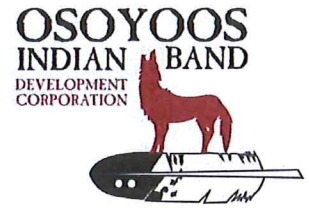




Osoyoos Indian Band  
Osoyoos Indian Development Corp  
1155 Sen Pok Chin Blvd. Oliver BC V0H1T8



April 12, 2019

To Whom it May Concern:

Re: Osoyoos Indian Band's position on the proposed National Park

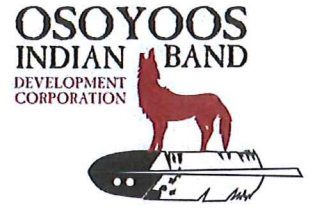
The "Feasibility study" process the Osoyoos Indian Band and Lower Similkameen Indian Band are currently engaged in is the same feasibility study that both Bands were involved in back in 2010. That analysis lasted over 2 years, many meetings were held and many pages of an initial report were produced. Back then, as now, being involved in a "feasibility study" just like in any business does not mean we agree with the project or that the Bands agree with the Federal and Provincial Governments concept of the proposed National Park. The fact is no one knows what the final project will look like. That is why it is called a "feasibility study". As the Osoyoos Indian Band we have been involved in many projects and in all of them there are of course, many meetings, many different points of view are brought forward, many options, many drafts of documents and maybe, just maybe, some of those "maybe projects" get to the position of actually needing a decision of going ahead or bailing on the project. The last National Park feasibility study, after 2 years' worth of work produced a detailed report in 2012. That feasibility report is on line at the Okanagan Nation Alliance. All the past work and meetings back then did not even result in a decision. Now, this second feasibility study of course dusted off the last reports and is looking into concerns and ideas from the last study (that was never finished) and is bringing up new issues. And neither I nor the Osoyoos Indian Band has received all the necessary information that a proper feasibility study would provide in order to have an educated opinion on being for or against the proposed National Park. I am for, the necessary and detailed information needed in a proper feasibility study, that does not mean I am for or against the National Park. I have given interviews saying, in my opinion (I do not control the opinion of the Osoyoos Indian Band Council or the membership) I am in favor of a National park **If** and a **Big If**, the feasibility study and negotiating meetings lead to an agreement that covers off the many issues and concerns that Okanagan First Nation people have. Now listed below are some of the concerns – not all as future meetings and drafts of potential agreements always raise other issues and concerns;

- Legal protection of Aboriginal Title and Rights
- Okanagan First Nation hunting and fishing rights
- How will hunting continue for Okanagan Nation members?
- Is the proposed National Park in any way attached to the BC Treaty process?
- Can the Federal Government unilaterally change whatever agreement may be drafted up years in the future?

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- How will 'co-management' actually work?
- All potential agreements must pass the scrutiny of the Bands and Okanagan Nation lawyers.
- How will jobs be handled?
- More consultation and meetings with other First Nations in B.C. and other parts of Canada who have gone through this process.

The above list is only some of the concerns and issues that require more meetings and detailed discussions before me or anyone can say they are 'for' or 'against' the proposed National Park

Chief Clarence Louie  
Osoyoos Indian Band