

First Nations Leadership Agenda in BC



**British Columbia
Assembly of First Nations**

BCAFN Climate Change Portfolio
December 1, 2023

Resolution 03/2023 mandates BCAFN:

1. to collaboratively facilitate the "co-development" of the FNCL Agenda in BC with Title and Rights-holders and First Nations organizations across the province.
2. ensure that our recommendations and policy directions outlined in the BC FNCL Agenda are fully considered in the Canada-wide FNCL Agenda development;

The BC FNCL Agenda must:

- use the BC FNs Climate Strategy and Action plan as a foundation to guide the BC FNCL Agenda and vice versa.
- reflect and respond to FN's realities, needs, priorities and interests; and
- ensure that federal climate policy and legislation:
 - is respectful and supportive of self-determination and inherent & constitutionally protected title, rights and treaty rights.
 - empowers First Nations' meaningful involvement in national climate governance, and
 - ensures appropriate federal financial support for First Nations' climate actions



BCAFN SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
March 9-10, 2023
Hybrid - In person & online via Zoom

BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

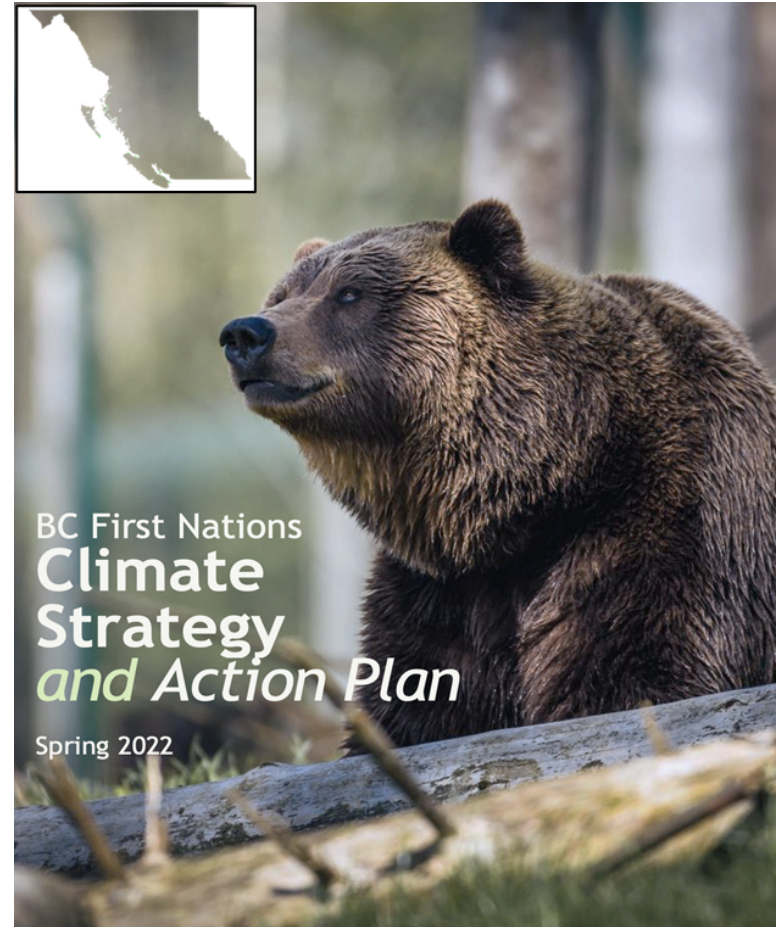
1004 Landooz Road
Prince George, BC V2K 5S3
Website: www.bcafn.ca

Resolution 03/2023

SUBJECT:	FACILITATING THE CO-DEVELOPMENT OF A FIRST NATIONS CLIMATE LEADERSHIP AGENDA IN BC
MOVED BY:	CHIEF LEE SPAHAN, COLDWATER INDIAN BAND
SECONDED BY:	CHERYL CASIMER, PROXY, LOWER NICOLA INDIAN BAND
DECISION:	CARRIED

