



KTUNAXA  
NATION

*Indigenous people have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining their right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State...*

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

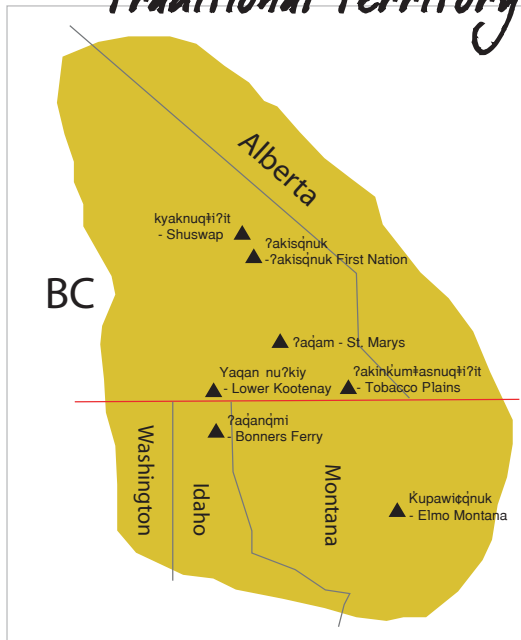
The Ktunaxa Nation is an Indigenous society whose traditional territory is within the asserted boundaries of Canada and the United States of America.

Ktunaxa Nation Citizens reside in both Canada and the United States of America and have empowered separate governments to protect their interests in both countries.

The Ktunaxa Nation Council is the Ktunaxa Nation government in Canada and is comprised of elected officials from ?Akisqnuq, Lower Kootenay, St. Mary's and Tobacco Plains First Nation Communities.

Ktunaxa

Traditional Territory



Contact Us

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[www.ktunaxa.org](http://www.ktunaxa.org)



KTUNAXA  
NATION

*Celebrating  
Who We Are*







## Past

### Ktunaxa Land

The Ktunaxa People describe their territory using ancient place names; some of these names are thousands of years old, having been established at the time of Creation.

Ktunaxa place names often describe significant events remembered in oral histories; some referencing battles with other Nations, others the making of peace.

Each Nation has a territory that can be defined as being exclusive to their historic use and occupancy, and also a territory that they would define as having been shared with other Nations, the latter generally coinciding with the region extending to the outermost boundaries of a given territory.

...working  
together...

Ktunaxa is a language isolate, meaning that is one of a kind and unrelated to any other language in the world! Historical impacts since the time of contact have resulted in the language now being near extinction.

The number of fluent speakers is decreasing at an alarming rate and extreme efforts are being made to preserve and revitalize the Ktunaxa Language. The traditional and ecological knowledge that is so important to the Kootenay Region is also endangered.

To learn more about the Ktunaxa Language, visit  
[www.ktunaxa.org](http://www.ktunaxa.org).



## Future

### Ktunaxa People

Ktunaxa (pronounced 'k-too-nah-ha') People have occupied the lands adjacent to the Kootenay and Columbia Rivers and the Arrow Lakes of British Columbia, Canada for more than 10,000 years. The Traditional Territory of the Ktunaxa Nation covers approximately 70,000 square km within the Kootenay region of south-eastern B.C., northern Montana and Idaho, and historically included parts of Alberta and Washington.

Today the Ktunaxa are a thriving Nation of people who are working to revitalize their language and culture, taking a lead stewardship role across their lands. The Ktunaxa Nation is enthusiastically working towards self-governance as part of their Nation re-building. They continue to maintain cooperative and respectful relationships with neighboring First Nations and other levels of government.

## Present

### Ktunaxa Nation Vision

*Strong, healthy citizens and communities,  
speaking our languages and celebrating  
who we are and our history in our  
ancestral homelands, working together,  
managing our lands and resources as a  
self-sufficient, self-governing Nation.*

