

British Columbia Assembly of First Nations

2017-2018 Annual Report





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BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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MESSAGE FROM THE ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS NATIONAL CHIEF

Greetings to all Chiefs, Grand Chiefs, Hereditary Chiefs, Elders, Youth and Citizens!

On behalf of the entire AFN Executive, I extend our best wishes to all of you and acknowledge your work and accomplishments over the past 12 months. I would like to acknowledge the BCAFN leadership for all their efforts, support, wise counsel and contributions that they provided over the past year in support of our work at the national office and to Regional Chief Teegee and his team.

As you begin your Assembly, I know we are all mindful of the First Nations in your region who have faced devastating floods and fires over the past year. This has been a difficult time for many as a result of these disasters and I want to lift up all First Nations who, through their resiliency and determination, are working towards rebuilding their communities and nations for their people.

I would like to acknowledge the warm welcome and gracious hospitality the Assembly of First Nations received as we hosted our Annual General Assembly this past July in the traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations.

This is a historic time for First Nations as we move forward on strategies to support one another to ensure our rights, title and jurisdiction are respected and implemented. BC continues to be a leader on many issues our people are facing across the country, including Language, Children and Families, Education, and Rights Recognition. I look forward to continuing to work closely with BCAFN leadership and citizens as we engage in constructive dialogue and action.

I thank all of you for your leadership over the past year and look forward to working with you in the coming months as we move forward in our shared commitment to strengthen our peoples and Nations.

National Chief Perry Bellegarde
Assembly of First Nations



MESSAGE FROM THE BC REGIONAL CHIEF



Chiefs, Hereditary Chiefs, Grand Chiefs, Elders, Youths, First Nation members and honoured guests,

This past year has been a whirlwind of activity as we moved the BCAFN head office to Lheidli T'enneh (Prince George), and opened a satellite office in Musqueam territory (Vancouver); we have also hired new staff and continued with our regular business of supporting First Nations in BC in advocating for the full implementation of their inherent and treaty rights. We are thankful for your patience during this transition. I am pleased to be able to share news and updates on the work being accomplished by myself and my team. This Annual Report will provide information on the many social, economic, political and cultural developments we have been advancing over the year. We are working to tackle numerous critical and challenging issues as listed in the Policy Updates section of this report and we are pleased at the progress we are making. In addition, I am also currently working on the national portfolios for Economic Development, Fisheries and Justice.

It has been a year of commitments for Reconciliation at both levels of government. Chiefs in BC have been active in pushing for the full implementation of their inherent and treaty rights at various tables. We have a lot of work to do but we are making progress. Even in light of decisions by the courts and judicial system in situations like the Bouchie or Tina Fontaine cases, we must continue to stand together to honour our ancestors who fought for theirs; we must do better for our children and our grandchildren.

We have been very active in holding Prime Minister Trudeau to account for his commitment that “no relationship is more important than the one with Indigenous Peoples.” The Federal Framework for the Recognition and Implementation of Rights has been evolving over the last year. The BCAFN in partnership with the First Nations Summit and the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs have brought together the Chiefs in BC at least three times this past year to analyze and discuss the federal and provincial commitments to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the TRC Calls to Action and the affirmation of First Nations inherent and treaty rights. We expect that the

Trudeau Government will continue to engage First Nations across B.C. and Canada; we will continue to advocate for and be a unified voice for the Chiefs in B.C.

A social justice issue of significant importance to me is that of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. We have all been deeply impacted by violence and losses of many First Nations women and girls. With the Government of Canada continuation of the independent National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (“National Inquiry”) since September 2016 we have begun to see a raised national consciousness of the issue. The Assembly of First Nations Resolution 37/2014 mandates the AFN Executive to take a “Families First” approach ensuring that there is a respectful inclusion of voices and perspectives of the families in the discussions and development of action plans on the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. The National Inquiry continues its work and an interim report is now available on their website and we look forward to the final report in the Spring of 2019.

We are optimistic with the current political climate and the advancement of reconciliation as we begin to see significant financial commitments from BC in much needed areas, such as housing, gaming revenue sharing and languages. BC has become the first province in Canada to invest provincial social housing funds into on- and off-reserve housing. Through the new Building BC: Indigenous Housing Fund, the BC government will invest \$550 million over the next 10 years to build and operate 1,750 new units of social housing for projects, both on- and off-reserve. In addition, in the 2018 Budget, B.C. allocated a

\$50-million grant to the First Peoples’ Cultural Council (FPCC) to help revitalize Indigenous languages in British Columbia and address the current language crisis. Provincial and federal politics are tenuous right now and our strides may be cut short if we see changes in the upcoming federal election and a potentially destabilized provincial government if the NDP and Green parties can no longer find common ground.

First Nations leaders in B.C. are claiming their rightful place and demanding recognition of their rights. This coming year will be a critical one as we enter into a federal election; First Nations have another opportunity to show the world that we matter and we are here to stay. It is an honour to serve the 203 Chiefs in BC. Our work on an economic development strategy will include a new toolkit for First Nations (the Blackbooks), which will provide tools for realizing the economic component of Aboriginal title. I would also like to thank and acknowledge the BCAFN Board of Directors, National Chief Bellegarde (re-elected in July), the AFN Executive and Chiefs in B.C. for your perseverance and support. I hold you all up and respect all your hard work and sacrifices. Together we can create the space for First Nations governments, languages and cultures to strive and thrive. Mussi cho.

Terry Teegee

BC Regional Chief

Regional Chief Terry Teegee, a member of Takla Lake First Nation, was elected BCAFN Regional Chief last year in October 2017. Teegee carries the responsibilities of the hereditary name of Maxweeum Tsinghee and he recently served as the elected Tribal Chief of the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council (CSTC).

Regional Chief Teegee is a Registered Professional Forester (RPF), and graduate of the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) with a Bachelor of Science degree in forestry. Last year Terry was one of 250 participants selected across the country to participate in the 2017 Canadian Governor General’s Leadership Conference (CGGLC). Terry was elected as the BC Representative for the National Aboriginal Forestry Association (NAFA) from 2008 to 2014 and has been appointed to the Fraser Basin Council Board, an advocacy group that promotes sustainability in the Fraser River Basin. He is also Vice President of Sustut Holdings, a joint venture company owned by Takla, Nak’azdli and Tl’azt’en First Nations and is the President of LTN Contracting, also a joint venture company owned by Lheidli T’enneh First Nation and Roga Contracting.

Terry and his wife, Rena Zatorski, have been married for seventeen years and have two children, daughter Rylie and son Rowan. They currently reside on the Lheidli T’enneh reserve, located near the city of Prince George.

MESSAGE FROM THE BCAFN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Chiefs, Grand Chiefs, Elders, Youth and honoured guests,

We are happy to present this BCAFN Annual Report to the Chiefs-in-Assembly for the fiscal year 2017-18. This year BCAFN has experienced many exciting transitions and we have been honoured by the Chiefs-in-Assembly to carry out the resolutions, the Regional Chief's mandate and uphold the vision and mission of the organization. In October 2017, BCAFN witnessed a change in leadership with the election of Regional Chief Terry Teegee and new Board Directors, Chief Harvey McLeod, and Chief Charles Morven. We want to acknowledge and recognize the contribution of past Board Directors, Chief Maureen Chapman and Susan Miller and wish them all the best in future endeavours.

