DECLARATION

The Gitxsan Treaty Society ("GTS") has been in treaty negotiations for 13 years and spent millions of dollars which have been borrowed on behalf of Gitxsan people without achieving any benefits for our communities;

The "Alternative Governance Model: Gitxsan Reconciliation", prepared by GTS staff and dated May 15, 2008, sets out the terms of a proposed treaty which they plan to negotiate on behalf of Gitxsan people. Under this Model the GTS proposes, among other things, to eliminate membership in communities; eliminate lands held in trust for the benefit of community members; and eliminate programs and services now delivered by Band Administration Offices.

These actions will harm Gitxsan culture and communities, result in loss of our land held in trust, and also infringe our Aboriginal Rights;

The GTS Board of Directors and the negotiating team do not have the mandate to negotiate away our lands and our rights as they propose to do in the Alternative Governance Model.

Gitxsan community members have not been involved in, or informed of, the Governance Model despite funds being borrowed on our behalf,

FURTHER

We have a right to give informed consent and accountability when funds are borrowed on our behalf

THEREFORE, WE SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

1. We are opposed to the terms of the Alternative Governance Model

2. The GTS does not represent us in their treaty negotiations

FURTHER

We call on the Board of Directors and staff of the GTS to immediately resign their positions as they have lost our confidence and trust.

We call on the Provincial and Federal Governments to cease discussions with the GTS and not to provide any further funding to the GTS for treaty negotiations.

We call on Hereditary and Elected Chiefs and Councils to take any necessary action to protect our rights.

Name	Community/Band	House	Witness

DECLARATION MADE ON THE ALTERNATIVE GOVERNANCE MODEL