



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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## Press Release

For Immediate Release

January 24, 2020

### BCAFN Welcomes Delegates to the Women in Leadership Dialogue Session

*(xwməθkwəy̓ ə/Musqueam Territory, BC – Jan. 24, 2020)* – The BC Assembly of First Nations Women’s Representative Louise Housty-Jones and Regional Chief Terry Teegee are pleased to welcome delegates from across British Columbia to the Women in Leadership Dialogue Session being held today in Richmond, BC at the Westin Wall Centre. As the third Women in Leadership event delegates gather to share ideas and strength as they seek to lead and create positive change.

“This exciting event brings together diverse, committed and inspirational leaders who will influence and guide innovation and change as we seek positive solutions to the many challenges our families and communities are confronted with. We come together to provide each other with strength and encouragement,” stated Louise Housty-Jones.

“I warmly welcome the delegates attending the Women in Leadership Dialogue Session today and I am inspired by the leadership and supportive culture that is cultivated during the course of this day. As the third Dialogue Session, we build upon the momentum of the Women’s Declaration, a living document endorsed by the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly,” noted Regional Chief Terry Teegee.

The Women in Leadership Dialogue Session is a day where First Nations Chiefs, councillors, matriarchs, and business and community leaders, from across British Columbia and who identify as women and gender-diverse, come together to develop tools and support one another to thrive in the political, business, family, and community contexts. Event speakers include the Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould, MP for Vancouver Granville, Honourable Melanie Mark, Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, MLA for Vancouver-Mount Pleasant, Chief Councillor Marilyn Slett, Heiltsuk Nation, Chief Rebecca David, Pauquachin First Nation and many more. Delegates will continue and build on the 2017 Women’s Declaration protocols and guidelines that was borne out of our first two Dialogue Sessions.

*The British Columbia Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) is a Provincial Territorial Organization (PTO) representing the 203 First Nations in British Columbia. BCAFN representation is inclusive and extends to First Nations currently engaged in the treaty process, those who have signed modern treaties, and those who fall under historic treaty agreements which include the Douglas Treaties and Treaty 8.*

#### Background links:

Women’s Declaration:

[https://www.bcafn.ca/sites/default/files/docs/news/2018.03.08\\_BC%20Indigenous%20Women's%20Declaration\\_FINAL\\_for\\_distribution\\_0.pdf](https://www.bcafn.ca/sites/default/files/docs/news/2018.03.08_BC%20Indigenous%20Women's%20Declaration_FINAL_for_distribution_0.pdf)

Women in Leadership Dialogue Session Agenda:

<https://www.bcafn.ca/sites/default/files/docs/events/BCAFN%20WLDS%20Final%20Agenda.pdf>

#### For further information, contact:

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