



KTUNAXA
NATION

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To: Whom it may concern,

The Ktunaxa Nation Council (KNC) is responsible for stewardship of Ktunaxa ?amak?is and works closely with ?aqam and other Ktunaxa Communities on stewardship issues and concerns both on and off reserve.

The KNC is currently in the process of Treaty negotiations with the Province of BC and Government of Canada. Within those negotiations are lands that have been identified as 'Treaty Parcels'. These lands were identified a number of years ago as part of the Treaty negotiations, and are lands that both BC and Ktunaxa agree will be 'Ktunaxa Lands' upon the conclusion of Treaty.

It is our understanding that numerous Treaty parcels surrounding the City of Cranbrook are at risk and have been identified as high priority for wildfire interface treatments. The Nation feels that this is important work that must be done in order to keep our communities safe, as we still recover from the last 2 years of extensive wildfire in the region, and can only expect that this will continue and potentially increase in the coming years.

We are supportive of ?aqam working in collaboration with partners to conduct the wildfire interface work that is required on these parcels and hope that in the future, ?aqam, KNC and other Ktunaxa Communities will participate in the broader landscape around Cranbrook and in the region to continue this important work for the safety of our overall communities.

Sincerely,

Ray Warden
Director, Lands and Resources, KNC

?akisqnuuk

?aqam

Lower Kootenay

Tobacco Plains