

# MCLEOD LAKE INDIAN BAND REFORESTATION PROJECT

*Little Trees - Big Trees*  
*GAT'AZI - GAT'CHO*



*An opportunity to support nature-based  
climate solutions and Indigenous-led  
conservation.*



[WWW.MLIB.CA](http://WWW.MLIB.CA)



## *CONCRETE ACTION*

In May of 2021 the McLeod Lake Indian Band (MLIB) will begin to plant a forest.

## *RESTORATION*

3,750 hectares of spruce beetle damaged forest on reserve land will be restored. Planting 6 million spruce and pine seedlings will result in significant carbon sequestration and restore the land to its original condition.

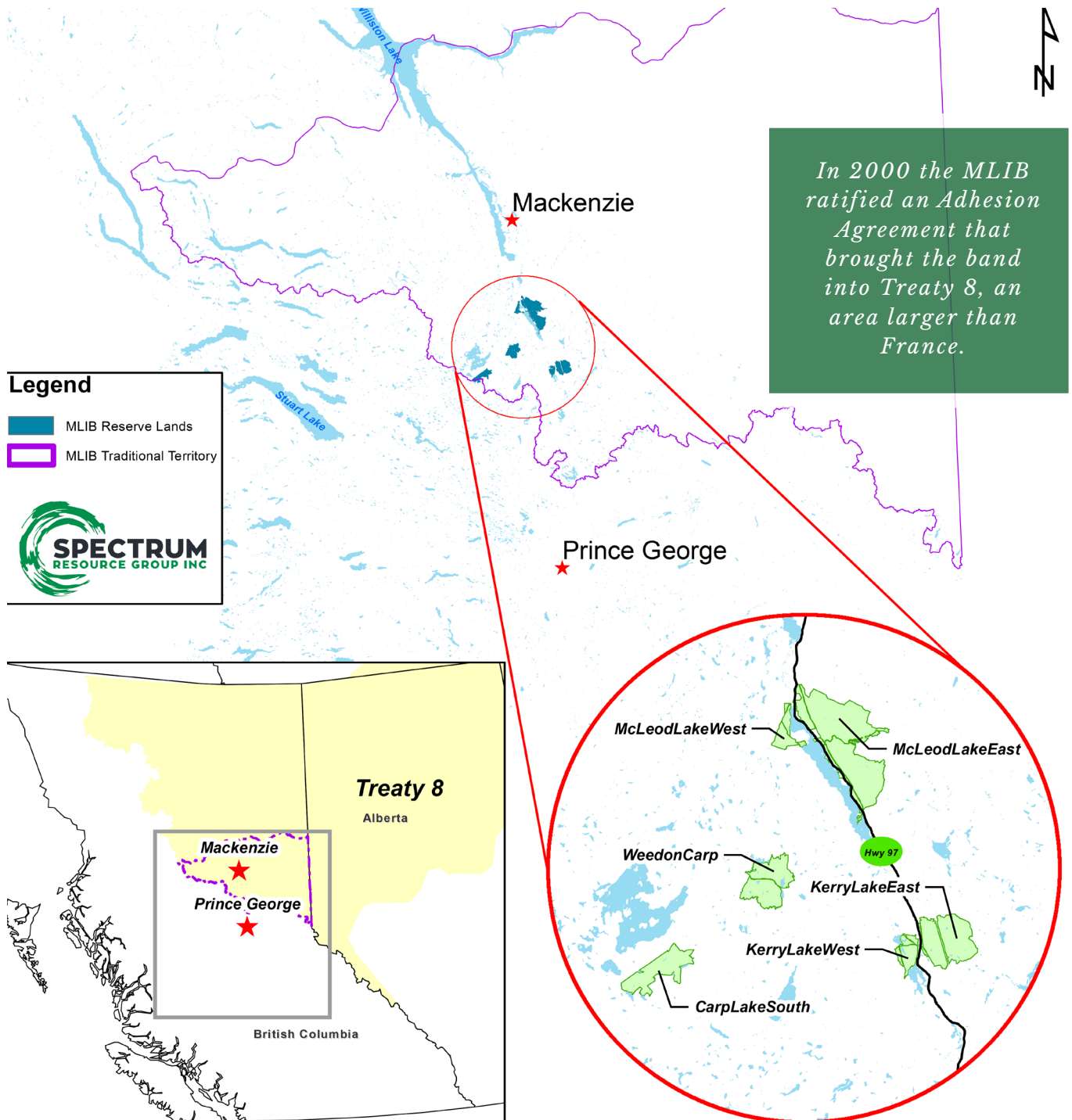
## *VERIFIED CARBON SEQUESTRATION*

Planting 6 million trees will provide a verifiable carbon benefit of an estimated 550,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e that may be used as a carbon offset.



# Reserve and Traditional Territory

The MLIB is located 150 kilometers north of Prince George, BC. It consists of a combined 20,000 hectares of ceded Indian Reserve and fee simple lands. Their Traditional Territory stretches from the Alberta border west to near Takla Lake.







*The Toodick family of McLeod Lake travel the Crooked River in their dugout canoe. [ca.1910] - BC Archives Collection, courtesy of the Royal BC Museum.*

The MLIB are members of the Tse'Khene people. As nomadic hunter-gatherers, they followed the seasonal cycles and game migrations throughout the Rocky Mountain Trench. Their knowledge and ability to use the natural resources enabled them to provide food, clothing and shelter from game animals. Gathering plants supplemented their food supply and provided medicinal materials.

