

## STATEMENT

May 8, 2025

Xatśūll welcomes the decision of the British Columbia Supreme Court today, which ensures that no additional tailings will be deposited into the raised tailings storage facility at the Mount Polley Mine until Xatśūll's judicial review can be heard.

In its decision, the Court also scheduled the judicial review to be heard on an expedited basis next month. At the June hearing, in addition to the merits of the judicial review, Xatśūll will be arguing that the pause of deposition of tailings in the raised facility should continue until the Court has decided the judicial review.

Today's decision will help ensure that no further harm from increased levels of tailings deposition is done to Xatśūll Territory by Mount Polley between now and the hearing of the judicial review. Under the circumstances, and especially given the devastating history of Mount Polley, Xatśūll welcomes the Court's determination.

Xatśūll looks forward to proceeding with the judicial review in June to hold the Government of B.C. accountable for its commitments regarding reconciliation, implementing the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, and environmental protection. B.C. is at risk of losing the progress that it's made towards reconciliation because it is allowing the tailings storage facility dam raise to proceed without the legally required environmental assessment and without obtaining Xatśūll's free, prior and informed consent.

Beyond the court case, Xatśūll is hopeful that Imperial Metals, Mount Polley, and the Government of B.C. will act in good faith and commit to strengthening our relationship in a way that builds trust and respects and honours Xatśūll's role in the Territory now and for generations to come.

## **Media Contact**

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