



BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

14th BCAFN Special Chiefs Assembly

Lheidli T'enneh Territory, Prince George, BC

March 8-9, 2018

RESOLUTIONS LIST

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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 01/2018

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR BC INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S DECLARATION

MOVED BY: CHIEF SUSAN MILLER, KATZIE FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF BEV JOHN, TL'AZ'TEN NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. Indigenous women desire to empower themselves and those women around them to achieve their goals and aspirations through collective action for change, and by creating systems of support and mentorship;
- B. The United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* states:
 - a. *Article 21.2* States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure the continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children, and persons with disabilities.
 - b. *Article 22.1* Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities in the implementation of this Declaration.
 - c. *Article 22.2* States shall take special measures, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, to ensure that indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination;
- C. The BCAFN Women's Dialogue Sessions in March and November 2017 brought together female Chiefs, councilors, elected tribal leadership, and those in leadership positions within our communities to dialogue around priorities and strategic approaches with respect to advocating and advancing the well-being of Indigenous women and girls; and
- D. Based on discussions, presentations, and feedback from the sessions, the Declaration was written to reflect the spirit and intent of the sessions and is attached as an appendix to this resolution.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly support the Women's Declaration, which was inspired and created by BC Indigenous women;
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly commit to honouring Indigenous women and girls, supporting healthy families and communities, and breaking the cycles of violence and colonialism; and
3. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly recognize the many benefits of hosting the Women's Dialogue Sessions for First Nations women and youth and supports hosting future sessions pending funding availability.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Terry Teegee', is written over a horizontal line.

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



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 02/2018

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF RIGHTS FORUM

MOVED BY: LEAH GEORGE WILSON, PROXY, TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF LEE SPAHAN, COLDWATER INDIAN BAND

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. Conversations and reflections about the path to reconciliation are happening all across the country – in communities, with provincial, regional and national organizations, in the Canadian court system and with all levels of government;
- B. The United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* has been adopted by the government Canada without qualification, while the provincial government has committed to implementing the *Declaration*. This provides a mechanism to protect the individual and collective rights of Indigenous peoples, including their rights to culture, language, employment, health, education, and the protection of traditional lands;
- C. The First Nations Summit, Union of BC Indian Chiefs, and BCAFN (working together as the First Nations Leadership Council) have been invited to jointly host with Canada and BC, a BC-specific forum to begin the dialogue on rights recognition and implementation. This forum is planned to take place April 11-13, 2018;
- D. The forum would extend an invitation to all First Nations in BC to participate in an initial discussion of a recognition and implementation of rights approach for a new First Nations-Crown relationship, in order to gain the input of Chiefs and leadership;
- E. The forum is not intended to be the only point of engagement on rights recognition and implementation, but rather is intended to be an initial step in participating in this dialogue;
- F. The aim of the forum is to hear directly from First Nations about their various perspectives regarding the path of reconciliation: what does it look like, what are key interests, what are the elements that should be

included, and the kind of strategies or models that can be advanced in order to implement a recognition of rights approach;

- G. There are a number of outcomes that may be generated from the dialogue session, including the co-development of strategies for implementing a recognition of rights approach inclusive of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and Indigenous legal orders; and the opportunity for First Nations to begin shaping key elements and strategies of a recognition and implementation of rights approach; and
- H. Input and strategies arising from the forum may help to guide continued political discussion and policy development regarding a recognition and implementation of rights approach, and it is understood that Canada will also use this forum as an opportunity to further inform its policy reform regarding Section 35 of the *Constitution Act 1982*, the development of a national Recognition of Rights Framework, and the role of the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations in supporting the advancement of self-determination for First Nations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BCAFN to work with the First Nations Leadership Council to host the Recognition and Implementation of Rights forum April 11-13, 2018 so that First Nations can engage in dialogue on the recognition and implementation of their rights; and
2. This forum and any framework developed from this initiative are not intended to impede or infringe on any inherent Aboriginal Title or Rights or Treaty Rights or negotiations that any First Nation may be involved with.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Website: www.bcafn.ca

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

Omnibus Resolution 03(a-g)/2018

SUBJECT: OMNIBUS RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SEVEN RESOLUTIONS

