



PRESS RELEASE

TLA Announces Tsilhqot'in Decision Position Statement

January 20, 2015, Victoria – TLA members have formalized their support for and acknowledgement of the Tsilhqot'in Decision within the context of BC's forest industry.

"The time is now," said Don Banaksy, TLA President. "We recognize and respect this historic Decision and look forward to continuing to work cooperatively with First Nations and government to explore new ways to strengthen the forest industry in BC."

TLA members have a long history of working with Aboriginal groups and the TLA has worked over the last several years to attract more First Nations owned and operated companies to the industry and the Association. "We've been highlighting First Nations/TLA partnerships and their achievements in *Truck LoggerBC* magazine over the last year," said Banasky.

It's an exciting time to be involved in the forest industry and TLA members, both First Nations and non-First Nations, plan to lead the charge. "Ultimately, we encourage the provincial government to move expeditiously to facilitate shared sustainable resource use that builds on this Decision," said Banasky.

"What the forest industry needs from government is business certainty around the Tsilhqot'in Decision," said David Elstone, TLA Executive Director. "This will be key for TLA members and the industry as a whole."

Link: [TLA Position Statement: The Supreme Court of Canada's Decision in Tsilhqot'in v. British Columbia](#)

Link: [First Nations forestry articles in *Truck LoggerBC*](#)

The TLA (Truck Loggers Association) represents over 440 independent forest contractors and their suppliers operating on the coast of British Columbia. Our membership supports thousands of workers and, along with other independent contractors, accounts for close to 90 per cent of the trees harvested on the coast. The TLA promotes a thriving, sustainable coastal forest industry in BC.

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