

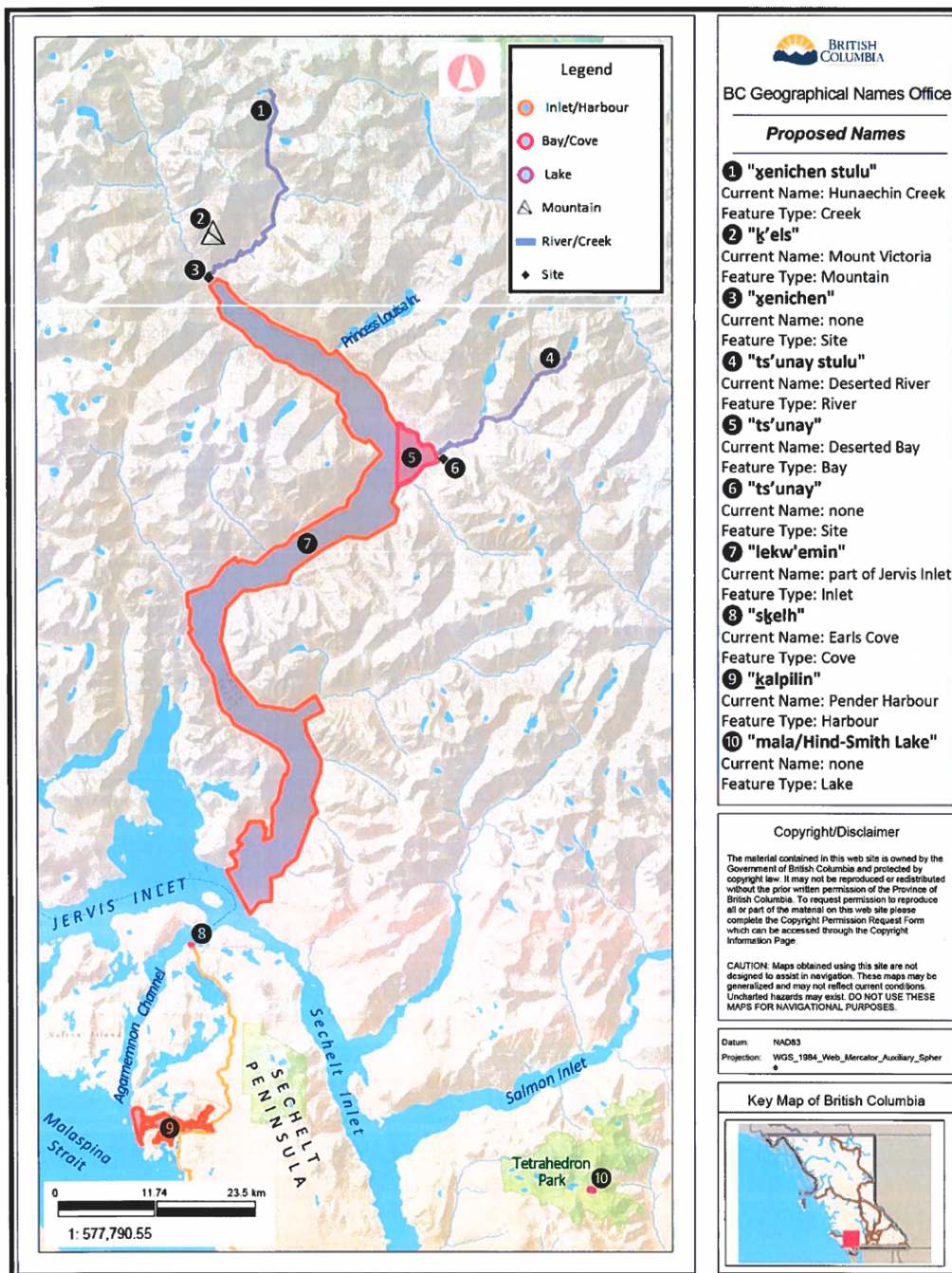
PROPOSED PLACE NAME CHANGES

From the BC Geographical Names Office's

Posted by the Pender Harbour and Area Residents Association

Dear Pender Harbour, Egmont and area community members:

The BC Geographical Names Office has received proposals from the shíshálh Nation to change or adopt names for ten geographical features, including Pender Harbour, Earls Cove, and elsewhere on the Sunshine Coast.



