

New Zoning By-law Fast Facts

RECONCILIATION AND RECOGNITION

Acknowledging the rights
of Indigenous Peoples

The City of Yellowknife acknowledges that we are located in Chief Drygeese territory. From time immemorial, it has been the traditional land of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation and more recently, the homeland of the North Slave Metis Alliance. We respect the histories, languages, and cultures of all Indigenous Peoples including the North Slave Métis, and all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

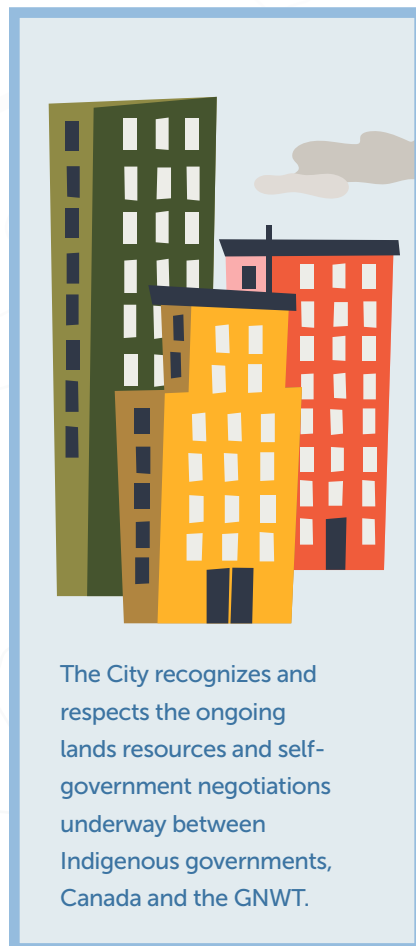
The City is actively working towards reconciliation, balancing this with a common vision for our community and the needs articulated by all our citizens. We recognize that our settler footprint here is new, and it is important that we honour the original residents and the significant contribution of all Indigenous Peoples in our development.

What the By-law says about Reconciliation

Reconciliation is a process where Indigenous Peoples and all other Canadians are working to build a respectful relationship based on acknowledging the past and its present-day impacts. It is the responsibility of every Canadian to honour and respect Indigenous rights and titles while acknowledging and letting go of perceptions and stereotypes.

The rights of Indigenous Peoples are acknowledged in the new Zoning By-law, which is a set of rules for development that implements the City's vision, principles and priorities for the community moving forward. The City protects and enhances public safety through appropriate By-laws and recognizes the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous Peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development. In particular, Indigenous Peoples have the right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programmes affecting them and, as far as possible, to administer such programmes through their institutions.

As a community, the City seeks to grow awareness of the importance of honouring, respecting and coexisting with Indigenous Peoples. The new Zoning By-law recognizes Indigenous Peoples as landowners and respects their right to participate in land management and development decisions within the municipal boundary. The By-law supports the City's commitment to reconciliation by clearly acknowledging the ongoing Akaitcho Interim Land Withdrawal process and resource and self-government negotiations.



The City recognizes and respects the ongoing lands resources and self-government negotiations underway between Indigenous governments, Canada and the GNWT.

Key features of the Zoning By-law

- Recognizes Indigenous governments as independent, partner governments inside City boundaries.
- Formally recognizes the Interim Land Withdrawal within the municipal boundary.
- Provides regulations and directions related to lands that could have historical, cultural significance and may need future protection.
- Allows the City to request and consider comments from Indigenous governments on proposed developments where they may have an interest.

What is behind the changes?

The City's commitment to reconciliation is a key driver behind these changes. In updating the Zoning By-law, the City engaged with Indigenous Peoples and governments to understand how to reflect this commitment through zoning.

The following points were raised:

- YKDFN's economic development arm (Det'on Cho Corporation) has interests in the City;
- Indigenous Peoples have interests in the Giant Mine Site;
- There are residential properties in the Residential Central area that the YKDFN owns and may like to re-develop;
- There is limited understanding in the public about the Akaitcho Process and the associated Interim Land Withdrawal within the City of Yellowknife. The City can play a positive role.

The City also considered:

- The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP); and,
- The 94 Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

Can you give me an example?

To honour the City's commitment to reconciliation, notification and the opportunity to participate are built into the regulations for Indigenous organizations and governments.

In the current Zoning By-law, the Akaitcho Interim Land Withdrawal is not identified. In the new By-law, the Interim Land Withdrawal is identified, described and illustrated.

The new Zoning By-law recognizes that the City is located within the Chief Drygeese territory and that the Yellowknives Dene First Nation and other Indigenous peoples historically used the landscape for cultural and traditional activities.

Find out more

Review the new Zoning By-law and learn about the changes at www.yellowknife.ca/ZoningReview

Key sections for reconciliation include:

- Section 14.3: *Ndilo Community (NC)*
- Section 1.3 : *Application*
- Section 7.2: *Cultural Protection*

Have questions or feedback? Email zoningreview@yellowknife.ca

WHAT DOES IT MEAN



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Interim Land Withdrawal
A tool used, in land and resource negotiations, to protect land that is under negotiation from land sales or leases, site alteration and development.

AKAITCHO PROCESS

An ongoing negotiation involving the Akaitcho Dene First Nations (ADFN), the Government of Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories to clarify the land, resource and governance rights of the ADFN.