MOVED BY: CHIEF SUSAN MILLER, KATZIE FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF WILF ADAM, LAKE BABINE FIRST NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. Upon review of the draft resolutions, it was determined that seven of the resolutions were resolutions that the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) Chiefs-in-Assembly could support via an omnibus resolution.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly hereby adopt the following resolutions:

NUMBER	NAME
03(a)/2018	SUPPORT FOR GITXSAN AND WET'SUWET'EN JURISDICTION OVER CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
03(b)/2018	SUPPORT FOR THE URBAN NATIVE YOUTH ASSOCIATION'S NEW NATIVE YOUTH CENTRE
03(c)/2018	SUPPORT FOR THE BC FISCAL REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT
03(d)/2018	NATIONAL INQUIRY INTO MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS
03(e)/2018	ENGAGEMENT WITH THE BC CANNABIS LEGALIZATION AND REGULATION SECRETARIAT

08(f)/2018	BC WATER SUSTAINABILITY ACT CONSULTATION FRAMEWORK
09(g)/2018	CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE FIRST NATIONS MAJOR PROJECTS COALITION

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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

Resolution 03(a)/2018

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR GITXSAN AND WET'SUWET'EN JURISDICTION OVER CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION:

WHEREAS:

- A. On June 20, 2015 the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) released its 94 *Calls to Action*, which called for specific actions by all levels of government to advance reconciliation. *Calls to Action* 1-5 focus exclusively on Indigenous child welfare, and called for significant reforms;
- B. As the two nations who brought forward the *Delgamuukw* decision, the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en communities ("the Communities") have achieved recognition of the inherent right of self-government, which includes caring for children as significant components of the Communities' families. The Communities have long been in the process of strengthening the exercise of that right within their respective communities, house groups and territories, whether through the creation of delegated agencies or direct protocols with governments;
- C. The United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* has been adopted without qualification by the government of Canada, alongside the provincial government's commitment to implement the *Declaration*, and affirms:
 - Article 3:* Indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social, and cultural development.
 - Article 4:* Indigenous peoples, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to their internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means for financing their autonomous functions.
 - Article 19:* States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the Indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free, prior, and

informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them;

- D. The Communities are of the view that the “Perspectives on a New Health Governance Agreement (2011)” does not mandate the First Nations Health Council (FNHC) to delve into the jurisdiction of child welfare;
- E. In 2016, the FNHC entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the province of British Columbia, leading to the *Ten-Year Social Determinants Strategy* document. The Communities are of the view that the 2016 MOU brought the FNHC beyond its initial accountability and mandate. In entering into the MOU, the FNHC has inserted itself as an entity to be consulted by the province of British Columbia and government of Canada on issues regarding First Nations children, youth, and families. This is contrary to the Nation-to-Nation approaches;
- F. By BCAFN Resolution 06/2017 “First Nations Jurisdiction over Children and Families”:
- a. Recognizes that each First Nation has the right to determine and develop their own child welfare models, legislation, regulations, policies and practice standards, and fully support any and all First Nations in exercising their respective jurisdiction and authority over the care and well-being of their children and families;
 - b. Fully supports any and all First Nations’ efforts to exercise and secure recognition of their jurisdiction and authority over children and families;
 - c. Fully supports all Indigenous Nations’ inherent Right to care for their children, a Right protected by the Constitution of Canada and recognized by the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;
- G. On February 14, 2017 the FNHC signed an MOU with Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) regarding services to First Nations children and families in BC. The FNHC did not consult or receive support from the Northern Caucus to negotiate such an agreement, and at no time did the FNHC or the Northwest sub-regional representative inform, consult, or receive consent from the Communities to negotiate such an agreement and receive funds on behalf of the Communities;
- H. Among other things, the 2017 MOU between FNHC-INAC provides:
- a. For engagement that is community-driven and Nation-based, as endorsed by BC First Nations in the 2012 Consensus Paper (s.3)
 - b. That the MO is “without prejudice” to First Nations’ interests (s.4); and
 - c. Acknowledgment of the expectations of BC First Nations to jointly review proposals for reforming services for First Nations children and families in BC and a process for shared preparation for engagement efforts (s.8); and
- I. The 2016 final report, “Indigenous Resilience, Connectedness and Reunification – From Root Causes to Root Solutions” prepared by Grand Chief Ed John sets out 85 recommendations. In particular, recommendations 68-74 are consistent with the Communities concerns and views regarding jurisdiction over the wellbeing of the Communities children, youth, and families.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support First Nations in their exercise of their inherent right of self-determination, self-government, and their efforts to develop approaches to caring for their children, youth, and families;
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BC Regional Chief to remind the provincial government that the BC Supreme Court in *Campbell et al v. Nisga'a Nation* determined that the Aboriginal right to self-government has not been extinguished, but in fact, continues to exist independent of the constitutional division of powers. Central to the right of self-government is the ability of Indigenous communities to exercise and secure recognition of their jurisdiction and authority over children and families; and
3. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BC Regional Chief to communicate to the FNHC that each First Nations have the right to determine and develop their own child welfare models, legislation, regulations, policies and practice standards, and that the FNHC has not received the mandate to work on jurisdiction of child welfare.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