- FNLC prepared the ***BC First Nations Climate Strategy and Action Plan*** from 2019 - 2022
- The Strategy was endorsed by First Nations leadership in 2022
- The FNLC is implementing the Strategy

The FNCL Agenda in BC will complement the work to implement the **BC First Nations Climate Strategy and Action Plan**

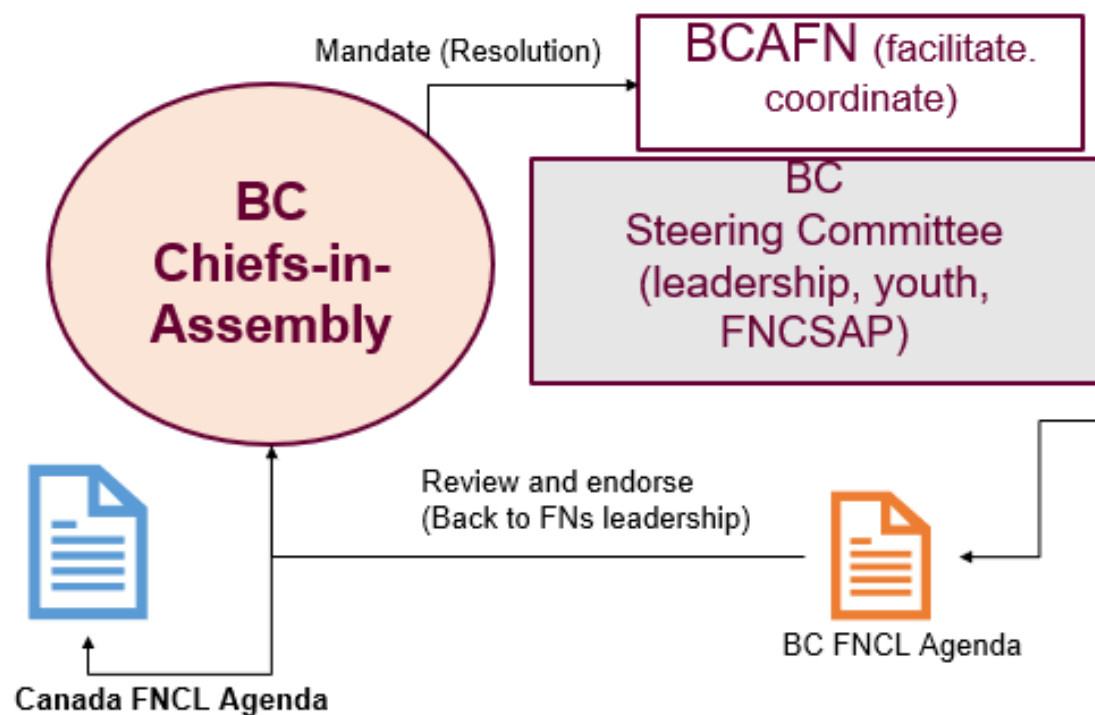


Potential Themes

- Support the **implementation of the BC FNs climate strategy and Action Plan.**
- **Ensure collaborative decision-making on climate. FNs have a seat at the decision-making table.**
- Provide recommendations **to change the way Canada provides funding to FNs** (equitable, accessible, long-term, and First Nation-determined).
- **Supporting capacity, expertise, and governance**
- **Addressing systemic barriers and inequities** to limit climate action
- **First Nations knowledge systems, laws and languages**

Preparing the FNCL Agenda requires meaningful engagement

- With the BC FN Climate Strategy as a starting point, the FNCL Agenda development process will facilitate the drafting through:



Engagement Process/Co-drafting (204 FNs)

- Liaise with FN organizations and other groups (**FNLC**, Councils, Tribal Councils, FNHA, etc.)
- Virtual sessions on co-development
- Regional sessions in person (+8)
- Knowledge Keeper gathering – at the beginning to guide the process
- Focus group by topic (health/healing, languages, etc.)
- Interviews
- Partnerships (alignment with other provincial and local processes).
- Funding available FNs to review drafting or lead engagement.