Their letter included the following explanation: “In accordance with the BC Geographical Naming Policy and Procedures, before any naming decisions are made, it is important to ascertain a) if there are other known traditional names for this feature, and b) that the proposed name reflects the heritage values in the area. Therefore, a vital part of the geographical naming process is to request comments from governments, communities, and relevant organizations potentially affected by a feature’s name.”

As such, the Pender Harbour and Area Residents Association has been asked to compile comments from members of the community and forward them to the BC Geographical Names Office. For those who have not already provided feedback, whether for or against the proposed name changes, please email board@phara.ca before December 15, 2022. For further information about BC Geographical Names Policy and Procedure, visit their website by [clicking here](#). File: 10280-60 (92F/09, 92F/16).

In brief, one of the policies states: “First priority shall be given to names with long-standing local usage by the general public. Unless there are good reasons to the contrary, this policy should prevail.”

It should be noted that with the proposed name change for Pender Harbour, a water body, Pender Harbour navigational chart names would change, and various other reference documents that refer to Pender Harbour.

With regards to the proposed name change for Earls Cove, it is specific to the actual cove, not the community, so addresses would not be impacted.

CHANGE THE NAME OF **PENDER HARBOUR** TO **KALPILIN** FOR THE HARBOUR ALONG THE NW SIDE OF SECHELT PENINSULA, BETWEEN SECHELT AND POWELL RIVER (CITY).

kalpilin is the shashishalhem name for the location of present-day Pender Harbour. For the shíshálh, the place name kalpilin has been associated with the use of the region to shelter from the wind and rough sea. Therefore, the shíshálh associate the name kalpilin with its use as a sheltered area. The direct translation of kalpilin means “coming around/detouring in a certain direction.” In context, this direct translation refers to the shíshálh use of the kalpilin (Pender Harbour) area. The direct translation further explains how the shíshálh would detour or come to this area to live and seek shelter from the wind and rough seas (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

The shíshálh comprises four subgroups, each subgroup associated with geographical areas in the shíshálh swiya (land). The sius subgroup was centred around kalpilin (Pender Harbour), with its main village at sew?amin (Garden Bay). During the winter season, all four shíshálh subgroups would come to live together throughout kalpilin, with its major winter village at sew?amin (Garden Bay) (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

CHANGE THE NAME OF **EARLS COVE** TO **SKELH** FOR THE COVE AT THE N END OF SECHELT PENINSULA, FACING THE N END OF AGAMEMNON CHANNEL.

skelh is the shashishalhem name for the location of present-day Earls Cove. This name is likely an ancient name and the meaning has been lost over time (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

CHANGE THE NAME OF **HUNAECHIN CREEK** TO **XENICHEN STULU** FOR THE CREEK THAT FLOWS SW INTO SKWAWKA RIVER.

xenichen stulu is the shashishalhem name for Hunaechin Creek (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

xenichen stulu refers to the creek that flows into the bay at the xenichen village site. The name roughly means “go to the end until you can’t go any further,” referring to the northern extent of the swiya (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

xenichen, a major village site at the mouth of xenichen stulu, is at the head of lekw’emin (Jervis Inlet) and is one of the locations where the spelemulh (first peoples/ancestors) first came from the sky by the Creator (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

The current English name, Hunaechin Creek, uses an anglicized version of the shashishalhem name (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

ADOPT THE NAME **XENICHEN** FOR THE SITE LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF HUNAECHIN CREEK (XENICHEN STULU) AND SKWAWKA RIVER.

xenichen was a major village site at head of lekw’emin (Jervis Inlet) and one of the locations where the spelemulh (first peoples/ancestors) first came from the sky by the Creator. The name roughly means “go to the end until you can’t go any further” referring to the northern extent of the swiya (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

CHANGE THE NAME OF **DESERTED RIVER** TO **TS’UNAY STULU** FOR THE RIVER THAT FLOWS SW INTO DESERTED BAY (TS’UNAY), NE END OF PRINCESS ROYAL REACH, JERVIS INLET (LEKWEMIN).

ts’unay stulu is the shashishalhem name for what is currently called Deserted River (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

Current name of Deserted is based on settler perception and faulty concept of terra nullius (empty land) (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

CHANGE THE NAME OF **DESERTED BAY** TO **TS’UNAY** FOR THE BAY AT THE NE END OF PRINCESS ROYAL REACH, JERVIS INLET (LEKW’EMIN).

