
 - Continue to provide updates on negotiations
- **Date TBD: Seek community feedback on modernized Treaty options**
- **Date TBD: Share final agreement with the Basin**

What we heard from you

Who to engage with:

- Elected officials (incl. newly elected)
- Media
- Individual communities
- Youth
- New community members
- Disengaged public (e.g. the 'who cares' crowd)
- Business leaders
- Community clubs/Non-profit organizations

What we heard from you

How to engage:

- CRT themed tours
- Social media – consider adding Instagram
- Regular updates for the public
- Timely/accurate information available to the public
- Engage by topic vs. the Treaty as a whole
- Engage through creative means – e.g. art competitions, photo exhibits, filmmaking
- Local media
- Share successes from improvement projects
- Connect with community opinion leaders
- Work with educators and school districts to engage with youth

2018 Highlights

- **Community Meetings**

- 10 communities– 423 people attended

- **Public Updates**

- B.C.'s CRT Website, Facebook & Twitter

- **Media**

- Local, National and U.S. coverage

- **Conferences**

- Lake Roosevelt Forum, Spokane, WA (April 2018)
- CRT Symposium, Victoria, BC (May 2018)
- PNWER Summit, Spokane, WA (July 2018)

- **Tours**

- PNWER Tour, Castlegar and Nakusp, B.C. (July 2018)
- Canadian and U.S. negotiating teams toured CRT dams (June 2018)

2019 Plan

- **Updates on Negotiations**
 - Messages from Minister Katrine Conroy
 - Media coverage
 - B.C. Treaty Website, Facebook and Twitter posts before and after each round
 - CBRAC and LGC emails and update calls
 - Quarterly Newsletters

2019 Plan

- **Make progress on community interests**
 - What is currently being done?
 - What more could be done?
 - Where are the gaps?
- **Expand engagement**
 - Focus on youth
 - Spark conversations based on topics/interests vs the Treaty
- **Community meetings – fall 2019**
- **Conferences**
 - Transboundary Conference – Sept 12 – 14, Kimberly
- **Outreach to U.S. stakeholders**

CBRAC's Role

- Provide advice on CRT and hydro operation related topics
- Bring feedback from your communities to the Province, BC Hydro and CBRAC
- Provide advice on how to engage with your communities
- Support/promote CRT community meetings and other engagement activities
- Share B.C.'s communication through your channels (social media, newsletters etc.)

Questions For You

Off the top of your head...

- Do you get the impression that people who are interested in the Treaty feel informed?
- Are there any groups of people that are not being reached with our existing engagement activities?
- Are there any obvious opportunities we are missing for keeping the public informed?

Thank you