We continue to work and uphold our Aboriginal Title, Rights and Treaty rights through our collective advocacy and strategic efforts. We engage our Provincial and Federal government partners to ensure alignment and implementation of the standards laid out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action. We are pleased to provide you an update of the continued advancement of our BCAFN Sustainable Economic Development and Fiscal Relations Strategy as well updates in various policy areas including children and families, emergency management, environmental assessment and language and culture.

Over the next year, we will continue to work with our partner organizations, the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the First Nations Summit, collectively as the First Nations Leadership Council in advancing our shared objectives and commitments as well as supporting our member Nations in the assertion of their rights.

Chief Harvey McLeod, Chief Councillor Charles Morven, Chief Marilyn Slett and Chief Rebecca David
BCAFN Board of Directors



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF STAFF

Dear Chiefs, Grand Chiefs, Elders, Youths, and honoured Guests,

I am honoured to report to you as the British Columbia Assembly of First Nations Chief of Staff.

I would like to begin by acknowledging the leadership provided by previous Interim Regional Chief Maureen Chapman, Chief of Staff Melanie Debassige, Board Directors, and the prior policy and administrative staff of the BCAFN. Although I am still fairly new into this position, I endeavour to continue to build upon the foundation and legacy that has been created as we move forward into the future, guided by the vision and mandate of Regional Chief Terry Teegee and the BCAFN Board of Directors.

Initial observations upon coming into this role is that the BCAFN has been in a state of transition for a number of years. This was initiated with the movement of the BCAFN office from West Vancouver to Kamloops and continued as operations were re-established this year in Vancouver with a new office being developed within the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation community, located near Prince George. Although this recent transition has had its challenges, it has also provided many opportunities to move forward in a positive direction.

Funding acquisition will continue to be a priority to support Regional Chief Teegee's national portfolios of Economic Development, Fisheries, and Justice along with federal/provincial priorities around Emergency Management, Environmental Assessment Reform, First Nations Families and Child Welfare,

Language and Culture, Cannabis, Gaming, Recognition and Implementation of Rights Framework, and UNDRIP implementation legislation.

Communications with our 203 BC First Nations members remains a priority. I look forward to continued engagement with our BCAFN membership as my staff and I explore innovative communication tools that will be utilized to enhance existing engagement strategies. We fully acknowledge and witness the unbelievably high demands of all leaders and would like to find ways to support fuller participation of leadership in the various initiatives undertaken by the BCAFN.

These are historic times for BC First Nations as many opportunities now are placed before us. Significant progress has been achieved over the past year and this will continue into the future as we work through the guidance of your leadership, through the mandates provided by the Chiefs in Assembly, and resolutions passed.

On behalf of myself and the BCAFN Administrative and Policy Staff, I look forward to working with our BCAFN First Nation members as we strive to advance our collective rights, title and jurisdiction to the maximum benefit of our people.

Vanessa West
BCAFN Chief of Staff

INTRODUCTION

VISION

The BC Assembly of First Nations is unified towards self-sufficiency and vibrancy while never forgetting who we are. We envision a future where our inherent laws, lands, and traditions are recognized and respected by governments, industry and the general public.

MISSION

We are proud, progressive and innovative BC First Nations advocating for and implementing our Aboriginal Title, Rights and Treaty Rights through exercising our inherent laws and jurisdiction.

MANDATE

- Advance the rights and interests of First Nations people in British Columbia;
- Restore and enhance the relationship among First Nations people in British Columbia, the Crown and people of Canada;
- Develop and promote policies and resources for the benefit of First Nations people in British Columbia including but not limited to economic, social, education, health and cultural matters; and
- Work in coalition with other organizations that advance the rights and interests of Indigenous People.



BCAFN STAFF

VANESSA WEST
CHIEF OF STAFF

Vanessa is a member of the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation and is an elected member of Council, serving her third year in this position. She was also an elected Councillor for her community from 2001-2009 while she worked as the Treaty Office Manager for the Lheidli T'enneh Treaty Office for nine years. Prior to taking on the role of Chief of Staff for the BC Assembly of First Nations, she held the position of Executive Director for Positive Living North, an Aboriginal HIV/AIDS non-for-profit service organization, for over 11 years. During this time, Vanessa also volunteered as a Board Member for the Canadian AIDS Society and served two terms with this national organization.

Vanessa is the proud mother of three children, Jordan, Alexandria and John-Michael. She currently lives in her community with her partner of nine years, Randy, and joined the BCAFN team in April 2018.

Jaime has also co-facilitated the creation of the BC First Nations Forestry Action Plan, and the BC First Nations Mineral Exploration and Mining Action Plan; more recently he has been working with First Nations in northern BC in negotiations related to reconciliation, and natural gas pipeline developments. He has worked for, among others, the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council, BC First Nations Energy and Mining Council, BC First Nations Technology Council, BC Aboriginal Mine and Training Association, Nadleh Whut'en First Nation and Musqueam Indian Band. Jaime is a Registered Professional Planner (RPP), and Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP), having graduated from the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC) in 2005 with a degree in Environmental Planning, with a focus on First Nations Community Planning.

As a first-generation Canadian living with his wife and two sons in Snuneymuxw territory (Nanaimo), Jaime is passionate and dedicated to being part of the reconciliation needed in Canada. His own family was displaced due to the military dictatorship in Chile in the 1970s, which has informed his drive and passion for seeking solutions to conflicts and restitution of historic wrongs.

JAIME SANCHEZ
SPECIAL ADVISOR TO
THE REGIONAL CHIEF

Jaime has spent over ten years working with First Nations in BC focused on building capacity, policy and strategic advice, natural resource management and negotiations with the Crown and industry. Some of his accomplishments include establishing a centralized mapping office, providing certified aboriginal land-use planning training, co-designed and delivered a First Nations Referrals Officer Program, as well as assisting with multi-million-dollar negotiations for energy projects and reconciliation agreements.

SAMANTHA SEYMOUR
ADMINISTRATIVE
SUPPORT WORKER

Samantha Seymour has just started as the Administrative Support Worker at the BCAFN. She is a proud member of the Lheidli T'enneh Band and recently finished a position as a Community Engagement Intern for the Lheidli T'enneh Treaty team. Samantha attended school at Kelly Road Secondary and graduated in 2015. Her goal is to acquire more knowledge in administrative duties and further develop a work ethic that will benefit herself and her community.

MELANIE LYONS FINANCE MANAGER

Melanie is a Certified Professional Accountant (CPA, CA) and a member of Katzie First Nation in Pitt Meadows, BC but grew up on Katzie IR#2 in Langley, BC. Katzie is a part of the linguistic family that is known as the downriver dialect of Halkomelem, the language shared by the peoples residing on the rivers and shores of the Salish Sea. *q̓íçəy* means “the land of the moss”, and is also the name of the village site on the Fraser River near the present day community of Port Hammond. Melanie has worked with Alberta First Nations in an audit role and as a Financial Controller. Melanie has also worked with many First Nations throughout B.C. and across Canada in her previous role with the First Nations Financial Management Board. Melanie currently lives in Prince George, B.C. and joined the BCAFN team in May 2018.