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(b)/2018

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR THE URBAN NATIVE YOUTH ASSOCIATION'S NEW NATIVE YOUTH CENTRE

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION:

WHEREAS:

- A. The Indigenous youth population in Vancouver is large, growing, and especially vulnerable to ongoing crises in the region. Indigenous people are Canada's fastest growing demographic. Almost 60% of Indigenous people in BC live in large urban settings and almost 60% are under the age of 25. Indigenous people in Vancouver are experiencing some of the biggest impacts of the region's housing crisis, including vast overrepresentation in the city's homeless population, and Indigenous youth are particularly vulnerable to homelessness. Urban Indigenous youth and their families are also especially vulnerable to the impacts of the opioid crisis;
- B. the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which the government of Canada has adopted without qualifications, 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 as possible, to administer such programmes through their own institutions;
 - Article 24 (2):* Indigenous individuals have an equal right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. States shall take the necessary steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of this right;
- C. the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action state:
 - #66:* We call upon the federal government to establish multiyear funding for community-based youth organizations to deliver programs on reconciliation, and establish a national network to share information and best practices;

- D. the Urban Native Youth Association (UNYA) has a 30-year history and a proven model of success in delivering prevention-focused culturally-responsive programs and services to Indigenous youth, including First Nation members who have relocated to Metro Vancouver from communities across the province;
- E. UNYA is one of four youth hubs in Vancouver supported by the Ministry of Children and Family Development (MCFD) and is the only hub serving culturally appropriate programming to Indigenous youth. Two of these youth hubs have recently received approximately \$7 million each from MCFD to redevelop their youth centres;
- F. UNYA is planning a significant expansion in physical size and programming to address the service needs of the growing Indigenous youth population in and around Vancouver. This project, the Native Youth Centre (NYC), will be the Centre of Excellence for Indigenous youth in Vancouver, where they can access resources, programs, and services that will help build their confidence, leadership, and independence;
- G. the NYC will bring 15 of UNYA's programs together under one roof with expanded and enriched programs and services, including education and training, health and wellness, sports and recreation, and arts and culture. The project will include an affordable housing component with at least 180 units, built in partnership with the City of Vancouver, with priority housing provided to Indigenous youth and their families;
- H. the UNYA, through major partnerships, has already secured the land for the NYC, valued at \$19 million, and completed much of the background work for the project. UNYA has a goal of securing \$20 million from the provincial government and \$20 million from federal social infrastructure funding, as well as private sector contributions, in order to make the NYC and the Indigenous housing project a reality; and
- I. The First Nations Leadership Council expressed support for the NYC in a letter to Premier Clark dated November 17, 2016.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support the Urban Native Youth Association in their provision of Indigenous youth programming and services;
- 2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support the Urban Native Youth Association's Native Youth Centre expansion and complementary housing project to address the growing need for culturally relevant Indigenous youth programming and services in Vancouver; and
- 3. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BC Regional Chief and staff to work in partnership with the First Nations Summit, the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs, and the Urban Native Youth Association (UNYA) to call on the provincial and federal governments to provide adequate financial and political resources to support the UNYA Native Youth Centre project in the next budget cycles and beyond.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



