

An Interpretation of the Vancouver Island (Douglas) Treaties with the
Saanich Peoples in SENĆOŦEN

By

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NIĚ ĆE SKÁLS ET ĽNINEĽ WILNEW
TĚE WSÁNEĆ

U. WSÁNEĆ ĽTE. U.DOT ĽTE ÁĽE E ĽÁ,E TIÁ TENEW.NIĚ ĆE TĚE ÁLENEŇEĆ ĽTE
TIÁ. U, SNÁTW ĆE TIÁ TENEW ĆSE LÁ,E ET ĚIFEĽ SIÁM TIÁ TENEW TĚE
ÁLENEŇEĆ ĽTE. HIIIF JE ĆE ĆÁĽE ET ĽNINEĽ , WILNEW ÁĽE E TIÁ TENEW.
LÁ,TEN ĆO, U, MEQ TENEW ĽTE ET XÁLS ĚIFEĽ SIÁM. I, TÁU LÁ,TEN MEQ TĚE
SKÁLS I TĚE ŠXENÁNS I, TĚE S,OX,HELI ET ĽNINEĽ WILNEW ET XÁLS.NIĚ ĆE
TĚE STI, ET XÁLS HIF LE SĆELÁ,NEŇ Ćs QENT ĽTE TĚE TENEW I, TĚE ÁLENEŇEĆ
ĽTE E TĚE SĆÁ,s SKALS I, S,OXHELI ĆO ONESTEN E TĚE ĆELÁNEŇ LE ĽTE.
SKÁLS E TĚE TENEW, I TĚE SĆÁĆEL, I. TĚE MEQ SELSELI TELETOFELNEW,
SKELKELÁLNEW, TĚE SĆÁÁNEW, SJESENEŇEĆ ĽTE, MEQ U, TĚE KĚPILEŇ ĽTE.
NIĚ ĆE TĚÁ,E Ćs STI, E TĚE XAXE ET ĽNINEĽ ĆS QENT TĚE ÁLENEŇEĆ ĽTE TIÁ.
ĆSE, LÁ,E E TIÁ TENEW ET ĽNINEĽ WSÁ,NEĆ WILNEW E TĚE SĆÁ,s S,TUO,s. LO,E
ĆO XELTEN ET TĚE TENEW ĽTE E TĚE O,MET SNÁNET ET XÁLS Ćs ÁĽE I, ŠETEN
LE E ĽÁ,E HIF LE ĆENTOL TĚE ĆELÁNEŇ LE ĽTE.

HIF LE SĆELÁNEŇ, NIĚ WEXES ĽKÁLJ TIÁ. ÁĽE ĽTE SĚÁĚE E TĚE
ĚIFEĽ SNÁNET PKOLS E TĚE SKÁPEĽ E ĽÁ,E. KÓKEL ĽTE ET James Douglas
S,HIWEK E TĚE KÍYES TÁ,ĆEL WELENI,TEM. I, NIĚ TIÁ ÁNEĆ KĚLNEUEL SE ĽTE
TĚE XEUES S,TUOs ÍY, NEUEL SE ĽTE OL ÁĽE E TIÁ TENEW. ÍY, ŠKÁLEĆEN. TĚE
WELENI,TEM I, TĚE WILNEW WSÁNEĆ. MEDOST SE, ĽTE E TĚE MEQ SĆÁ, ĽTE
TENEW WILNEW.

U, TOLNEW ET ĽNINEĽ WILNEW TUE HIF SE ĽTE ĆOĆES TĚE TENEW I, TĚE
Á,LENEŇEĆ ĽTE EMNI,EN I XOLE TEW U, XENÁN Ćs HIF LE ĆELÁNEŇ.ÁĽE E
ĽÁ,E E TIÁ TĚE Á,LENEŇEĆ ĽTE.NIĚ ĆO LÁTEN ET XALS. ĆE ONESTEN TĚE
SKÁLS I, TĚE ŠXENÁNS Ćs LÁ,TEN.MEQ EXIN YÁ, OLEXET TĚE SDÁLNEW I,
SJESENEŇEĆ I, IST E TĚE SĆÁ, ĽTE ŠWISTs WILNEW.ĆENEW ĽTE E TĚE ÁLI
SNÁTW ĆSE LA,E E TĚE KÍYES TÁĆEL SĆALEĆE ĽTE.NIĚ ĆE TĚÁ,E PITNESs Á,TOL
EĽ TĚE ŠXENÁNS ŠTENIST SE ĽTE E TĚE ĚE,ITKEN ŠXENÁNs. XELTEN ĽTE ĆO
TĚE SMEDOSTEN SXEL LÁ,E E TĚE PIPE. HIF SE ĽTE ŠTENIST ĆENTOL E TĚE ÍY,
ŠKÁLEĆEN, Á,TOL ÁĽE TIÁ TENEW.

We are the Saanich People. We are the original people of this land. This is our homeland. This land, our homeland, is a gift from the High honoured Most Respected one, Creator. Creator made all of this our homelands. And, in making all of this our homeland and the creation, made our laws and beliefs and our Sacred teachings of Life. Creator wants us to remember these Sacred Teachings of Life. Creator marked our Homelands with Monumental Stones, for us to remember his presence on these lands with our ancestors of the past.

Many years ago, in the moon of the Frogs.

There was a gathering on the top of PKOLS there was a meeting with James Douglas. The leader of the newly arrived White People. We were talking about a new beginning, on our land together with the White People. A new good beginning together with the White People and the W̱SÁNEĆ People. And, there we would point out the extent of our Saanich homelands. The lands that our people used for all time for hunting and setting our reef nets. Where we harvested food and medicines and fished. The places that Creator (XÁLS) had made our laws, Sacred Teachings of Life, and our ways. We were given some gifts to acknowledge that we met and to make a new beginning. Because there was a threat of attack made by the W̱SÁNEĆ on the new Fort in Victoria. There were crosses marked on paper to signify a sacredness to the meeting. And, how the newly arrived people recognized our responsibilities to the land. And, that with the new beginning that we would live on these lands with respectful relationship to with another. The W̱SÁNEĆ and the White people. This was to make a new beginning because there was a threat on the Fort Victoria by the W̱SÁNEĆ.