MAUREEN BUCHAN SENIOR POLICY ADVISOR

An Anishinaabe from Bearskin Lake First Nation in northern Ontario, Maureen has over 15 years of experience working for First Nations political organizations. She has a Master of Arts in Indigenous Governance from the University of Victoria, as well as an Advanced Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Government from the University of Manitoba. Maureen was formerly an Associate Faculty Member at the University of Victoria and has worked as a Policy Analyst and Specific Claims researcher for the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC). Other experience includes research work for various organizations including the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, and Musqueam Nation. Maureen was recently appointed to the Law Foundation of BC Board of Governors. As co-founder of Sparrow-Grant Consulting, she has provided policy, political, and strategic advice for a number of BC First Nations. A proud mother of two, Maureen currently resides on Musqueam Territory.



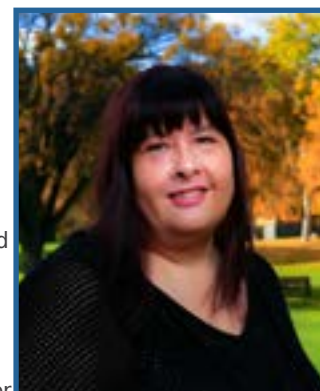
DEREK HANSOM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY ANALYST

Derek has spent the last twenty years working for non-profit Aboriginal organizations. Six years of this time was dedicated to engaging Aboriginal people and communities to restructure child and family services. listening to experiences and opinions to transform the way these services could be provided. He spent another six years working with a delegated aboriginal agency in different roles. Furthering his work in Community Development, Derek completed an MBA in Indigenous Business and Leadership and has completed a number of roles and projects that enhance the capacity of the economic landscape. Derek is an elected Councillor for Skowkale First Nation, and holds the Health, Education and Child and Family Services portfolios. Prior to his move into politics, Derek sat on the Board of Sto:lo Service Agency as part of the first non-political group overseeing the agencies operations. He currently lives on Skowkale First Nation with his wife and three young daughters.



ANNETTE SCHROETER COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Annette was born to Anishinaabe and German parents in Prince George, BC and is a member of the Muskrat Dam First Nation located in northern Ontario. Most recently she worked for the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council as their Communications Coordinator and has also worked with First Nations communities in northern Ontario. Annette has a Master of First Nations Studies and Bachelor's Degree in History and Anthropology from the University of Northern British Columbia. She also holds a Bachelor's of Design from Emily Carr University of Art & Design.



VICTORIA AUSTIN

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Victoria is from the Gitksan-Wet'suwet'en nation of Hagwilget. Victoria is Gilseyhu from the Yikx Ts'iwit'an House. She has resided in Prince George for twenty years and has been working with First Nations



photo by Carrie Davis

in the central interior for the past eighteen years and with the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council for a significant portion of that time. Her positions with CSTC has brought her much exposure to great leadership and opportunity. It has been a pleasure to witness the many strong and courageous First Nations leaders work for the betterment of their people; and their dedication inspires her to acquire those traits to advocate for her nation in the future.

DANA REITER

REGIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE COORDINATOR

Dana grew up in southern Saskatchewan, her mother was born in Duck Lake and



her family are Cree Metis. She possesses a BA and a Graduate Certificate of Intercultural Studies from the University of British Columbia (UBC) and a Master's Degree in Intercultural Service, Leadership and Management from the School for International Training (SIT) on full scholarship. Dana was a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar with a mandate to promote international peace, understanding and goodwill and was awarded a SIT Intercultural Leadership Award. In 2018 she completed a PhD in the School of Civil Engineering and Built Environment at the Queensland University of Technology in Australia on a full scholarship. Dana was awarded an International Indigenous Postgraduate Research Award. Her thesis was entitled 'Increasing the effectiveness of stakeholder engagement in environmental decision support systems (EDSS)' and was nominated for an outstanding Doctoral Thesis Award, reserved for the top 5% of doctorates in any year.

Dana currently serves on the Advisory Committee for the ONEXONE Foundation's national First Nation Breakfast Program. This program provides a nutritious breakfast for children. She also served as a mentor to an indigenous university student through the national Indspire organization's Rivers to Success Program. As a Volunteer Advisor with the Canadian Executive Services Organization (CESO) Dana delivered their Aboriginal Women for Tomorrow Program in Whitehorse, Yukon for the Ta'an Kwach'an First Nation, Bella Bella, BC for the Heiltsuk First Nation, Alert Bay, BC for the Namgis First Nation, Coal Harbour, BC for the Quatsino First Nation, Northern Manitoba for the Northlands Dene First Nation and again in Whitehorse for the Skookum Jim Aboriginal Friendship Centre. I also served a two-year term on the CESO Board of Directors.

I have won national and international awards and Fellowships for leadership, including a place at the 2012 Governor General's Canadian Leadership Conference: Leadership and Sustainable Communities; Fellow: International Leadership for Environment and Development program, Canada and Mexico 2008; Kellogg Foundation Fellowship, Junin de los Andes, Patagonia, Argentina 2003, United Nations University International Leadership Academy; Leadership for Climate Change and Human Security, Jordan and South Africa 2002, including participation In the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa.

In my free time I enjoy horseback riding, camping, snowboarding, fly fishing, reading, arts and cultural activities (theatre, symphony, etc).

COUNCIL REPORTS

YOUTH COUNCIL

BCAFN Female Youth Representative

Sel Ya:altenot is her traditional, Xwelmxw name and her English name is Angela Charlie. She comes from Sts'ailes and Musqueam where Halqemeylem is the traditional language. Angela was raised in a very respectable, culturally strong, and close-knit family and was groomed to be Xwem Xwem Sqwel Wel, which is to be strong and proud of who you are and where you come from.



She takes pride in being a young and positive role-model and leader in her home communities. For many years she has played an integral role in my family's cultural dance group and Sasquatch Tours business which is a family business instilling cultural awareness and empowerment across the lower mainland.

BCAFN Male Youth Representative

Johnny Hanuse, is a member of the Klahoose First Nation. He currently sits on the Board of Directors for Qathen Xwegus Management Corporation, which deals specifically with economic development ventures and partnerships that operates within arm's reach of the Klahoose First Nation. He has five years experience as a communications coordinator where he further developed his interest in writing, research and photography.



Johnny has been a youth worker intermittently since he was 16 years old. In 2014 he completed the Aboriginal Youth Internship Program where he worked at the Ministry of Environments: BC Parks as a project coordinator for nine months. In his spare time Johnny plays acoustic/electric/slide guitar and writes his own songs; skateboards and writes short stories.

On January 19, 2018, the BCAFN hosted a Youth Forum bringing together BC First Nations youth from across British Columbia to dialogue on the many important issues facing them on a day-to-day basis. The event was facilitated by Xin-Ulong (Stan Wesley), Moose Cree First Nation (ON).