The land has always been sacred to the Tse'Khene. The introduction of the railroad, highways and flooding resulting from the W.A.C. Bennett dam have caused incredible stress on the natural environment. The MLIB have adapted to the impacts of economic development and are recognized as leaders of Indigenous-led conservation. Protecting the land for future generations is a cornerstone of their culture and a primary focus of MLIB governance. The Little Trees-Big Trees Reforestation Project is a critical step in mitigating climate change, responding to the destruction caused by economic development and the recent spruce beetle infestation.

The WWF Living Planet Report Canada 2020 recognized the superiority of Indigenous-led conservation. The long-term commitment inherent in Indigenous-managed lands supports more threatened wildlife, increases biodiversity, elevates Indigenous rights and responsibilities and provides substantial sustainable benefits to the entire region.





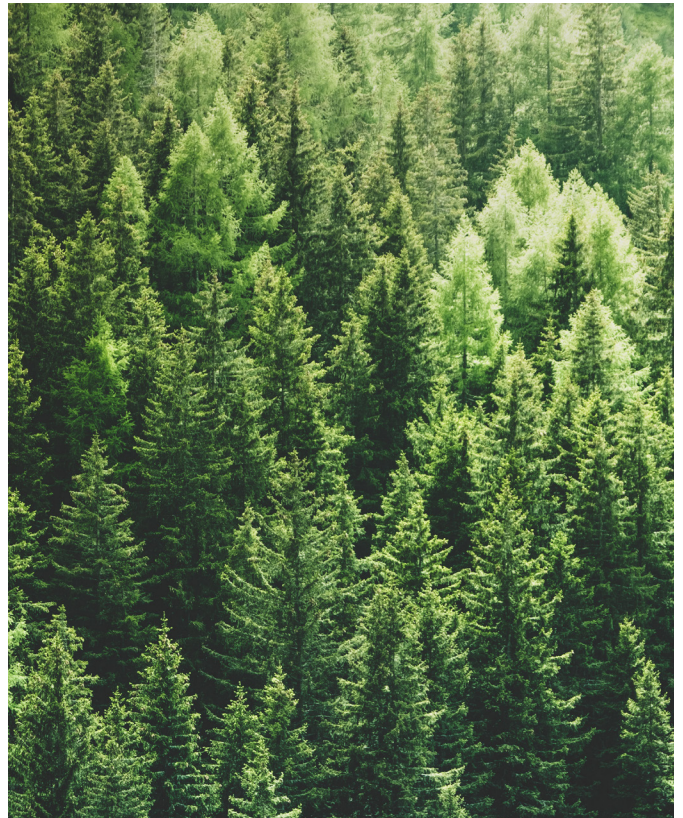
## *Spruce Beetle Infestation*

Spruce beetle infestation has destroyed thousands of hectares of forest on MLIB reserve land. Salvage harvesting and silviculture activities have prepared this land for 4,200,000 spruce and 1,800,000 pine seedlings.