FNCL Agenda BC Steering Committee

An EOI call was sent to all First Nations in BC and advertised on BCAFN communication channels

Purpose:

Provide technical advice and strategic direction on the engagement process and validate findings and recommendations throughout the co-development of the BC FNCL Agenda.

6 members

- BCAFN representative
- FNLC representative
- Youth representative
- First Nations leader representative 1-3

Guiding Principles and Shared Values

Terms of Reference

Technical Support

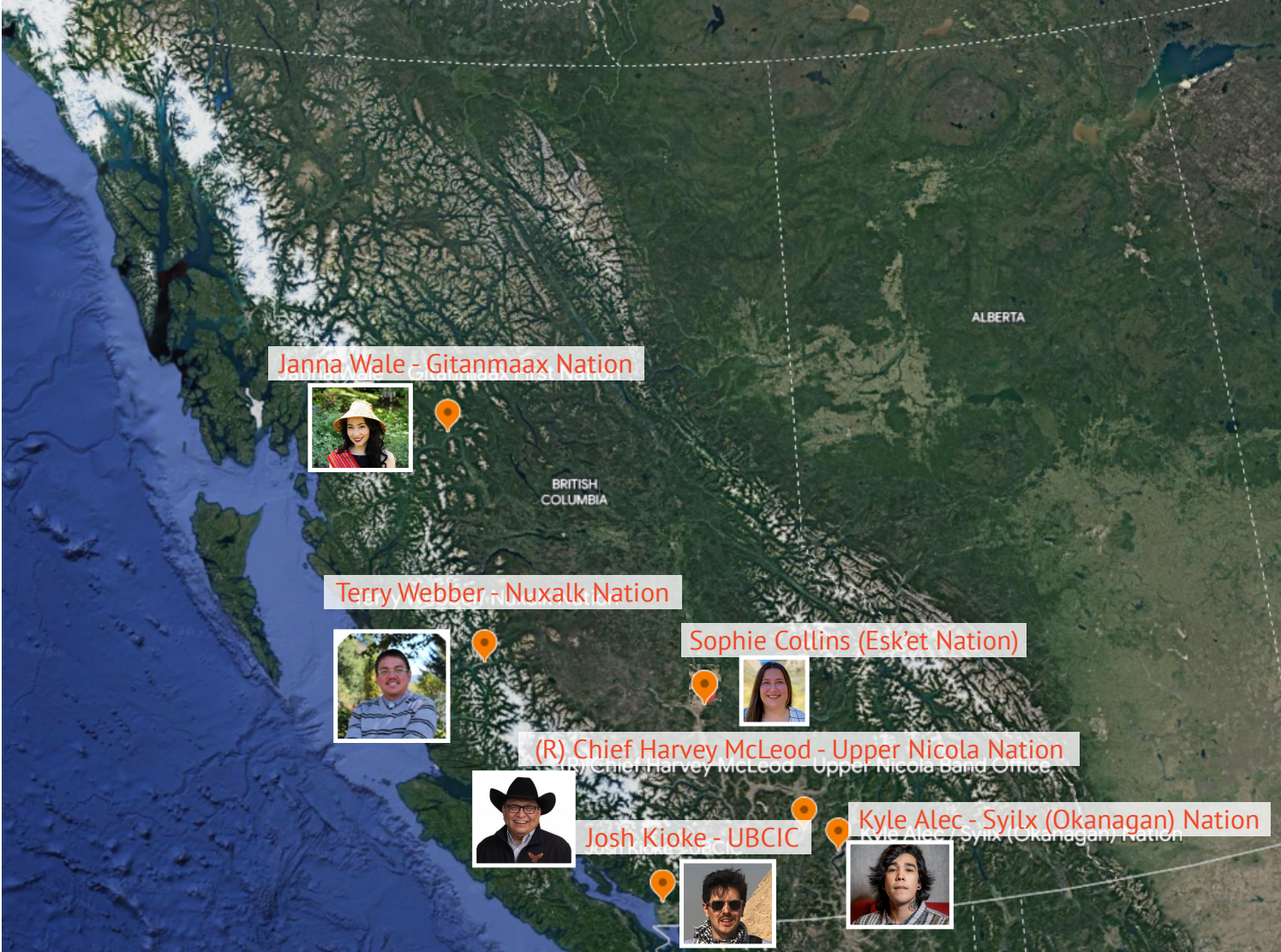


BRITISH COLUMBIA
ASSEMBLY OF
FIRST NATIONS



"Many coming together as one"