The Youth Forum had three key objectives:

1. Introduce youth to the elected BCAFN Youth Representatives and the role of the BCAFN;
2. Develop a 'mandate' derived from feedback and ideas of the youth for the BCAFN Youth Representatives; and
3. To begin the development of a youth-drafted youth declaration codifying short, medium and long-term priorities, defining who BC First Nations youth are, and identifying their goals.

Key findings were based on feedback include the following:

- There is an identified need for more events bringing together First Nations youth;
- Better streams of communication are needed to ensure youth are made aware of opportunities to engage well in advance of the scheduled event (social media etc.); and
- Chief and Council need to do a better job at engaging their youth and including youth in decision making (demonstrated need for youth councils in each community).

The BCAFN Youth Representatives look forward to continued and broadened engagement with the BC First Nations youth they represent. As a next step, BCAFN is looking into funding to host another forum, this time, focusing exclusively on the development of the youth declaration.

The Youth Forum provided a safe space for youth to share their ideas, discuss what matters to them, and where they want to go—collectively and individually. This event has collected the key themes and discussions, and displays that BC First Nations youth are serious, and are prepared to take up the mantle of leadership for future generations.

The BCAFN, and the Youth Representatives look forward to continued engagement and have taken into consideration the important feedback from the youth participants including, in particular, the need for strengthened communications.

WOMEN'S COUNCIL

The purpose of the Women's Council:

- To unify and create healthy, happy, and harmonious communities through cultural identity and cultural teachings based on: respect, love, courage, wisdom, honesty, humility and truth;
- To establish a gender-balanced perspective within First Nations communities, and within all entities dealing with First Nations, that honours the rights and aspirations of First Nations women.

The current Chair of the AFN Women's Council is Grand Chief Denise Stonefish, I am currently completing my term as the BC Women's Representative this October 2018.

2017-2018 Activities:

- November 1-2, 2017: BCAFN 2nd Women's Dialogue Session in Harrison Hot Springs
- December 4th, 2017: AFN Special Chiefs Assembly - Women's Council Meeting
- March 8th, 2018: BCAFN held its Special Chiefs Assembly where the Chiefs-in-Assembly passed a resolution supporting the BC Indigenous Women's Declaration. This Declaration is a culmination of work and Indigenous Women's Dialogue Sessions which is intended to reflect and represent the strength, diversity, responsibilities of Indigenous Women in BC.

- April 4th, 2018: Participated in the National Inquiry into the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women's and Girls inquiry at the Community hearings of the Truth Gathering Process held in Vancouver.

BC AFN Women's Declaration - Reflection

The BC AFN Women's Declaration recognizes the perseverance, strength and resiliency of women around the world and within our communities. It was written by our women to uplift, strengthen and recognize the important roles we hold in our communities as grandmothers, mothers, aunties, sisters, nieces, daughters and granddaughters. The empowerment of indigenous women as powerful agents of change will only strengthen our communities and nations in the face of environmental and other challenges. I have so much gratitude for the women who have empowered me to be a leader. It our hope the Declaration will inspire women to continue to rise and be heard.

wálas gíáxsiša...thank you very much for the opportunity to represent it was my honour. I will carry this experience with me always.

Chief Marilyn Slett

Women's Representative





Dr. Gwen Point

ELDERS' COUNCIL



Chief Dr. Robert Joseph, O.B.C.

The following highlights the meetings and committees I worked with:

The AFN Elders Council held meetings during the AFN Annual General Assembly and the Special Chiefs' Assembly. The Elders were assigned different portfolios. I was assigned Education and appointed to the Chiefs Action Committee on Education. In particular the Northern and Remote Task Group. See report below:

Unique Needs of Northern and Remote Communities

This task team was created in order to provide an opportunity for northern, remote and rural communities to identify education priorities and provide recommendations for improvement on these priorities in order to deliver quality education to First Nation students and communities. This task team also reviews and provides feedback to the other task teams in order to provide informed perspective from northern, remote and rural First Nations education to ensure their priorities and needs are reflected in all areas of First Nations education.

- The joint task team has completed Remoteness Indicators research and summary document with recommendations for addressing remoteness in education funding formulas.
- The long-term 2018-2019 project is to identify best practices on recruitment and retention of teachers in remote First Nations and develop a summary report.

Chief Committee on Education (CCOE)

The CCOE meets at minimum four times a year. The CCOE reviews recommendations made by the National Indian Education Council (NIEC) and National Task Teams. Priorities for the

CCOE involved any education resolutions going forward to the Chiefs-in-Assembly suggested by the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Education Secretariat and the NIEC. The CCOE makes recommendation to the AFN Education Secretariat on policy advocacy guided through resolutions. Recent priorities have included AFN Resolution 16/2016: Honourable Process to Develop Recommendations to Support First Nations Education Reform, AFN Resolution 65/2017: New Interim Funding Approach for First Nations Education, AFN Resolution 14/2017: Post-Secondary Education Federal Review, and AFN Resolution 29/2018: First Nations Post-Secondary Education Review Report and Recommendations.

The Elders Council worked on a Traditional Knowledge Document that was submitted to the AFN office. This is an "Evergreen" document offering potential priorities for the Federal government to engage meaningfully with Traditional Knowledge. It begins to offer advice on these points, recognizing that deeper and more meaningful discussions must occur with rights-holders, knowledge-keepers, and First Nations themselves.

I was also invited to speak to the Youth Committee during the AFN AGA. I have witnessed and listened first-hand to the many challenges our families, leaders, and communities have been through this past year. I have also witnessed and listened to many who have worked tirelessly to address the many challenges and issues and I am humbled and proud to be a part of the ey te yoyes.

Dr. Gwen Point
Elder Representative

POLICY UPDATES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

There has been continued work during this period to advance the BCAFN First Nations Sustainable Economic Development and Fiscal Relations Strategy.

The Black Books (Economic Development Toolkit) has been created as a four-part document:

- The first part is focused on foundational information regarding economic development;
- The second contains resources for Chiefs, Councils and Economic Development Managers;
- The third holds information specific to First Nations Economic Development Corporations;
- The fourth is a specific section for First Nations Businesses and Entrepreneurs.

This economic development toolkit builds upon the BCAFN Governance Toolkit (Redbooks), which was previously created by former Regional Chief Jody Wilson-Raybould. The development of the Blackbooks included many regional sessions in 2017-18 that sought input and feedback from First Nations throughout the province in the advancement of a practical and efficient tool for supporting First Nations economic development opportunities.

The BCAFN also created additional resources to support First Nations including:

- A BCAFN Economic Development App (iOS, Android)
 - Web-based Community/Regional Profiles
 - An Online Resource Centre also on the BCAFN website
- All of these can be found on the BCAFN website (www.bcafn.ca).

