



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Website: www.bcafn.ca

BCAFN SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
Lheidli T'enneh, Prince George, BC
March 8-9, 2018

Resolution 03(e)/2018

SUBJECT: ENGAGEMENT WITH THE BC CANNABIS LEGALIZATION AND REGULATION SECRETARIAT

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION:

WHEREAS:

- A. In April 2017 the Government of Canada introduced the *Cannabis Act* and amendments to the Criminal Code to address cannabis-impaired driving with plans to move as quickly as possible to bring these provisions into force. The government also plans to make recreational cannabis legal in Canada by July 2018;
- B. The proposed *Cannabis Act* provides that the federal government will regulate commercial production, while provinces and territories will have authority to regulate certain aspects such as distribution and retail;
- C. The Province has invited BCAFN, working as part of the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) to engage on the provincial regulatory framework for non-medical cannabis;
- D. The United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which the government of Canada has adopted without qualification, and which the provincial government has committed to implement, affirms:
Article 23: Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development. In particular, Indigenous peoples have the right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing, and other economic and social programmes affecting them and, as far possible, to administer such programmes through their own institutions; and
- E. The BC Cannabis Legalization and Regulation Secretariat works to coordinate the development of a provincial regulatory framework. The Secretariat represents BC on Federal/Provincial/Territorial and related issue-specific working groups;
- F. The Province has asked the FNLC to consider establishing a joint sub-group with the Province to provide an ongoing forum for engagement on the regulation of non-medical cannabis in BC.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully supports the BCAFN's participation in the establishment and work of a joint sub-group with the Province and the FNLC to provide an ongoing forum for engagement on the regulation of non-medical cannabis in BC; and
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Regional Chief to report back to the Chiefs at the AGM in 2018 regarding progress made by the joint sub-group.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 9th day of March, 2018, at the Ramada Plaza, Prince George



Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief