

FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

NOTICE OF POSITIONS: BC FIRST NATIONS CLIMATE ACTION TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

January 8, 2021



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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Applications are being sought from persons interested in participating as a member of the First Nations Climate Action Technical Advisory Group to support the development of the BC First Nations Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (the “BC Climate Strategy and Action Plan” or, the “Plan”). The First Nations Leadership Council (“FNLC”) will be appointing up to 5 members for a 6 month term commencing in January 2021.

Background

The FNLC has been mandated by First Nations in BC through resolutions to work with our partner organizations and First Nations to advance the BC Climate Strategy and Action Plan, which will identify actions to strengthen Indigenous climate leadership. To support the preparation of the Plan, the FNLC is convening the First Nation Climate Action Technical Advisory Group (the “**Technical Advisory Group**”).

Role and Responsibilities

The Technical Advisory Group will support the development and implementation of activities to advance the BC Climate Strategy and Action Plan, including providing feedback and/or recommendation on the first, second and final draft of the Plan. The Technical Advisory Group will also liaise with the FNLC, and other relevant partners on climate change initiatives, on an ongoing basis throughout the development of the Plan.

Throughout the term, The Technical Advisory Group will be required to attend a minimum of 3 meetings, which includes preparation and availability for follow up discussions. Group members could be required to hold additional meetings in order to carry out its mandate and responsibilities.

The Technical Advisory Group will be supported by the FNLC Project Team, including honorariums for participation.

Who Should Participate

Persons from different regions in BC with technical expertise and experience in the areas of climate change, First Nations and/or Indigenous Knowledge. Experiences may span a variety of sectors and areas of knowledge related to climate mitigation and adaptation.

Elders and/or knowledge holders, self-identifying women and youth are encouraged to participate.

How to Apply

Submit a letter of Expression of Interest to the FNLC outlining relevant knowledge and experience by January 22, 2021 at 4:00pm.

Please submit Expressions of Interest or questions to:

Cheyenne Arnold-Cunningham via email at cheyenne@ubcic.bc.ca

Please see the enclosed Terms of Reference for more information.

FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

BC FIRST NATIONS CLIMATE ACTION TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

Terms of Reference

1.0 Background

In early 2019, the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (“**UBCIC**”) and the BC Assembly of First Nations (“**BCAFN**”) passed resolutions calling for the development of a BC First Nations Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (the “**BC Climate Strategy and Action Plan**” or, the “**Plan**”) (UBCIC Resolution no. 2019-02: “Climate Emergency and BC First Nations Climate Emergency Plan” and BCAFN Resolution no. 04/2019: “Climate Emergency and Support for the Development of a BC First Nations Climate Change Strategy”). The First Nations Summit (“**FNS**”) also passed a resolution supporting the establishment of an Interim Committee on Climate Change and Rising Sea Levels to develop an action plan to assist First Nations in BC with their efforts to address and combat climate change (FNS Resolution No. 1019.13: “Establishment of a First Nations Summit Committee on Climate Change and Rising Sea Levels”).

The BC Climate Strategy and Action Plan will identify priorities and actions to strengthen Indigenous climate leadership, to reduce vulnerability to impacts, and to build capacity, understanding and resilience in First Nation communities. The Plan will align with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s recommendations, reduction targets and will establish the importance of ensuring that climate planning protects traditional ecological knowledge. The Plan will incorporate Indigenous Knowledge to help guide climate emergency responses to current and projected climate issues while also communicating to governments and partners of priority areas.

2.0 Designation

The advisory group shall be known as the BC First Nations Climate Action Technical Advisory Group (“**Technical Advisory Group**”).

3.0 Mandate

The Technical Advisory Group is an advisory body to the FNLC which will exchange information and provide recommendation and advice to support the development of the BC Climate Strategy and Action Plan.

The Technical Advisory Group is not a consultative body. First Nation governments as Title and Right holders to their traditional territories have specific laws and protocols regarding their climate change initiatives that must be acknowledged and respected.

4.0 Purpose

The purpose of the Technical Advisory Group is to support the development of the BC Climate Strategy and Action Plan, including feedback on the content of a first, second and final draft of the Plan.

5.0 Composition

The Technical Advisory Group shall be composed of 5 members along with supporting FNLC staff representing different regions in BC. Membership shall, at the minimum, strive to include:

- (1) Elder and/or Knowledge Keeper;
- (1) Self-Identifying First Nation woman; and
- (1) First Nation youth.

Technical Advisory Group members are technical experts who hold expertise in areas of climate change and Indigenous Knowledge that can span a variety of sectors and areas of knowledge. This knowledge will complement the development of successful First Nation adaptation and mitigation measures in response to climate issues.

While members are appointed because of their expertise, they do not represent a specific constituency. Members are expected to bring views on their range of experience(s).

The FNLC and Technical Advisory Group members may mutually agree to invite non-member specialists as well as representatives from other organizations to participate in meetings in order to provide their expertise as required. These experts may be drawn from a variety of fields.

The Technical Advisory Group will be chaired by one technical staff member from the FNLC organizations (the “**Chair**”). The Chair is intended to preside at all Technical Working Group meetings in order to assist in having members fulfil their responsibilities. The role of the Chair is to report Technical Working Group activity to FNLC leadership. Additional functions of the Chair will include creating agendas, monitoring milestones and any other coordination required as part of the Technical Working Group initiatives.

6.0 Appointment

Membership is made by appointment of FNLC Executives and is intended to include diverse representation from BC First Nations, including youth, Elders and Knowledge Keepers, and women, as well as experts with knowledge on climate change and/or First Nations.

An initial Call for Expression of Interest (the “**Call**”) will be distributed through FNLC staff, providing a minimum of 2 weeks for Technical Advisory Group membership submissions. Nominees can self-nominate or provide recommendation for a nominee or nominees. The Call will include a request that all nominees provide a letter of interest outlining their expertise and experience(s). Additional sources may be sought, including reviews of web-based information (i.e. LinkedIn, Company Websites, etc.), as well as any other information that may assist in making appointment decisions.

7.0 Term of Appointment

Technical Advisory Group members shall be appointed for a 6-month term or until the completion of the BC Climate Strategy and Action Plan.

8.0 Meetings

8.1 Frequency of Meetings

The Technical Advisory Group shall hold meetings as required to carry out its mandate and responsibilities. Members are required to meet a minimum of 3 times within the term of appointment. Additional meetings may be scheduled as required.

8.2 Agenda

The agenda for Technical Working Group meetings shall be created by FNLC technical staff in consultation with Technical Working Group members.

8.3 Recording of Meetings

FNLC technical staff shall keep a record of minutes from all Technical Working Group meetings, including feedback, recommendation, and/or advice as well as any other related discussions and commentary.

Once the agenda is approved, the agenda will be distributed to all Technical Working Group members as well as appropriate leadership and staff as needed.

9.0 Honorarium

A reasonable honorarium for all Technical Working Group members and experts shall be fixed by FNLC technical staff at a rate between \$250 and \$500 per meeting. The rate will depend on length of the meeting scheduled.

10.0 General Provisions

10.1 Secretariat and Administrative Support

Secretariat and administrative support is provided by the BC Climate Strategy and Action Plan Project Manager.