



NEWS RELEASE

BCAFN AND FIRST NATIONS MAJOR PROJECTS COALITION SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION

Efforts to focus on sharing business capacity building efforts between the two organizations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 15, 2019 – LHEIDLI T’ENNEH TERRITORY (Prince George, BC) Today, the British Columbia Assembly of First Nations and the First Nations Major Projects Coalition Society entered into a Memorandum of Understanding concerning efforts to advance the business capacity of the organization’s respective First Nations membership.

Under the terms of the MOU, the BCAFN and the FNMPC have agreed to collaborate on their respective business capacity efforts to the benefit of their members, work together to advance major project opportunities that may be of mutual interest to their members, and agree to work together to advocate on matters of public policy that align with the interests and mandates of the respective organizations.

“Today’s MOU signing marks an advancement in the ability of First Nations to work together on common interests. I have always believed that First Nations are stronger when we work together to advance the interests held by our members, and to be better positioned to make business decisions regarding the economic activity taking place within our traditional territories,” stated Coalition Chair Councillor Sharleen Gale.

“This commitment works to foster a spirit of cooperation and focus as we all move toward tackling economic, political and social challenges facing BC First Nations. We must intensify and continue the important work to support and grow First Nations’ innovation and clean projects that are developed in their communities and traditional territories,” states BC Regional Chief Terry Teegee. “Sustainable prosperity that respects First Nations rights can be made attainable for everyone.”

Moving forward, BCAFN and FNMPC will use the MOU as a basis upon which to determine avenues of collaboration between the two Indigenous organizations with a focus on advancing the interests of their respective members.

About the FNMPC

The Coalition is a non-political, First Nation led business capacity organization with a growing membership of 54 First Nations nationally. The Coalition's technical services are provided free of cost to First Nations. The Coalition is not industry or project specific in focus and supports the ability of its members, who retain the individual authority to make informed decisions concerning project opportunities.

About BCAFN

The BCAFN is a Provincial Territorial Organization (PTO) representing the interests of 203 First Nations in BC. Part of the BCAFN mandate is to develop and promote policies and resources for the benefit of First Nations people in BC including but not limited to economic, social, education, health, and cultural matters, and to work in collaboration with other organizations that promote the Rights and interests of Indigenous peoples.

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Backgrounder:

Copy of the BC AFN / FNMPC MOU

Photo:

BC AFN Regional Chief Terry Teegee and Coalition Chair Councillor Sharleen Gale sign the MOU