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

Resolution 03(c)/2018

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR THE BC FISCAL REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION:

WHEREAS:

1. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states:
Article 4: Indigenous peoples, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to their internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means for financing their autonomous functions;
2. At the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Special Chiefs Assembly in December 2015, Prime Minister Trudeau told the Chiefs-in-Assembly, "It's time for a new fiscal relationship with First Nations that gives your communities sufficient, predictable and sustained funding. This is a promise we made, and a promise we will keep."
3. In July 2016, the National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations and the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) concerning the development of a new fiscal relationship;
4. The parties undertook a comprehensive review of the existing fiscal relationship, including regional engagement sessions with representatives from First Nations across the country to review and discuss options and recommendations for a new fiscal relationship;
5. The First Nations representatives that participated in those regional engagement sessions called for, among other things, continued engagement on the matter as further work on the new fiscal relationship proceeds;
6. In accordance with the provisions of the MOU, the AFN and INAC prepared a report that sets out jointly-produced proposals, options, and recommendations which was presented to the Chiefs-in-Assembly at the AFN SCA in December 2017;

7. Six (6) BC regional engagement sessions were held in the fall of 2017 with the collaboration of many partners including the First Nations Summit, Temixw Planning, Union of BC Indian Chiefs, First Nations Tax Commission, First Nations Financial Management Board, Lands Advisory Board, First Nations Finance Authority, Aboriginal Financial Officers Association, and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada;
8. Chief David Jimmie of Squiala First Nation and Co-Chair of the AFN Chiefs Committee on Fiscal Relations presented the BC Engagement Summary report to the AFN in November 2017, to be attached as an appendix to the AFN-Canada report in December 2017;
9. The BC Fiscal Engagement Summary Report has been developed to include feedback, input and direction from BC leadership which is intended to inform an improved fiscal relationship between First Nations and the Crown.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly acknowledge receipt of the BC Fiscal Engagement Summary report;
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly call for continued dialogue and work towards the development of a new fiscal relationship, including increased discussions at the individual First Nation, treaty group, tribal council, and regional level to augment national discussions; and
3. Call on the Government of Canada to implement actions recommended in the AFN-Canada Joint Report on a New Fiscal Relationship, and the BC Fiscal Engagement Summary report.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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

Resolution 03(d)/2018

SUBJECT: NATIONAL INQUIRY INTO MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION:

WHEREAS:

- A. In Canada, Indigenous women are five times more likely than other women to die as a result of violence and this problem is a national and international crisis. Violence against Indigenous women and girls must be addressed and eliminated;
- B. In order to redress systemic racism and eliminate the violence perpetrated against Indigenous women and girls within Canada, there is a responsibility by all to act;
- C. The United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* has been adopted without qualification by the government of Canada, alongside the provincial government's commitment to implement the *Declaration*, and affirms:
 - Article 21(2):* States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of Indigenous elders, women, youth, children, and persons with disabilities.
 - Article 22(2):* States shall take measures, in conjunction with Indigenous peoples, to ensure that Indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination;
- D. A National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls was launched September 1, 2016, with a Terms of Reference including inquiring into and reporting on systemic causes of all forms of violence against Indigenous women and girls in Canada, and to report by December 2018. The Inquiry has stated that they will fulfill this mandate by holding Part I – Family, Part II – Institutional, and Part III – Expert Hearings, led by Chief Commissioner Marion Buller;
- E. 'Meaningful opportunities for engagement' may include but are not limited to:

