Iskut On-Reserve Land Code

Virtual Town Hall #3

February 18, 2026

Questions & Answers

This document summarizes the questions raised during the February 18th Virtual Town Hall session.

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1. Are all Tahltans invited to this meeting (such as Tahltans in Telegraph and Dease and afar who are not in Iskut band)?

No, this On-Reserve Land Code process is specifically for Iskut Band only.

2. Why do we need a Land Code when we have rights and titles?

The On-Reserve Land Code is a different process than Rights and Title. On-reserve is governed by the *Indian Act*.

3. I'm wondering if we wanted to hold the government accountable for opposing the Indian Act on Tahltans. Would this land code imply that we agree to the Indian Act?

All reserve lands are currently managed under the *Indian Act* unless a Band undergoes a Land Code process. Iskut's Chief and Council began the On-Reserve Land Code process in 2017 to have greater authority over our reserve lands.

The Land Code is not a political process—it is an administrative process through First Nations Land Management that allows Iskut to move away from sections of the *Indian Act*.

4. I think Iskut has the capacity to run their own lands department. Why would Iskut need TCG's assistance?

TCG currently operates the Tahltan Lands Department, and discussions are only exploring whether there may be opportunities for them to support Iskut's lands department. This approach is still to be determined and no decisions have been made.

5. Are there take home materials to study, such as existing land codes in operation already?

We did not share other Land Codes because we did not want to create confusion. However, there are other Land Codes that are complete that you can research. Our team will post a list of other Land Codes on the project webpage for reference.

It is important to keep in mind that Land Codes vary depending on the location and context of the community.

6. What kind of support would the Lands office need?

This has not been determined yet. It will depend on the land management model that we choose (one body or two body) and how we set up rules around lands.

7. Does “support” for the Lands Office mean funding?

If the community votes in favour of the Land Code, an agreement (called the Individual Agreement) will be signed with the federal government. This agreement outlines the funding amounts for the Land Code. Iskut members will have the opportunity to review a draft of this agreement before the vote in May.

8. Who is negotiating the budget? *(In regards to funding)*

The budget is set by Indigenous Services Canada using set formulas. As a result, there is limited room to negotiate the funding. However, we can negotiate the terms of the agreement (which is currently being drafted).

9. I heard that Telegraph Band voted down the Land Code. If so, why?

The two Bands did it together and there was significant confusion and misinformation about what the Land Code meant. Due to this, some members believed it was a land claims process for all the territory, which is not the case.

10. Where do I find the last two meetings?

Previous Town Hall recordings are available on the Land Code webpage under the section *Community Involvement*.