Part of the BCAFN Sustainable Economic Development and Fiscal Relations Strategy, the BCAFN has been working with the BC Business Council (through an MOU signed in 2016) to improve opportunities for dialogue between First Nations and business leaders. From this MOU the Champions Table was created that consists of 11 CEOs and 11 Chiefs representing most regions and sectors in BC; the Champions Table has met 4 times during the 2017-18 period. This table is a formal, ongoing dialogue where First Nations leaders and BC business leaders come together to explore opportunities, discuss barriers and work jointly to develop and advance a more effective approach to economic

development in BC. To date, some key areas of discussion have included:

- A list of identified priority issues to address (i.e. First Nations owned utility concept, etc.)
- A Discussion paper (addressing key barriers to sustainable economic development)
- An amalgamated list of best practice examples
- Work plan to begin addressing the identified priorities

BCAFN has also been working with BC and Canada to create a technical Data Modernization Working Group (with representatives from Stats Canada; Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation; Ministry of Jobs, Training and Technology; and the Ministry of Advanced Education. The focus has been to develop a baseline data set related to First Nations economic development in BC. This includes community skills inventory and data, and will link to the BC Labour Market Outlook to determine areas of potential employment and skills training within First Nations communities.

Work was also completed to produce a report on the opportunities and impact of clustering. “Clustering” is a term used to describe the phenomenon that large firms in the same field, particularly technology industries, often concentrate, or “cluster” in the same city or geographical area.

The BCAFN will continue to work with partners to expand the BCAFN Sustainable Economic Development and Fiscal Relations Strategy, including bringing the Blackbooks to First Nations in BC to support their economic development initiatives and interests. The Regional Chief is also the Chair of the AFN Chiefs Committee on Economic Development, which meets quarterly to discuss various topics including trade agreement, inter-tribal trade, and policy reform needed to support First Nations economic development opportunities at the national and international levels.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

This year (2018) has become the worst wildfire season in modern BC history. Almost every region in BC had a wildfire in July and over 2,000 fires burned over 1.3 million hectares since April 1, 2018. Several First Nations lost infrastructure and buildings, both to wildfires and to flooding. The realities of climate change have created predictable (yet under-prepared) events that require new partnerships and solutions on how First Nations, and all levels of other governments must work better together to prepare, respond and recover from emergencies. It is for this reason that the BCAFN has been working in partnership with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) and the First Nations Summit (FNS) to conclude a political Memorandum of Understanding for Emergency Services, with BC and Canada.

This MOU would establish a collaborative and constructive process to identify and address common issues related to emergency management. The First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS) would provide additional support to this effort, including seeking to improve the capacities and involvement of First Nations governments in all aspects of emergency management. With the support of the Chiefs in BC this MOU should be concluded by the end of 2018, in order to begin preparations for the 2019 flood and fire seasons. Regional Chief Teegee will continue to advocate for investments in emergency management at all levels.

Shovel Lake Fire 2018



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REFORM (FEDERAL & PROVINCIAL)

Environmental Assessment (EAs) are being reformed by both the federal and provincial governments; they have also committed to the full implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration). As part of the Commitments Document between the BC First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) and the government of BC, environmental assessment is one of the initial priorities for legislative and policy reviews. The federal government has also been undergoing a process to reform the federal EA law and regulations. The BCAFN has been active with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) and First Nations Summit (FNS) to advocate for full inclusion of First Nations jurisdictions, laws and policies, including consent-based decision-making. The BC First Nations Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC) has been providing the FNLC and First Nations in BC with technical support in understanding both the federal and provincial changes to their EA laws and processes.

Since mid-2017, the FNEMC has been hosting regional and province wide workshops to discuss EA reform. Regional Chief Teegee has been active in attending several of the regional sessions and all the provincial sessions; the EA reform at the provincial level is seen as one of the first opportunities to hold BC accountable to the full implementation of the UN Declaration. First Nations in BC expect that any new BC EA law (and regulations) should uphold the standard of free, prior and informed consent. Such consent-based decision making will create a new process for First Nations to secure their jurisdiction and authorities. Such arrangements can also reinforce historic and modern treaties.

The BC government EA reform process has included the development of a Discussion Paper, What We Heard Report, and an Intentions Paper. The Intentions Paper is a key document that will inform how the new BC EA law should be created – it is expected that the new EA law will be created by late fall 2018; the supporting regulations will be created over a period of 9+months, and by late 2019 the new BC EA process should be ready to assess new projects.

The changes to the federal EA process (e.g. changes to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012) are being put forward by Canada under Bill C-69, which was introduced in February 2018 and passed in June. First Nations from across Canada (including in BC, and the BCAFN) have submitted comments (in writing or in person). Bill C-69 and Bill C-68 will go to the Senate for review in the fall of 2018; it is expected that both laws will have regulations and policies by mid-2019, after which projects will be reviewed by these new federal laws.

The BCAFN will continue to work with the national AFN, the FNLC, FNEMC and First Nations leaders in BC to ensure that these new EA laws and regulations can enable First Nations governments abilities to implement their own processes, laws and policies. It is a historic opportunity to have both levels of government committed to the full implementation of the UN Declaration and the TRC Calls to Actions.

FIRST NATIONS CHILDREN AND CHILD WELFARE

During this period, there has been movement towards sustained collaboration with Federal and Provincial partners respecting First Nations child and family well-being. This work is to support the goal of improving outcomes for First Nations children and families and communities.

The Tripartite Working Group on Child and Family well-being was established and is supported by the Reconciliation Charter, Terms of Reference and a work plan which outlines short, medium, and long-term objectives. The Reconciliation Charter signed in April 2017, is a foundational and principled commitment piece by the Working Group that outlines the shared commitment to achieve “meaningful reconciliation in the caring of First Nations children and youth; to support First Nations exercise of self-governance and jurisdiction in the manner they choose with regard to the well-being of their children, youth and families; and to clarify the relationship between First Nations, the Province of British Columbia, and the Government of Canada.” This work has been supported by resolution at the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, BC Assembly of First Nations and the First Nations Summit.

The Tripartite Working Group is working towards:

- Supporting improved relations and engagement between First Nations, the Province and Canada as they relate to child and family well-being;

- Identifying potential governance models for First Nations communities relating to child and family well-being; and
- Identifying equitable and impactful investment approaches for governance relating to child and family well-being in First Nations communities.

On January 25-26, 2018 the National Emergency Meeting on Children and Families took place in Ottawa. Minister Jane Philpott called for this meeting to address the national crisis regarding children in care and the general state of child welfare. Several provincial Ministers from across different provinces were also in attendance, as part of the discussion related to needed reforms at both the federal and provincial levels. Following this meeting, the Federal government announced an engagement process to discuss Federal legislation on child welfare reform, this process is intended to solicit feedback from First Nations on what core principles of legislation, what jurisdiction means and what this would look like and what the desired outcomes and impacts of legislation.

FISHERIES

Regional Chief Teegee is the Co-Chair (alongside Regional Chief Roger Augustine) of the AFN National Fisheries Committee (NFC). The NFC is now supported at the national AFN office by a new Fisheries Director. Several meetings of the NFC have been held since September 2017 to discuss implementation of AFN resolutions related to fisheries advocacy and support to First Nations throughout Canada. A key resolution is the review of laws and policies affecting First Nations rights and interests to fisheries resources and management.

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

The Federal Government has committed to the revitalization and restoration of Indigenous Languages in Canada. Prime Minister Trudeau formally announced in December 2016 and the government intends to invest \$89.9 million over the next three years to support Indigenous culture and languages. The AFN has committed to work with the Federal government in co-developing and drafting the new legislation. BC Representative on the AFN Chiefs Committee on Languages, Kukpi7 Ron Ignace, has been working with the First Peoples Cultural Council (FPCC) in organizing regional sessions throughout BC during the Spring and Summer of 2017. The goal of these sessions was to ensure BC

language experts are well informed of the national process and have an opportunity to provide input.