- Sufficient funding to enable Indigenous, front-line, grassroots, and women's organizations can be represented by legal counsel of their choosing and without restriction on how funding can be used for legal counsel;
 - That participation of legal counsel is not restricted at the discretion of the Commissioners or the Privy Council Office;
 - That ample time is afforded to hearing on subjects such as police accountability, the child welfare system, criminal justice system, and other institutions that perpetuate discrimination against Indigenous peoples, and that organizations with standing have adequate time to cross examine witnesses and provide legal submissions;
 - That ample time is afforded to hearings to examine all forms of violence against Indigenous women and girls in Canada, including underlying socio-economic, cultural, institutional, and historical causes contributing to the ongoing violence and vulnerable positions of many Indigenous women and girls.
 - That organization and their legal counsel are provided with access to all documents disclosed to the Inquiry with a minimum of one month's notice to effectively prepare for these hearings, and two month's advance notice for hearing dates;
 - That Indigenous women and survivors are considered experts on these subjects and are called to provide testimony at these hearings;
 - That organizations and their legal counsel are provided with an opportunity to address the Inquiry with closing submissions and recommendations based on the evidence heard at Part I, II, II noted above;
- F. Two Part I Hearings have been announced for the region of British Columbia, and one Part II Expert Hearing has been held nationally, with no announced plan or schedule of further Part II or II Hearings. Part II and II Hearings are the key hearings to investigate the actions of the government, institutions, and experts in order to make lasting change on this issue;
- G. The BCAFN and other like-minded organizations are only able to participate in a limited manner in Part II and III hearings; and
- H. Aboriginal organizations have repeatedly requested further information, schedules, and plans from the Inquiry regarding Part II and III Hearings to no avail, preventing the preparation of materials, submissions, and thus limiting organization's ability to meaningfully participate in this Inquiry.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support families, survivors, and friends who have bravely shared their stories with the Inquiry through the Part I Hearings;
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BCAFN to participate in the Inquiry, including participation at hearings and making written submissions, provided there is opportunity for meaningful engagement, and subject to available resources; and

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

3. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BCAFN to call on the Prime Minister, Minister Carolyn Bennett, Minister Jane Philpott, and Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould to ensure that the Terms of Reference of the Inquiry are met through an effective systemic review through Part II and III Hearings to fulfill the promise to families that change will result from their contributions and stories.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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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.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



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(f)/2018

SUBJECT: BC WATER SUSTAINABILITY ACT CONSULTATION FRAMEWORK

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION:

WHEREAS:

- A. Water is our lifeblood. All living things depend on it. It is a sacred element of our Aboriginal Title, Rights and Treaty Rights;
- B. Without a clearly defined and adequate consultation process with BC First Nations, in 2010 the BC Provincial Government initiated the Water Act Modernization process, and in 2016 passed into legislation the *Water Sustainability Act (WSA)*;
- C. The BC government is undertaking a phased approach to implementing the *Water Sustainability Act* and will continue to develop key regulations over the next 3 to 4 years, including those that have high potential for significant and direct impact on Aboriginal Rights and Title and Treaty Rights;
- D. The BC government has committed to fully adopting and implementing UNDRIP and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and through their mandate letters Cabinet Ministers have been directed to "mov[e] forward on the calls to action and reviewing policies, programs, and legislation to determine how to bring the principles of the declaration into action in British Columbia."
- E. The BC Government has still not articulated or implemented a framework for consulting with First Nations on the *Water Sustainability Act*;
- F. The Crown has a constitutional duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples when it contemplates conduct or a decision that may have an adverse impact on a recognized or asserted Aboriginal or Treaty Rights;
- G. The *United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* states (emphasis added):

Article 18: Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures, as well as to maintain and develop their own indigenous decision-making institutions.

Article 25: Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard.

Article 26:

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.
2. Indigenous peoples have the right to own, use, develop and control the lands, territories and resources that they possess by reason of traditional ownership or other traditional occupation or use, as well as those which they have otherwise acquired.
3. States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned.

Article 32:

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources;
2. States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources;
3. States shall provide effective mechanisms for just and fair redress for any such activities, and appropriate measures shall be taken to mitigate adverse environmental, economic, social, cultural or spiritual impact;

Article 39:

Indigenous peoples have the right to have access to financial and technical assistance from States and through international cooperation, for the enjoyment of the rights contained in this Declaration.