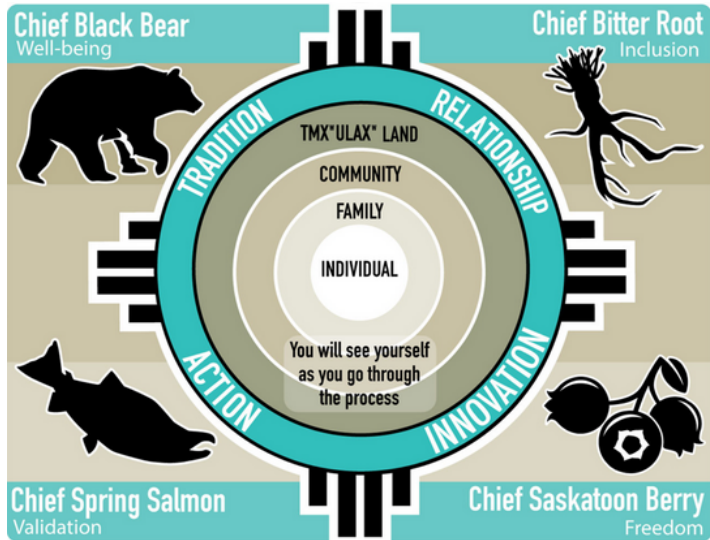
Steering Committee Members



Engagement approach



A transformative storytelling and whole systems healing approach



Engagement Plan:

Spiritual Knowledge Keeper Gathering: November 17-19, 2023

Co-Development and Kick-off Virtual Session: December 1, 2023

In-person, Regional/Language Group Sessions March - April, 2024

Proposed locations:

1. Salishan – Squamish, Fraser Valley, TBD
2. Interior Salishan – Kamloops
3. Athabaskan-Eyak-Tlingit/Na-Dene – Prince George
4. Algonquian – Fort St. John
5. Ktunaxa – Cranbrook
6. Tsimshianic – Terrace
7. Wakashan – Campbell River
8. Xaayda Ki – Daajing Giids/Sandspit

Focus groups 2024

Written Feedback or lead engagement 2024

Peer review 2024

Two (2) Virtual Engagements to Validate Recommendations 2024

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

Phase 1: Onboarding Research Planning

- Steering Committee Kick-Off meeting
- Naqsmist Onboarding

August, 2023

Research,
Engagement
Planning,
Communications

August -
October, 2023

Host
Knowledge
Keeper
Gathering on
Climate Change

November, 2023

Phase 2: Engagement

**Project Kick-Off
and 'What is Co-
Development'
Dialogue
Session**

December, 2023

Eight (8) Regional
Engagement Sessions
Four (4) Virtual Focus Groups
Fifteen (15) Targeted
Interviews

April - May, 2024

Phase 3: Report Writing, Engagement, Peer Review, MC and Endorsement

First Draft of the
Report, Including
Key Findings and
Recommendations

June 2024 - August 2024

Internal and
Peer Review of
Draft Report

August, 2024

Host Two (2) Virtual
Provincial
Engagement and
Validation Sessions

September 2024 - October 2024

Final Draft of the
Report, Including
Key Findings and
Recommendations

December 1, 2024

Drafting
Memoranda to
Cabinet.

January, 2025

Endorsement and
Project Wrap Up

March, 2025

Opportunities & Challenges

Opportunities:

- Communities want to see changes.
- Declaration Act, UN Declaration Act.
- BC government wants to participate
- Other processes

Challenges

- 204 First Nations, diverse (geography, politically, languages, capacity).
- How do we get Nations involved?
- Ongoing climate disasters
- Connect with other processes
- How to implement our recommendations? Integrating processes that are not ours into a system that is not ours/ limited budgets/



- Mussi Cho -