

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Gitxsan Titleholders Issue Formal Notice Regarding Provincial Wolf Cull and Predator Management Activities within Gitxsan Lax'yip**

**Gitxsan Lax'yip | February 10, 2026**

Gitxsan Titleholders have issued a formal notice to the Province of British Columbia regarding wolf cull and predator management activities associated with provincial caribou recovery programs.

The notice advises that these activities are *not authorized within our Gitxsan Lax'yip* (territories) unless and until proper engagement occurs and region-specific, Indigenous-led studies inform any decisions that could affect wildlife and habitat in the territory.

Within Gitxsan law and governance, the *Gibuu* (Wolf) is not only a predator in our territory, but the namesake and heart of Lax Gibuu, our Wolf Clan. The Gibuu is a central being and kin in our Adaawk (histories) and in our teachings about family, cooperation, territory, and balance.

How wolves are treated on our Lax'yip is closely tied to how we understand and uphold our responsibilities as caretakers of these lands and all that lives within them.

The notice reflects the long-standing responsibilities of Gitxsan governance systems as caretakers of the Lax'yip, and the expectation that any work proposed within Gitxsan territories is grounded in appropriate processes and place-based knowledge, rather than treated as an extension of generic provincial approaches.

#### **Indigenous-led stewardship and planning underway**

Within Gitxsan Lax'yip, Titleholders and their supporters are actively implementing a Territorial Stewardship Initiative that includes:

- predator–prey and broader wildlife studies
- assessments of habitat conditions and cumulative effects
- culturally grounded and science-informed recovery planning
- long-term land-use planning based in Gitxsan law and responsibilities

This work is intended to provide a regional foundation for decisions affecting caribou, wolves, and other species, emphasizing habitat, cumulative effects, and long-term ecosystem health rather than focusing solely on predator removal.

#### **Process, regional context, and expectations going forward**

The Province has described predator reduction as one tool linked to habitat alteration. Gitxsan Titleholders stress that any consideration of such tools within Gitxsan Lax'yip must be approached in the context of:

- cumulative effects on the territory

- habitat protection and restoration
- Gitxsan legal responsibilities and decision-making processes

The notice sets out the expectation that any discussions about wildlife management or recovery within Gitxsan Lax'yip occur before activities are planned or carried out and through engagement that respects Gitxsan governance.

It is also intended to provide a constructive path for the Province to align caribou recovery efforts in this region with Gitxsan laws, responsibilities, and its own stated commitments to habitat-based recovery and Indigenous rights.

Where these conditions are met, further discussion about appropriate, effective, and ethical approaches to wildlife stewardship remains possible.

### **Media Contact**

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# ALLIED CLANS COALITION

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Date: February 02, 2026

Randene Neill  
Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship  
Government of British Columbia  
Via email: [WLRs.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:WLRs.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

**Subject: Formal Notice Regarding Wolf Cull and Predator Management Activities within Gitxsan Lax'yip**

Attention Minister Randene Neill:

*Aama laxha* (Good day)

We write on behalf of the *Allied Clans Coalition*, Gitxsan Titleholders and caretakers of our *Lax'yip* (territories), to provide formal notice that the Province of British Columbia's wolf cull, including the use of collared "Judas" wolves and other predator management activities, do not have our consent and are not authorized within our Lax'yip.

Within Gitxsan law and governance, *Gibuu* (Wolf) is not only a predator in our territory, but a central kin and teacher in our Adaawk and in our understandings of family, cooperation, territory, and balance. The health of wolf populations, and the way they are treated, is directly connected to how we understand our own responsibilities as caretakers of the Lax'yip and all that lives within it.

This notice applies to:

- Provincial employees and agents
- Contractors and sub-contractors
- Helicopter-supported operations
- Any third parties acting under provincial authorization

The Allied Clans Coalition is implementing a *Territorial Stewardship Initiative* within Gitxsan Lax'yip, including:

- Predator-prey and wildlife studies
- Habitat condition and cumulative effects assessments
- Culturally grounded, science-informed recovery planning
- Long-term land-use planning rooted in Gitxsan law

These activities form part of our ongoing stewardship and land-use decision-making processes, including with respect to wildlife recovery and management.

Unilateral provincial activities within our Lax'yip, including predator management measures, are not supported and must not proceed.

Provincial authorization does not replace the requirement for prior engagement with the Wilp. Activities undertaken without such engagement and without the consent of the Wilp are inconsistent with Gitxsan law concerning our Lax'yip.


This letter serves as formal notice of the *Allied Clans'* position. We request confirmation from the Province ensuring that no wolf cull or predator management activities are authorized or carried out within Gitxsan Lax'yip.

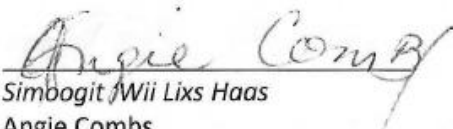
We recognize that caribou recovery and wildlife management are complex, evolving responsibilities. This notice is intended to support alignment between provincial actions and Gitxsan laws and stewardship, including opportunities for co-developed, region-specific approaches within our Lax'yip.

The *Allied Clans* remain open to discussion regarding wildlife management or recovery approaches, provided such discussions occur in advance of any activity and through engagement consistent with our governance and decision-making processes.

*Hlo'omsxw*, (respectfully)



  
Miin Simoogit 'Wii K'aax  
Dorothy Smith Lattie

  
Simoogit 'Wii Lixs Haas  
Angie Combs



  
Miin Simoogit Tsa'bux  
Willie Blackwater

  
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Marjorie Mowatt

  
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TSI Managing Director

cc:

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