- H. BCAFN Resolution 11/2010 directs the BC Regional Chief to communicate to the Province and Canada that the prior and unextinguished water rights of First Nations of British Columbia must be addressed and given priority before the Province proceeds with legislative and policy changes as proposed in to 2010 Discussion Paper;
- I. BCAFN Resolution 06(k)/2011 directs the BC Regional Chief to work with the National Chief to instruct the Provinces and Canada that mutually negotiated water consultation protocols between individual First Nations and the provincial government must be a prerequisite before all future water rights are assigned and that adequate consultations between First Nations and the provincial governments result in up-front watershed planning that considers the cumulative impacts on First Nations' lands and resources;

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

- J. BCAFN Resolution 06(k)/2011 also directs the BC Regional Chief to work with the National Chief to instruct the Provinces and Canada that the prior and unextinguished water rights of First Nations must be addressed and given priority before the Province assigns either short-term or long-term water access and water use rights to third parties in First Nations' territories;
- K. BCAFN Resolution 03(m)/2013 supports and endorses the Report on Key Findings of the BC First Nations Consultation and Accommodation Working Group, "Advancing an Indigenous Framework for Consultation and Accommodation in BC."
- L. BCAFN Resolution 06(a)/2013 conveys the Chiefs in Assembly's full support and endorsement of the Draft BC First Nations Water Rights Strategy, developed by the FNLC;
- M. BCAFN's submissions to the BC provincial government on the WAM Discussion Paper in 2010 and on the WSA Legislative Proposal in 2013, state that any legislation and regulations developed in the province that have the potential to impact Aboriginal rights and title and treaty rights must be developed in conjunction with First Nations.;
- N. BCAFN in partnership with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the First Nations Summit requested on numerous occasions the immediate engagement of the Province on the proposed *Water Sustainability Act* (WSA) and further to this, has requested and been denied an opportunity to enter into a Memorandum-of-Understanding;
- O. The First Nations Leadership Council provided comprehensive letters on numerous occasions setting out our collective position on the WSA policy proposal;
- P. The work of the First Nations Leadership Council pertaining to the *Water Sustainability Act* does not replace any existing discussions or negotiations respecting water sustainability that any Nations may currently have underway with additional partners, including Ministries, First Nation communities and/or Aboriginal organizations, nor does it preclude Nations from initiative new discussions or negotiations or any challenges that Nations feel need to be brought forward; and
- Q. The proposed resolution below was passed by the UBCIC Chiefs-in-Assembly in June 2017 as UBCIC Resolution 2017-24 and by the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly Meeting in October 2017 as Resolution #1017.04.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly directs the BCAFN and BC Regional Chief to work with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the First Nations Summit, as the First Nations Leadership Council, to call upon the BC provincial government to immediately co-develop a framework for, and to provide adequate resources to, First Nations to appropriately engage on the regulations pertaining to the *Water Sustainability Act* which have high potential for significant and direct impact on Aboriginal Rights and Treaty Rights, specifically Water Objectives, Area Based Regulations, and Water Sustainability Plans, to be undertaken

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with a Nation-based approach ensuring Nation-based interests are taken into account and accommodated.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Terry Teegee', is written over a horizontal line.

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



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(g)/2018

SUBJECT: CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE FIRST NATIONS MAJOR PROJECTS COALITION

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION:

WHEREAS:

- A. Articles 3, 4, 29, and 32 of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (the Declaration) relate to the fiscal, social, and environmental considerations of First Nations concerning the development of major projects within our territories;
- B. The realization of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent of First Nations as stated within Article 32 of the Declaration requires investments in the capacity of our communities to engage at comparable levels to industry and other orders of government in arriving at informed decisions concerning major project development;
- C. The First Nations Major Projects Coalition (the Coalition) has been established by First Nations as one way of providing access to technical capacity that is First Nation led and community-based in a shared, free, and optional manner;
- D. On March 27, 2017 the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly passed Resolution 10(i)/2017, *Support for the First Nations Major Projects Coalition* and since that time the membership of the Coalition has grown and is now supported by 37 First Nations. This support is inclusive of hereditary and elected leadership as well as those in the Treaty Process;
- E. Some First Nations have requested and are receiving capacity support and coordination from the Coalition to explore major project opportunities proposed for their territories; this support includes:

- a. Modeled options providing for First Nation led environmental stewardship practices, project assessment and cumulative impact mitigation.
 - b. Modeled options for corporate structures, wealth and benefit sharing options, innovative models for accessing project financing and capital, and facilitating timely and effective communication between First Nations who demonstrate shared interests; and
- F. The growing interest in the Coalition by First Nations in the Treaty Process represents successful interim measures that are being utilized by communities to strengthen their position with respect to their internal business capacity in advance of treaties.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. That the BC Chiefs-in-Assembly support the continued efforts of the First Nations participating in the First Nations Major Projects Coalition to strengthen their capacity to arrive at informed business decisions; and
2. That the BC Chiefs-in-Assembly recognize the work of the Coalition as one example of First Nation led action that is necessary to realize on certain Articles of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of indigenous Peoples*.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



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

Resolution 04/2018

SUBJECT: REFORMING THE BC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT

MOVED BY: KUKPI7 RON IGNACE, SKETCHSTN INDIAN BAND

SECONDED BY: CHIEF JACKIE THOMAS, SAIK'UZ FIRST NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS

- A. The provincial government of British Columbia is continuing to dispose of resource rights and make land use decisions, including the authorization of major industrial projects on First Nations territories without meaningful consultation with First Nations;
- B. to enable decisions about the acceptability of these projects, Ministers rely on the B.C. Environmental Assessment Act;
- C. the 1995 BC Environmental Assessment Act (BCEAA) represented a progressive attempt to be largely independent of government and to provide for First Nation participation in the Environmental Assessment (EA) process. The EA structure included a Project Committee, which conducted the EA and made recommendations to the Minister. It was intended to provide a substantive role to First Nations and stakeholders in the review of project proposals;
- D. in 2002 legislative amendments to the BCEAA removed key features, including the Project Committee, technical rigor and meaningful First Nation participation, resulting in a poor process;
- E. the Supreme Court of Canada clearly stated in the 2002 Haida decision that the Crown owes duty of consultation and accommodation to a First Nation when the Crown contemplates conduct that might adversely affect title or rights claimed by the First Nation. The Court further set out in its 2014 decision in Tsilhqot'in Nation that allegations of infringement or failure to adequately consult can be avoided by obtaining the consent of the interested Aboriginal group;
- F. the provincial government of British Columbia has delegated this constitutional duty to the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office when a review of a major project is required;

- G. the consultation function being carried out by the B.C. Environmental Assessment Office is flawed and not serving the needs of First Nations or meeting the Crown's duty to consult and where necessary, accommodate;
- H. the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* states:
Article 32:
1. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources;
 2. States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources;
 3. States shall provide effective mechanisms for just and fair redress for any such activities, and appropriate measures shall be taken to mitigate adverse environmental, economic, social, cultural or spiritual impact;
- I. the First Nations Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC) discussion paper titled, *Environmental Assessment and First Nations in BC: Proposals for Reform* recognizing current First Nations capacity, provides a basis for engagement with British Columbia, and directs the FNEMC to engage the Province in working towards achieving necessary reforms to the Environmental Assessment Process;
- J. the Province of BC rejected the suggested reforms of the discussion paper, *Environmental Assessment and First Nations in BC: Proposals for Reform*, and has recently engaged with the FNEMC to propose more incremental changes to the BCEAA; and
- K. the current iteration of the BC Environmental Assessment process has been found to be completely unacceptable to many BC First Nations, leading nations such as the Tsleil Waututh Nation and the Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation to move forward with their own environmental assessment process.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully supports a complete review and legislative reform of the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Act; and
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly Nations urges the Government of BC to undertake such reform using a process which represents proper consideration of Indigenous Title and Rights, and Treaty Rights, including their jurisdictional, economic, social, and environmental implications; the Tsilhqot'in Decision; the TRC recommendations; and full implementation of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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

Resolution 05/2018

SUBJECT: CALL FOR ACTION TO ADDRESS HUU-AY-AHT PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

MOVED BY: CHIEF COUNCILLOR ROBERT DENNIS, HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: KUKPI7 RON IGNACE, SKETCHSTN INDIAN BAND