ts’unay is the shashishalhem name for what is currently called Deserted Bay and shares the name ts’unay with the major village site that was located on the bay (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

Current name of Deserted is based on settler perception and faulty concept of terra nullius (empty land). Nearby shíshálh Nations Lands is misspelled “Tsooahdie,” possibly an early anglicization of ts’unay (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

ADOPT THE NAME **TS’UNAY** FOR THE SITE LOCATED AT THE MOUTH OF DESERTED RIVER (TS’UNAY STULU), ON THE SHORE OF DESERTED BAY (TS’UNAY).

ts’unay was the major village site that was located at the mouth of the “ts’unay stulu” (Deserted River) (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

CHANGE THE NAME OF THE NE PART OF JERVIS INLET TO **IEKW’EMIN**, MADE UP OF PRINCE OF WHALES REACH, PRINCESS ROYAL REACH, AND QUEENS REACH.

lekw’emin is the shashishalhem name for Jervis Inlet. The name lekw’emin means “inlet” and can be used to denote any inlet in general terms. However, Jervis Inlet was known as lekw’emin because it was the largest inlet in shíshálh Nation swiya (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

ADOPT THE NAME OF **MALA/HIND-SMITH LAKE** FOR THE LAKE E OF CHAPMAN LAKE, NW OF PANTHER PEAK, WITHIN TETRAHEDRON PARK.

The name mala is the shíshálh ancestral name for Albert Louie. The name mala is the shíshálh name of Albert Louie's maternal grandfather. Albert was honoured to be given this name to carry on the tradition of connecting to his ancestors and to his land of origin.

As is tradition, this name has continued to be passed down to Albert's descendants and will continue to link the families to their ancestry, history, and lands (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

Albert Louie was born November 27, 1935. mala was a respected shíshálh elder who lived his entire life in the shíshálh swiya, with his primary residence in the village of ch'atlich (Sechelt). mala lived his early life exploring the shíshálh swiya in his family dugout canoe, living in his family homesteads and living off the natural resources provided by land and ocean. mala was a great knowledge keeper of shíshálh language and history and worked tirelessly throughout his life to preserve shíshálh language and culture. mala was a great provider to his family and community due to his abilities and actions as a hunter, fisherman, logger, and family man. mala was a man who fished all shíshálh waters and hunted and gathered resources from the ocean all the way to the mountaintops and boundaries of shíshálh swiya. mala passed away in 2012 (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

John Hind-Smith came to live on the Sunshine Coast in 1960. He is described as a "spiritual elder for the conservation community of the Sunshine Coast" and was an integral part of the Tetrahedron Alliance, which contributed to the creation of the Tetrahedron Provincial Park. He is described as a life-long lover and protector of nature and was a voice for calm and respect when facing opposition to conservation efforts. In 1994, the SCRD honorarily renamed No Name Lake in the sub-alpine region of Tetrahedron Park to John Hind-Smith Lake. However, this designation was not officially gazetted at the time. John Hind-Smith passed away in 2005, and in 2019 his friends and colleagues in the conservation community proposed to the shíshálh Nation that No Name Lake be officially renamed to recognize both John Hind-Smith and a shíshálh name (see "mala" above) (advice from shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

CHANGE THE NAME OF **MOUNT VICTORIA** TO **K'ELS** FOR THE MOUNTAIN AT THE HEAD OF QUEENS REACH, JERVIS INLET (LEKW'EMIN), NE OF POWELL RIVER (CITY).

k'els is the shashishalhem name for what is currently called Mount Victoria. It means "anchor" and is associated with a legend site (advice from the shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).

Gilbert Joe's (shíshálh elder) site description: "One is that up at Jervis Inlet there's a mountain called Anchor Mountain. And it's called Anchor Mountain because our forefathers called it k'els in our dialect which means anchor. And on top of that mountain—it's over 6,000 feet—the snow line is about between 4,000 and 5,000 feet, and where the snowline ends, there's no shrubbery and evergreens that grows above that line, nothing at all because there's snow on top of those peaks just about ten months out of the year or maybe even more. But on top of Anchor Mountain there's this Douglas fir tree roots and branches and all laying up there above the snow line. How did it get up there? Legends from our forefathers says that it got up there from the great big flood a long time ago" (advice from the shíshálh Nation Stewardship and Territorial Land Management Division, 2022).