In October 2017, the AFN completed their summary report from the sessions across Canada. Legislation will be drafted by the Department of Justice and the principles that form the basis of the legislation will be discussed and agreed upon by the Department of Canadian Heritage, along with AFN, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and the Metis National Council. It is intended that by mid 2019 the legislation will be passed.



RECOGNITION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INDIGENOUS RIGHTS FRAMEWORK

Chiefs will recall that Canada committed on February 14, 2018, to develop a Rights Recognition Implementation Framework, including development of federal recognition legislation. BCAFN along with the First Nations Summit and Union of BC Indian Chiefs held three All Chiefs meetings and constructively developed a set of rolling draft Recommendations and Principles and Legislative Draft Instructions. BC First Nations lead Canada in concretely engaging the RRIF.

On September 7, 2018, Minister Bennett released the document titled Overview of a Recognition and Implementation of Indigenous Rights Framework (the “Overview Document”) in anticipation of the upcoming AFN National Forum on the Rights Recognition Implementation Framework (“RRIF”) to occur in Lac Lemay on September 11-12, 2018.

Regional Chief with other FNLC members attended the AFN National Forum and together with Chiefs from across Canada rejected the impoverished approach to rights affirmation, good faith consultation and constitutional partnership set out in the Overview Document. The key constructive commitments of the AFN National Forum are that: (1) First Nations will continue to proactively take the reins of Rights Recognition; and (2) BC First Nations can develop their own draft Right Recognition legislative models.

Specifically, the Overview Document view on draft RRIF legislation and policy:

- 1) offers an “impoverished” Rights Affirmation and Reconciliation;
- 2) continues the status quo and is firmly based on colonial assumptions;
- 3) continues the unilateral development of RRIF legislation and policy by Canada and offers only mere consultation to Indigenous Peoples. It is not a legally sound process of engagement when documents are produced; input is requested and that input is ignored. It is not meaningful consultation to record “what we’ve heard”; make no good faith effort to accommodate and mischaracterize it as a “genuine partnership”;
- 4) places Provincial and Territorial Governments in Partnership with Canada and Indigenous Peoples as parties to be “collaborated with”;
- 5) appears to reject that Indigenous Peoples are a third order of government through consistent reference to respecting the division of powers;
- 6) suggests that the Crown will determine the criteria for a Nation to be Recognized;
- 7) suggests that the Crown will affirm Aboriginal Title at their discretion. The Aboriginal title concepts throughout the document do not align with existing constitutional rights and are a retrograde step to subject these rights to provincial and federal political approval;
- 8) suggests that the Crown will predetermine the list of subject matters that Indigenous Peoples will exercise self-government authority;
- 9) allows for limited application of Indigenous legal orders; and
- 10) maintains a high degree of Crown discretion that may continue rights denial in a supposed Rights Recognition Framework.





FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2018

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MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying financial statements of the British Columbia Assembly of First Nations ("BCAFN") are the responsibility of management and have been prepared in compliance with legislation, and in accordance with Canada generally accepted accounting principles for local governments established by the Public Sector Accounting Board of The Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada. A summary of the significant accounting policies are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. The preparation of financial statements necessarily involves the use of estimates based on management's judgment, particularly when transactions affecting the current accounting period cannot be finalized with certainty until future periods.

The BCAFN's management maintains a system of internal controls designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions are properly authorized and recorded in compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements, and reliable financial information is available on a timely basis for preparation of the financial statements. These systems are monitored and evaluated by management.

The BC Regional Chief and Board members meet with management and the external auditors to review the financial statements and discuss any significant financial reporting or internal control matters prior to their approval of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been audited by KPMG LLP, independent external auditors appointed by the BCAFN. The accompanying Auditors' Report outlines their responsibilities, the scope of their examination and their opinion on the BCAFN's financial statements.



B.C. Regional Chief



Vanessa West
Chief of Staff



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Prince George BC V2L 5R8
Canada
Telephone 250-563-7151
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AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of British Columbia Assembly of First Nations

We have audited the statement of financial position of British Columbia Assembly of First Nations ("BCAFN") as at March 31, 2018 and the statements of operations and accumulated surplus, change in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to BCAFN's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of BCAFN's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of BCAFN as at March 31, 2018 and its results of operations, its changes in net financial assets, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

As required by the Societies Act (British Columbia), we report that, in our opinion, the accounting principles in the Canadian public sector accounting standards have been applied on a consistent basis with that of the preceding year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'KPMG LLP'. The signature is written in a cursive, stylized font and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Chartered Professional Accountants

Prince George, Canada
August 29, 2018

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Statement of Financial Position

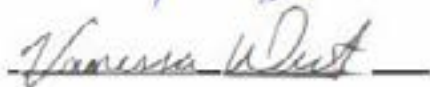
March 31, 2018, with comparative information for 2017

	2018	2017
Financial assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,270,263	\$ 86,538
Accounts receivable (note 2)	208,929	647,952
	1,479,192	734,490
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	411,774	396,330
Deferred revenue (note 3)	965,977	253,985
	1,377,751	650,315
Net financial assets	101,441	84,175
Non-financial assets:		
Tangible capital assets (note 4)	85,528	97,242
	85,528	97,242
Accumulated surplus (note 5)	\$ 186,969	\$ 181,417

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



Regional Chief



Chief of Staff

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus

Year ended March 31, 2018, with comparative information for 2017

	Budget	2018	2017
Revenue:			
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada ("INAC")	\$ 1,650,223	\$ 1,198,189	\$ 1,168,307
Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation ("MIRR")	1,202,667	1,047,708	847,439
Assembly of First Nations ("AFN")	463,270	386,918	449,442
Other income	37,515	28,895	45,060
Rental revenue	-	3,780	33,214
Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs ("UBCIC")	253,985	253,985	14,348
New Relationship Trust ("NRT")	40,000	50,000	16,666
Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business ("CCAB")	-	-	254,234
Donation revenue	-	27,129	31,049
Total revenue	3,647,660	2,996,604	2,859,759
Expenses:			
Administration	1,049,539	1,082,849	1,152,419
First Nations Leadership Council	414,084	253,985	221,445
New Relationship Trust	40,000	50,000	-
Regional Sessions	999,999	811,248	775,398
Economic Development	250,000	250,000	199,710
Housing Forum	203,852	121,496	298,178
Climate	100,000	87,482	36,960
Women's Dialogue Session - Strategic Planning	142,688	82,556	142,731
Governance	300,382	13,276	-
Children & Families	-	201,701	-
Youth	57,773	36,459	-
Total expenses	3,558,317	2,991,052	2,826,841

Segmented information (note 6)

Annual surplus	\$ 89,343	\$ 5,552	\$ 32,918
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year	181,417	181,417	148,499
Accumulated surplus, end of year	\$ 270,760	\$ 186,969	\$ 181,417

