

Frank Cassidy and Norman Dale, *After Native Claims? The Implications of Comprehensive Claims Settlements for Natural Resources in British Columbia*. Halifax: The Institute for Research on Public Policy, 1988. (230 pp.)

This study explores comprehensive Native claims and resource use within British Columbia. The authors are quick to point out that the book is not a study of comprehensive claims in B.C.; rather it explores the possible impact of comprehensive claims settlements on the patterns of resource development and management.

Cassidy and Dale examine three main resource sectors: fisheries, forestry and non-renewable resources. While B.C.'s leading natural resource sector is forestry, followed by non-renewable resources and fisheries, the authors have chosen to deal with them in the order of significance that Natives attribute to them—fisheries, forestry, non-renewable resources.

Three broad scenarios are envisioned to explain the implications that comprehensive claims settlements will have on the resource industries in B.C. The first, called "Partners in Development," envisions settlements in which Natives would form partnerships and business alliances with non-Native commercial enterprises. Development is pursued in much the same way as it has been in the past, with Native groups having a greater degree of partnership and share in the profits. In a classic conservative approach, economic imperatives would determine the direction of development. As the authors explain, "an emphasis on the use of natural resources as the basis for generating economic prosperity rather than an overarching concern for the political or environmental matters is what makes this scenario a distinct picture of the future when compared with other scenarios" (p. 30).

The second scenario, "Allies and Adversaries," creates structures in which the federal and provincial governments would have a predominant role in regulating and mediating differences between Native groups, government, business and other third-party interests. These structures would correspond to a proliferation of bureaucracies and inter-governmental agencies. This emphasis on regulatory mechanisms to mediate between different and somewhat contending interests (Native groups, government, third parties) is to be used when conditions arise that cannot be reconciled but must be continually readjusted. If the "Partners

in Development" scenario could be seen as conservative, the "Allies and Adversaries" scenario would be far more liberal in nature. The intended outcome is to turn potential adversaries into allies with an interest in resource management and development.

The third and final scenario envisioned in this study is termed "Homeland and Hinterland." This is much more of a social democratic, decentralist view, which sees the creation of many Native "homelands" within the province over which Native groups retain a great deal of autonomy, decision-making and self-government. The rest of the province would be left open to development by third-party interests for outside markets—thus the hinterland. Cassidy and Dale explain that "in many parts of the province community and cultural priorities would have replaced economic imperatives or governmental regulation as the leading factor in the development of natural resources" (p. 35).

Based on these three scenarios, the authors explain how each of the resource sectors examined in this study—fisheries, forestry and non-renewable resources—could be affected by the resolutions of comprehensive claims in B.C. After demonstrating how each of these scenarios could fit to the resource sectors, Cassidy and Dale discuss the future economic, political, and environmental dimensions of each resource.

*After Native Claims?* is an innovative and unique study of the present situation in B.C. Dealing with an area of great uncertainty, Cassidy and Dale take many pertinent examples of contemporary Native economic development initiatives in B.C., and show how they might be used to predict the future of resource development within the province. While acknowledging that, if claims settlements were likely to come about, "resource development and management would be likely to involve a mixture of approaches which would reflect aspects of each of these scenarios as well as others not described here" (p. 35), the authors have completed a very clear, concise and insightful account of comprehensive land claims settlements and the future direction of resource developments in B.C. It is well worth reading for anyone interested in Native issues in B.C.

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