



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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NEWS RELEASE

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BCAFN Regional Chief Terry Teegee Congratulates Indigenous Tourism BC Signing Memorandum of Understanding with BC Government

(Lheidli T'enneh Territory, BC – Nov. 14, 2019) – BC Assembly of First Nations' Regional Chief Terry Teegee congratulates Indigenous Tourism BC (ITBC) and the BC provincial government for signing the Indigenous Tourism Accord today at the International Indigenous Conference in Kelowna. The new partnership will provide cultural and economic opportunities that will grow the Indigenous Tourism sector and benefit everyone in the province.

Areas of collaboration include:

- skills development;
- revitalization of First Nations cultures, protocols and languages;
- improved co-operation between provincial ministries;
- energized economic collaborations between First Nations and non-Indigenous businesses and tourism operators.

“This initiative is rooted in the advancement of reconciliation and will support the growth and vibrancy of Indigenous economies. Key to this agreement are supports and actions toward advancing First Nations people’s own goals, innovations and vision within the tourism industry,” stated Regional Chief Terry Teegee.

Indigenous tourism in British Columbia significantly contributes \$705 million a year to British Columbia’s economy supporting thousands of jobs and hundreds of businesses. Visitors from all over the world travel to BC to specifically engage with Indigenous tourism experiences and opportunities.

Read the Indigenous Tourism Accord at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/tourism-immigration/tourism-resources/bcs-tourism-framework>

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