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets

Year ended March 31, 2018, with comparative information for 2017

	Budget	2018	2017
Annual surplus	\$ 89,343	\$ 5,552	\$ 32,918
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(3,000)	(19,887)	(42,077)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	31,601	32,331
	(3,000)	11,714	(9,746)
Use of prepaid expenses and deposits	-	-	10,028
	-	-	10,028
Change in net financial assets	86,343	17,266	33,200
Net financial assets, beginning of year	84,175	84,175	50,975
Net financial assets, end of year	\$ 170,518	\$ 101,441	\$ 84,175

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2018, with comparative information for 2017

	2018	2017
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operating activities:		
Annual surplus	\$ 5,552	\$ 32,918
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization	31,601	32,331
	37,153	65,249
Change in non-cash operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	439,023	(479,982)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	15,444	183,530
Deferred revenue	711,992	170,652
Prepaid expenses and deposits	-	10,028
	1,203,612	(50,523)
Capital activities:		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(19,887)	(42,077)
	(19,887)	(42,077)
Increase (decrease) in cash	1,183,725	(92,600)
Cash, beginning of year	86,538	179,138
Cash, end of year	\$ 1,270,263	\$ 86,538

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2018

British Columbia Assembly of First Nations ("BCAFN") was incorporated as a non-reporting society under the Society Act (British Columbia) on April 2, 2003 and is a Political Territorial Organization that represents the 203 First Nations in British Columbia. On November 28, 2016, the new Societies Act (British Columbia) became effective. BCAFN transitioned to the new act on January 19, 2018.

1. Basis of presentation and significant accounting policies:

These financial statements include the assets, liabilities and results of operations of BCAFN. The financial statements of the BCAFN are prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for governments as recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board ("PSAB") of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada, which encompasses the following principles:

(a) Revenue recognition:

Revenue is recognized as it becomes receivable under the terms of applicable funding agreements and contracts. Funding received under the funding arrangements which relates to a subsequent fiscal period is reflected as deferred revenue in the year of receipt and classified as such on the summary statement of financial position.

Government transfers are recognized as revenues in the period in which events giving rise to the transfers occur, providing the transfers are authorized, any eligibility criteria is met, and reasonable estimates of the amounts can be made. If the transfer contains stipulations that create a liability, the transfer is recognized as revenue in the period in which the liability is extinguished.

Donations and other revenue are recognized when the cash is received.

(b) Deferred revenue:

Deferred revenue represents grants and other fees which have been collected, but for which the related expenses or services have yet to be incurred or performed. These amounts will be recognized as revenues in the fiscal year the services are performed or related expenses incurred.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2018

1. Basis of presentation and significant accounting policies (continued):

(c) Tangible capital assets:

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost which includes amounts that are directly attributable to acquisition, construction, development or betterment of the asset. Contributed tangible capital assets are recorded at fair value at the time of the donation with a corresponding amount recorded as revenue. Expenses for repairs and maintenance that do not materially add to the useful life or service potential of the asset are not capitalized, but expensed as incurred. The cost, less residual value, of the tangible capital assets, excluding land, are amortized over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Asset	Basis	Rate
Furniture and equipment	Straight-line	5 years
Computer equipment	Straight-line	3 years

Additions during the year have been amortized using the above annual rates prorated for the month of purchase. Assets under construction are not amortized until the asset is available for productive use. When a tangible capital asset no longer contributes to BCAFN's ability to provide services, its carrying amount is written down to its residual value.

(d) Use of estimates:

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period.

Items subject to such estimates include the carrying amount of tangible capital assets and deferred revenue. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(e) Financial instruments:

Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that BCAFN is not exposed to significant interest, currency, or credit risks arising from financial instruments. The fair values of financial instruments approximate their carrying values, unless otherwise noted.

(f) Pension plan:

BCAFN contributes to a private defined contribution pension plan. Contributions are expensed as incurred.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2018

2. Accounts receivable:

Accounts receivable by funding source is summarized as follows:

	2018	2017
AFN	\$ 42,798	\$ 268,333
MIRR	81,000	245,627
NRT	10,000	63,559
GST rebate receivable	73,878	51,066
Other	1,253	19,367
	\$ 208,929	\$ 647,952

3. Deferred revenue:

Deferred revenue consists of the following:

	2018	2017
INAC	\$ 502,034	\$ -
MIRR	463,943	-
UBCIC	-	253,985
	\$ 965,977	\$ 253,985

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2018

4. Tangible capital assets:

2018	Furniture & Equipment	Computer Equipment	Total
Cost:			
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 36,102	\$ 107,009	\$ 143,111
Additions	720	19,167	19,887
Balance, end of year	36,822	126,176	162,998
Accumulated amortization:			
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 8,759	\$ 37,110	\$ 45,869
Amortization	5,613	25,988	31,601
Balance, end of year	14,372	63,098	77,470
Net book value	\$ 22,450	\$ 63,078	\$ 85,528
2017			
	Furniture & Equipment	Computer Equipment	Total
Cost:			
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 26,997	\$ 74,037	\$ 101,034
Additions	9,105	32,972	42,077
Balance, end of year	36,102	107,009	143,111
Accumulated amortization:			
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 3,341	\$ 10,197	\$ 13,538
Amortization	5,418	26,913	32,331
Balance, end of year	8,759	37,110	45,869
Net book value	\$ 27,343	\$ 69,899	\$ 97,242

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)
Year ended March 31, 2018

5. Accumulated surplus:

Accumulated surplus consists of individual fund surplus and reserves as follows:

	2018	2017
Unrestricted surplus	\$ 101,441	\$ 84,175
Invested in tangible capital assets	85,528	97,242
	<u>\$ 186,969</u>	<u>\$ 181,417</u>

6. Segmented information:

Segmented information has been identified based upon lines of service provided by the BCAFN. BCAFN services are provided by departments and their activities are reported by functional area in the body of the financial statements. Certain lines of service that have been separately disclosed in the segmented information, along with the services they provide, are as follows:

(i) Administration:

Administration provides the functions of corporate administration, finance, human resources, legislative services, and any other functions not categorized to a specific department that are required for carrying out the BCAFN's mandate.

(ii) First Nations Leadership:

First Nations Leadership is responsible for policy analysis, advice and development with respect to First Nations, Provincial and Federal initiatives including: children and families, title and rights, water, forestry, mining, missing & murdered indigenous women & girls, health, education, fisheries, environment and climate change, energy and general engagement with provincial and federal representatives.

(iii) New Relationship Trust:

New Relationship Trust works towards increasing authority and jurisdiction of First Nations governments and thereby improving the quality of life of First Nations citizens in British Columbia. In addition, provides policy coordination and capacity for First Nations organizations.

(iv) Economic Strategic Action Plans:

These strategic plans provide First Nations with access to leadership and expertise to develop regionally-based economic strategic action plans. These strategic plans will encourage and enhance economic investment and progress in First Nation territories across British Columbia.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2018

6. Segmented information (continued):

(v) Economic Development:

The Economic Development strategy works towards enabling First Nations to develop their own institutions, implement their own tax regimes and fiscal arrangements, build their own decision making structures, and create economic self-sufficiency.