## *Salvage & Regrowth*

Environmental resource management professionals have been engaged to provide silviculture advice which will maximize tree growth and concurrent carbon sequestration. Little Trees-Big Trees also benefits wildlife, water retention, recreation, aesthetics and fiber assets for future generations.







# SPONSORING THE LITTLE TREES-BIG TREES REFORESTATION PROJECT PROVIDES:

- Immediate, concrete action to mitigate climate change.
- Restoration of damaged habitat for thousands of species who rely on a healthy forest.
- Participation in a nature-based decarbonization solution.
- Measurable, quantifiable and independently verified results.
- Cultural, environmental, and sustainable economic development opportunities on Indigenous lands.
- Planting 6 million trees will sequester an estimated 550,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

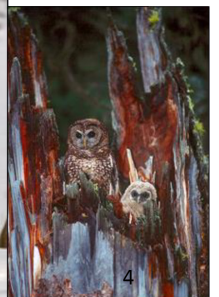
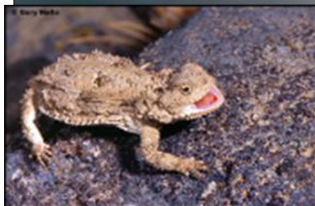
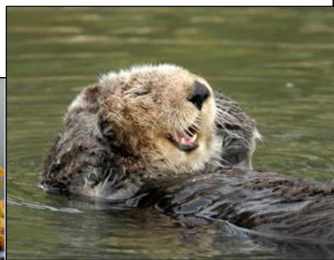


# *The McLeod Lake Indian Band Traditional Territory Provides Habitat For*

- More than 50,000 invertebrates
- Over 1,000 species of vertebrates
- Over 1,000 non-vascular plants
- Over 3,000 vascular plants
- Over 500 lichens



488 birds species  
142 mammal species  
18 reptile species  
22 amphibian species  
83 freshwater fish species





# LOCAL BENEFITS

*In addition to carbon sequestration and habitat rehabilitation, the Little Trees-Big Trees reforestation project provides long-term sustainable economic benefits to Canadians. Large scale planting to restore natural carbon sinks support:*

- Local forest management companies who are engaged to provide advanced silviculture expertise. They monitor and conduct salvage harvesting, planting site preparation, planting quality, vegetation management, (brushing, spacing, pruning), and provide multi-year management of the stand. This is not a classroom educational day trip.
- BC nurseries, from which 4,200,00 spruce trees and 1,800,000 pine trees will be purchased.
- Large scale tree planting employs professional crews who are paid excellent wages.
- Contract agreements contain specific terms including seedling specifications, insurance, safety conditions and certification, environmental management systems, camp standards and Worksafe BC protocols.
- Quality controls are verified by independent experts and will be maintained until the seedlings are free growing.





# SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS

The rehabilitation of beetle damaged forest comes with significant cost. Site preparation, planting, and follow-up management is budgeted to cost \$7,500,000 - about \$1.25 per seedling planted. ***The MLIB are seeking sponsors to assist them with the cost of the initiative.***



## *Quality Assurance*

Sponsorship will include provision of independent verification of location, number of trees, quality of planting and management of the reforestation project. All procedures are undertaken with the expectation of passing formal audit reviews.

## *Working Together*

McLeod Lake Indian Band logos, images and background information may be used with prior approval for inclusion in annual reports or ESG, investor and shareholder disclosure.

## *Inclusion*

Site visits, participation in cultural and recreational activities, photo opportunities and brand building activities are encouraged.

## *Brand Building Opportunities*

MLIB will work with sponsors who wish to develop employee recognition programs such as planting a tree for each year of service, or retail client tree planting opportunities linked to product purchases.





## CONTACT

*For additional information  
and to participate in the  
initiative, please contact:*

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