



# Proposed Short-Term Forestry Agreement for the Gitksan.

## Key Components of Agreement.

- Will not sign away any rights and title to the land.
- \$13,876,552 over five years.
- Assist in revitalizing the forest economy.
- Address Gitksan aboriginal interests with respect to forest development.
- \$250,000 to assist with the Gitksan to enhance watershed consultation, including the Gitsegukla Watershed Pilot Project.
- Non replaceable forest tenure (s) for up to 1.2 million cubic meters over five years
- Commitment to direct contracts for failed pine plantations.
- \$1 million dollars for Northwest reforestation / Forest Enhancement program over four years.
- Does not exclude the Gitksan from accessing other forestry economic opportunities or benefits.
- Acknowledges Gitksan Rights and Title.

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Gitksan.com

Since the signing of the Gitksan Interim Measures Agreement regarding Forest Development (IMA) in June 1, 2003 the Gitksan Treaty Office and the province of BC have been negotiating a “Short-Term Forestry Agreement” (STFA). The STFA is the second agreement, in a three-step Process,



**Gimlitzwit meeting June 14, 2006 discussing STFA.**

originally set out in the IMA. With the final step been the Long-Term Forestry agreement; Where the Gitksan will introduce their policies ie. Water, Forestry and the oil& gas policies.

On June 5, 2006 Bob Friesen, Assistant Deputy Minister Tenure and Revenue Division presented the Gitksan with a proposed “Short-Term Forestry Agreement”. The agreement was then sent out to the Gimlitzwit for their review prior to the meeting on June 14, 2006.

The June 14th meeting was to discuss the implication of signing the agreement; David Burse a lawyer from Bull Housser and Tupper was in attendance to answer any legal questions. The meeting went well with many positive responses to the agreement, with few concerns.

In order to propose changes to the Agreement prior to ratification the chiefs have been asked to address any concerns in writing and submit them to Cameron Stevens, Gitksan Treaty Office Forester.

The purpose of the IMA is to assist in revitalizing the forest economy in Northwest British Columbia , and to address Gitksan aboriginal interests with respect to forest development within the Gitksan Traditional Territory, as defined in the STFA.