



MAIYOO KEYOH

KEYOH
DAKELH LAW
Then & Now

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The Keyoh is an ancestral territory owned by an extended family whose head manages the land.

The Keyohwhudachun title is passed from the family head of one generation to the next generation.

It is customary for the first male child or another person to receive the title of Keyohwhudachun based on suitability.

The practice continues generation after generation.

News Release

July 29 2024

Trapline decision shows government recognition of keyohs

Last week BC's Environmental Appeal Board awarded a share in a trapline to an Indigenous leader.

The decision overturned a 2021 provincial government ruling that denied Petra A'Huille, Indigenous land owner and traditional Chief, a share in the trapline situated on the north side of Tsa Bunguhn (Great Beaver Lake), about 40 kilometers east of Fort St James, BC.

The board noted that "the boundaries of the trapline roughly correspond with the ancestral lands (the "Keyoh") of the A'Huille extended family, and that "the trapline has historically been passed down along family lines".

When the provincial government established traplines, the appeal board said, "trapline boundaries reflected areas used by First Nations persons for trapping and cultural purposes."

Despite changes over the years "this approach has remained consistent", ruled the board, "and remains the case today".

The subject of the decision is the trapline / keyoh known as Maiyoo Keyoh. It extends north from the west end of Great Beaver Lake and encompasses about 20,000 hectares.

"Keyohs are the foundation of Dakelh title to the land" A'Huille said when the decision was announced. "Dakelh land is divided into keyohs, each with precise boundaries and with an extended family as its steward. That's how it was when the first fur trading posts were established and that's how it is today."

The decision can be found here: [James Munroe vs the Ministry of Forests](#)

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* Village
 ▲ Camp
 ■ Road
 --- District
 - - - - - Road
 ~~~~~ Water Feature

0 100 200 300  
 1 Centimeter = 0.2 Kilometers

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## Maiyoo Keyoh

BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA - SCALE 1:20,000

| Daketh Name     | Common Name       |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Tsa Bunguhn     | Great Beaver Lake |
| Tsakoh          | Salmon River      |
| Tsa Tizli       | Beaver Creek      |
| Lhooz Lhai Unli | Carrier Lake      |

