

# Defending our Stó:lō Rights and Title from Impacts of the Yale Treaty

In 2010, Yale First Nation, Canada and British Columbia initialed the Yale First Nation Final Agreement ('Treaty'). This Treaty, if finalized by B.C. and Canada, will give Yale First Nation ownership of hundreds of hectares of land in the Lower Fraser Canyon (the 'Canyon') for their exclusive use and control including control of access by Stó:lō. Since Time Immemorial *all* Stó:lō have shared ownership and use of the resources and lands of the Lower Fraser Canyon, including the Fishery, as part of our Stó:lō title and rights. The Canyon is an integral part of S'ólh Téméxw (Our Land; Our World). The Yale Treaty will infringe Stó:lō title and rights. It will irreversibly violate our laws of the land and ancient tribal and family arrangements by which we maintain our Stó:lō title and rights to S'ólh Téméxw including the Canyon.

We object in the strongest possible terms to the Yale Treaty, as written, and the irreconcilable harm it will do to us by taking away our traditional lands and resources -- as an act of theft.

In working together to defend ourselves against the impacts of the Yale Treaty we Stó:lō are making this united **Declaration of our aboriginal rights and title to S'ólh Téméxw including the Lower Fraser Canyon.**



Joe Hall, President  
Stó:lō Nation



Grand Chief Clarence Pennier, President  
Stó:lō Tribal Council

