



BRITISH COLUMBIA
ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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STATEMENT
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BCAFN Responds with Deep Sorrow to the Tragic Loss in Tumbler Ridge: Urges Healing, Solidarity, and Action for Safer Communities

(Lheidli T'enneh Territory, Prince George, BC) It is with profound sorrow and heavy hearts that the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) acknowledges the tragic loss of life in the community of Tumbler Ridge, British Columbia. The senseless violence that has taken away ten precious lives, including that of the suspect, and injured many more, will leave a deep and lasting wound not only in this community but in all of us living in BC and across Canada. As we grapple with the grief, loss and pain, we are called upon to come together in solidarity, respect and compassion.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families, friends, and all those who have been directly touched by this heartbreakingly traumatic event. As we move forward, it is important for each of us to find healing spaces grounded in culture, ceremony, and collective support.

BCAFN honours those lives lost by renewing our commitment to building safer and stronger communities, grounded in respect, understanding, and the prevention of violence. We call upon all levels of government and community leaders to work alongside community members to address the root causes of violence and provide adequate supports for mental health and wellness.

Together, we stand in grief but also in hope — for reconciliation, for healing, and for a future where every child and adult can live free from fear and harm.

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