

GREATER CONSIDERATION FOR LOCAL AND REGIONAL CITIZENS IN THE COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY NEGOTIATION

Whereas:

Americans pay about \$120 million annually to BC government from hydro generated to compensate for using the Canadian Columbia River Basin as an American water reservoir.

The powerful US water lobby want to eliminate Canadian entitlement.

The Treaty has massive impact on Basin ecology, agriculture, tourism, recreation, forestry and fisheries. BC's third largest agricultural valley, remains underwater while Lake Kootenay is dried up, so Americans can maximize power production; minimize urban flooding; maintain US recreational opportunities; and irrigate an arid zone for water thirsty, high value crops.

No Treaty earnings are now earmarked directly to the citizens of the Columbia Basin.

Many indigenous and colonial settlers were displaced or received paltry restitution if any, and promises remain unfulfilled from the original negotiation.

Be it resolved the Federal government:

1. Include the local, most effected populations in the Treaty negotiations and ensure these citizens concerns are not only heard, but acted upon.
2. Consider the lack of remediation to those affected in the first round of negotiations and work to ensure the promises made in the original treaty are fulfilled
3. Consider agricultural ramifications including US sale of water rights for agricultural purposes.
4. Add a percentage of the Libby Dam profits as part of the compensation for the water storage
5. Earmark funds from the Treaty to improve provincial services and infrastructure to recognize the ongoing sacrifices of the citizens of the Columbia Basin for American advantage.

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