
What We Heard

In March 2021, the Treaty Team hosted two Citizens' meetings. In total, 103 Ktunaxa Citizens participated. The following is a summary of what we heard.

We heard:

- that the future vision includes self-sufficiency and self-determination, preserving our identity as Ktunaxa and ensuring our language, culture and ties to our land are preserved by passing them on through the generations. We are strong stewards of the land. We celebrate and hold our Nationhood in high regard, but we also feel it is important to recognize communities' autonomy in their own parts of our homelands.
- it is important for people to know their lineage, where we came from and how we are all connected. Visiting, getting together and interacting with Elders is essential.
- it is crucial for Citizens to be involved and well-informed and that youth are encouraged to become involved.
- there is optimism for the Nation Rebuilding process, including treaty. That there is a desire to revisit the Land package, including site visits. Those that were kids when the Land package was initially put together are eager to step up to be part of that process. They are now parents and want to make sure there is something for their kids.
- our strength is in our Citizen-driven approach, and we need to continue to have meetings and discuss matters that affect us as a Nation as we move forward.
- citizens envision a healthy Ktunaxa economy that allows citizens to have good jobs, homes and a bright future for the youth and generations to come.
- we need to think like a nation but recognize the autonomy of the communities within the Nation. All of our citizens can tie themselves back to one or more of the communities through their lineage.
- although there is still a bit of apprehension and distrust for the provincial and federal governments, people are hopeful for the future and are willing to move forward with open minds and cautious optimism regarding treaty and nation rebuilding in general. We heard that citizens recognize that we have an opportunity to move forward and make the best of that opportunity.
- we should have a shared perspective between the citizens, communities, and nation. We should all be feeding into that perspective. We need to get together more often to have discussions and hear what progress is being made.
- citizens are interested in learning about potential post-treaty impacts on the current reserve status, law-making, enforcement; and ensuring our communities are not side-lined.