(vi) Housing Forum:

The Housing Forums provide awareness to First Nations about funding available for housing. The forum discussed how the First Nations Market Housing Fund is responsible for supporting market housing arrangements between First Nations and lenders. The fund's vision being "every First Nation family has the opportunity to have a home on their own land in a strong community".

(vii) Climate:

The Climate Sessions work towards enabling First Nations to continue to exercise their laws and jurisdictions to protect their lands, waters, coasts and rivers.

(viii) Women's Dialogue Session - Strategic Planning:

This project's work is to advance a comprehensive action plan for the BCAFN Women's Council and the BCAFN Women's Representative to advocate for the protection of women's rights, eradication of poverty and social injustice in our communities.

(ix) Governance:

This project's work is to streamline the current BCAFN governance structure through revision of internal mechanisms that are more reflective of the current reality. Additionally, looking at ways to effectively manage information in a manner that leads to greater continuity from on-going leadership changes.

(x) Children and Families:

The objective of this work is to obtain the mutual goal of improved outcomes for First Nations children and families, through system reform and engagement with provincial government on child welfare and legislation.

(xi) Youth:

This project's work is to engage BCAFN youth representatives and youth from across the Province to identify issues that can be discussed at regional, provincial and national levels to help guide current leadership and youth-related initiatives. The engagement takes place through a youth forum bringing together youth representatives from across the Province.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2018

6. Segmented information (continued):

2018	Administration	First Nations Leadership Council	New Relationship Trust	Regional Sessions	Economic Development	Housing Forum	Climate	Women's Dialogue Session - Strategic Planning	Governance	Children & Families	Youth	Total
Revenues:	\$	- \$	- \$	- \$	811,248 \$	- \$	- \$	- \$	- \$	200,000 \$	36,460 \$	1,047,708
MIRR												
INAC	811,716	-	-	-	250,000	121,496	-	-	13,276	1,701	-	1,198,189
AFN	224,111	-	-	-	-	-	92,207	70,600	-	-	-	386,918
NRT	-	-	50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,000
UBCIC	-	253,985	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	253,985
Rental income	3,780	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,780
Donation												
revenue	27,129	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27,129
Other income	16,939	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,956	-	-	-	28,895
Total revenues	1,083,675	253,985	50,000	811,248	250,000	121,496	92,207	82,556	13,276	201,701	36,460	2,996,604
Expenses:												
Salaries,												
benefits and												
consultants	564,351	75,531	-	32,489	-	-	59,333	-	-	-	-	731,704
Advisory,												
technical and	93,178	19,025	50,000	511,401	180,216	17,425	-	10,694	13,276	-	10,000	905,215
professional												
Office	195,254	18,324	-	122,672	-	74,523	600	867	-	200,000	51	612,291
Travel	142,868	134,297	-	85,011	10,808	27,647	27,549	57,663	-	1,701	20,701	508,245
Amortization	31,601	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,601
Meetings and	55,597	6,808	-	59,675	58,976	1,901	-	13,332	-	-	5,707	201,996
assemblies												
Total expenses	1,082,849	253,985	50,000	811,248	250,000	121,496	87,482	82,556	13,276	201,701	36,459	2,991,052
Annual surplus	\$ 826	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,725	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 5,552

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2018

6. Segmented information (continued):

2017	Administration	First Nations Leadership Council	New Relationship Trust	Regional Sessions	Economic Development	Housing Forum	Climate	Women's Dialogue Session - Strategic Planning	Total
Revenues:									
MIRR	\$ -	\$ 199,983	\$ -	\$ 522,456	\$ 125,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 847,439
INAC	595,999	-	-	250,000	83,333	238,975	-	-	1,168,307
AFN	219,794	-	-	10,000	-	40,000	36,960	142,688	449,442
NRT	-	-	16,666	-	-	-	-	-	16,666
Donation revenue	31,049	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,049
Rental income	33,214	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33,214
Other Income	16,400	9,464	-	-	-	19,196	-	-	45,060
CCAB	254,234	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	254,234
UBCIC	-	14,348	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,348
Total revenues	1,150,690	223,795	16,666	782,456	208,333	298,171	36,960	142,688	2,859,759
Expenses:									
Salaries, benefits and consultants	590,155	97,763	-	-	-	-	-	-	687,918
Advisory, technical and professional	76,430	68,480	-	568,165	169,277	38,538	-	25,727	946,617
Office	197,437	2,583	-	10,025	6,600	41,002	4,071	14,547	276,265
Travel	214,169	22,107	-	-	-	164,231	23,449	87,982	511,938
Amortization	32,331	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32,331
Meetings and assemblies	41,897	30,512	-	197,208	23,833	54,407	9,440	14,475	371,772
Total expenses	1,152,419	221,445	-	775,398	199,710	298,178	36,960	142,731	2,826,841
Annual surplus (deficit)	\$ (1,729)	\$ 2,350	\$ 16,666	\$ 7,058	\$ 8,623	\$ (7)	\$ -	\$ (43)	\$ 32,918

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2018

7. Pension:

BCAFN provides a defined contribution plan for eligible members of its staff. Members are required to contribute 6% of their of their basic salary. BCAFN contributes 6% and the contributions are directed to the member's contribution account. During the year, BCAFN contributed \$24,573 (2017 - \$28,208).

8. Employee remuneration:

For the fiscal year ending 2018, BCAFN paid total remuneration including taxable benefits of \$508,423 to 5 employees, each of whom received total annual remuneration including taxable benefits of \$75,000 or greater.

9. Credit facility:

Under its credit facility agreement with the Royal Bank of Canada dated February 2, 2016, BCAFN has an authorized revolving demand facility in the amount of \$25,000. The revolving demand facility is due on demand and bears interest at the bank's commercial prime lending rate plus 2.0% (March 31, 2018 - 5.45%, in aggregate). The credit facility was not utilized as at March 31, 2018.

10. Related party transactions:

During the year, a related person of the former Regional Chief was paid \$nil (2017 - \$26,218) for contract services.

These related party transactions are in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related party.

11. Comparative figures:

Certain 2017 comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the financial statement presentation adopted for the current year. These changes do not affect prior year surplus.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2018

OCTOBER

AFN Executive Meeting

Vancouver

October 29

Blackbook Sessions

Fort St. John

October 25

Prince George

October 30

NOVEMBER

National Housing Forum

Vancouver, Fairmont Hotel

October 30-November 1

Indigenous Justice Summit

Vancouver

November 2-3

First Nations Fisheries Council

Kelowna, Delta Marriott Gran Okanagan Resort

November 7-8

BC Business Summit

Vancouver, Fairmont Hotel

November 16

First Nations Leaders and BC Cabinet Meeting

Vancouver, Vancouver Convention Centre

November 28-30

Blackbook Sessions

Prince Rupert

November 6

Williams Lake

November 22

Vancouver

November 26

DECEMBER

AFN Special Chiefs Assembly

Ottawa

December 4-6

Blackbook Sessions

Nanaimo

December 3

Cranbrook

December 11

Victoria

December 17

Kamloops

December 20

2019

BC Natural Resources Forum

Prince George

January 22-24





British Columbia Assembly of First Nations