

Community Fish and Traditional Food Distribution Policy

Purpose

This policy is established to provide **Food Social and Ceremonial Fish (FSC)** as well as Traditional Foods to **Kitselas Citizens (Membership)** within the Kitselas Territory, based on the traditional practice of equal distribution of the first spring salmon caught in Kitselas Canyon. The policy recognizes that Kitselas Citizens have a right to Food Social and Ceremonial Fish and Traditional Foods. Delivery will be made available to those who cannot pick up the food. The policy is based on the United Nations Declaration on Indigenous Peoples and recognizes the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples to food security and access to traditional foods.

Policy

1. Kitselas Citizens have a right to Food Social and Ceremonial Fish, as well as traditional foods, based on the traditional practice of equal distribution of the first spring salmon caught in Kitselas Canyon.
2. Kitselas First Nation shall establish a community fish and traditional food distribution center to facilitate the distribution of food to its Band Membership, subject to part 9 of this policy.
3. Kitselas First Nation shall provide a list of urban and in-community Band Membership to the department carrying out this activity. The list of Band Membership provided will be protected by Canada's Freedom of Information Act.
4. The distribution center shall prioritize the distribution of food to Elders, those with disabilities, and those who are in need.
5. Kitselas First Nation shall ensure that the distribution of food is conducted in a culturally appropriate and respectful manner, based on Kitselas Traditional Law (Adawx).
6. Kitselas First Nation shall ensure that the distribution of food is conducted in a sustainable manner that does not harm the environment or endanger food sources.
7. Kitselas Citizens should be provided with Food Social and Ceremonial Fish and Traditional Foods without having to request it, subject to availability.
8. Kitselas Citizens shall be eligible to receive delivery if they cannot pick it up, within the Kitselas Territory, at no expense.
9. If food is not provided to the community, Kitselas Elected Chief and Council will take the steps to secure Food Social and Ceremonial Fish/Traditional Foods for our Citizens.
10. This policy can only provide for Kitselas Citizens who reside within the Kitselas Territory.

Implementation

This policy shall be implemented immediately upon approval by the Kitselas Chief & Council.

Review

This policy shall be reviewed every three years to ensure that it remains relevant and effective in meeting the needs of Kitselas Citizens.