**COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS** |

Custom Land Holdings Project

**WHAT IS THE CUSTOM LAND HOLDINGS PROJECT?**

Penelakut Tribe (**Penelakut**) has started a Custom Land Holdings Project (**Project**) to resolve boundary issues between different interests in Penelakut reserve lands. These issues arose due to administrative errors that occurred while the Government of Canada was responsible for managing our reserve lands until 2020.

The Project team includes: Penelakut staff, Urban Systems (land use planning & mapping), and Woodward & Co. (legal support). The team is working to resolve these issues through a community-driven process grounded in traditional laws and values. The goal is to create a clear path forward to resolve conflicts and make fair decisions, so Penelakut and our members can have certainty about land ownership on our reserve.

**NOTICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS**

This month**,** Penelakut Tribe (**Penelakut**) will be hosting two community meetings to provide information about the Project and to seek the community’s input into the next stages of the project. The meeting details are:

* **On-Reserve Community Meeting:** Monday, July 14, 2025, at 11:00AM to 1:00PM at the Penelakut Island Elementary School (lunch included).
* **Off-Reserve Community Meeting:** Monday, July 14, 2025, at 5:00PM to 7:00PM at the CVI Restaurant in Duncan B.C (dinner included).

**WHAT WILL WE TALK ABOUT AT THE COMMUNITY MEETINGS?**

At the community meetings, the Project team will provide information about the work done so far and the next steps. They will also give an overview of the proposed dispute resolution process for boundary discrepancies. The next phase of the project (Fall 2025) involves receiving feedback from the community about the proposed process. We want and need your feedback to make sure the process works for the community.

**WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THIS PROJECT TO THE COMMUNITY?**

Resolving these issues will allow Penelakut to develop a Land Use Plan for the reserve. This will help Penelakut designate new areas for housing, community services, and economic development. Further benefits of having a Land Use Plan include:

* **Strengthening Self-Governance & Sovereignty:** Empowering Penelakut to make decisions about land use.
* **Environmental Stewardship:** Managing forests, water, wildlife, and other resources.
* **Economic Development:** Guiding the development of housing, roads, schools, and health facilities, and creating opportunities for entrepreneurial members.

**QUESTIONS?**

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact Josh James, Economic Development Officer, through the band office at (250) 246-2321 or by email: josh.james@penelakut.ca.