



TSAWWASSEN FIRST NATION
 sc̓awaθən məsteyəx^w

FACT SHEET:

TFN: CURRENT APPROPRIATE TERMINOLOGY

BACKGROUND:

The Tsawwassen Legislature unanimously approved a motion, sponsored by Legislative Member Ken Baird, to examine strategies to reduce and remove the use of certain incorrect and potentially offensive terms in reference to Tsawwassen First Nation. The Legislature expressed a concern that certain terms used under the Indian Act are no longer appropriate or correct. Terms specifically referenced in the motion included ‘Indian’, ‘band’, and ‘reserve’.

“We have escaped the terrible repression of the Indian Act, but its words became part of our language, and they are hard to erase”, said Chief Kim Baird, “It is still a learning process, both within our own community and around the country. We hope to change the words that are used to refer to Tsawwassen First Nation and its Members. It is one more step in getting away from the Indian Act, which kept us apart and separate, and one more step towards reconciliation.”

GUIDE FOR USE:

Incorrect Term	Correct Equivalent Term
Indian Band	First Nation <i>or</i> Treaty First Nation
Tsawwassen Indian Band	Tsawwassen First Nation
Tsawwassen Indian	Tsawwassen Member*
Tsawwassen Reserve	Tsawwassen Lands
Reserve	First Nation Lands
Band <i>or</i> Band Council	Tsawwassen Government (<i>general term</i>) <i>or</i> Government <i>or</i> Legislature (<i>specific body, if required</i>) <i>or</i> Executive Council (<i>specific body, if required</i>)
Band Office	TFN Administration Office

*Certain Tsawwassen Members, if eligible under the *Indian Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c.1-5, continue to be status Indians for the purposes of that legislation. Despite its legal significance, the resolution in the Tsawwassen Legislature expresses a desire to no longer be known by the term ‘Indian’.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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