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. On March 8, 2018, Huu-ay-aht First Nations declared that the treatment of Huu-ay-aht children by the Province of British Columbia is a public health emergency. Currently there are 47 Huu-ay-aht children in care (36 of which are in non-First Nations homes);
- B. Huu-ay-aht is spending over \$600,000 per year of its own revenue on this crisis, but requires immediate funding, cooperation, and jurisdictional support of the BC government and the federal government to complete implementation of its 30 point plan to address this emergency;
- C. Federal Minister of Indigenous Services Jane Philpott calls the treatment of indigenous children a national "humanitarian crisis" and has committed \$1.4 billion to action;
- D. Provincial Minister of Children and Family Development Katrine Conroy has committed to the goal of keeping indigenous children in their homes and out of care. However, her actions do not match her words. Huu-ay-aht challenged the province after it removed a newborn without warning from its mother in a completely unwarranted manner. This week, her lawyers and officials were in court seeking to reduce the access the BC Supreme Court had earlier ordered to ensure that a Huu-ay-aht mother and baby could sustain breastfeeding and their maternal/infant bond.
- E. At upcoming meetings, Huu-ay-aht will call on Provincial and Federal officials for immediate funding, cooperation and jurisdiction so Huu-ay-aht is able to immediately and properly address this emergency; and
- F. The past and future treatment of Huu-ay-aht First Nations children by the governments of British Columbia and Canada has implications for all of us.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly strongly supports the efforts of Huu-ay-aht First Nation to protect its children and calls on the BC Minister of Children and Family Development Katrine Conroy and Federal Minister of Indigenous Services Jane Philpott to immediately provide sufficient funding, jurisdiction, and control over Huu-ay-aht children to Huu-ay-aht First Nations to effectively address this public health emergency; and
2. The same principles and opportunity being sought by Huu-ay-aht First Nation in this resolution be made available to all First Nations in BC when facing similar situations.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



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

Resolution 06/2018

SUBJECT: CALL TO PAUSE BC TREATY NEGOTIATIONS

MOVED BY: CHIEF JACKIE THOMAS, SAIK'UZ FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF ALEC MCKINNON, NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN

DECISION: WITHDRAWN

WHEREAS:

- A. On February 14, 2018, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced in the House of Commons that the Government of Canada will develop in partnership with Indigenous Peoples – a Recognition and Implementation of Rights Framework;
- B. The contents of the Framework will be determined through national engagement activities led by Federal Minister Carolyn Bennett with the culmination of a draft Legislative Framework to be introduced in 2018 and implemented before October 2019;
- C. As per the "Engagement towards a Recognition and Implementation of Indigenous Rights Framework," released by the Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, Canada will begin developing a cross-ministry framework to meet our commitments to the *United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and the Tsilhqot'in decision.
- D. The Federal Government continues to engage in negotiations throughout Canada with respect to our Aboriginal Title, Rights and Treaty Rights. Further, negotiations encompass issues regarding jurisdiction, self-determination and self-government priorities;
- E. Federal Private Member's Bill C-262, *An Act to Ensure that the Laws of Canada are in harmony with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* seeks to our Indigenous Human Rights are formally implemented and that the standard of Free, Prior and informed consent is currently making its way through the legislative process;

F. Canada has fully endorsed the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (the Declaration) which sets out:

Article 26:

- (1) Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories, and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.
- (2) Indigenous peoples have the right to own, use, develop and control the lands, territories and resources that they possess by reason of traditional ownership or other traditional occupation or use, as well as those which they have otherwise acquired.
- (3) States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned.

Article 27: States shall establish and implement, in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned, a fair, independent, impartial, open and transparent process, giving due recognition to indigenous peoples' laws, traditions, customs and land tenure systems, to recognize and adjudicate the rights of indigenous peoples pertaining to their lands, territories and resources, including those which were traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used. Indigenous peoples shall have the right to participate in this process

- G. Canada has established a Working Group of Ministers to review federal laws, and policies to meet and adhere to international standards including the UN Declaration;
- H. Canada has adopted Ten Principles to guide the relationship with Indigenous Peoples which is intended to support and advances to end the denial of Aboriginal Title and Rights.
- I. In 1991, the British Columbia Tripartite Treaty Process was established in order to address the "Land Question" in BC though an established negotiation process based on 19 Principles articulated in the BC Claims Task Force Report;
- J. Canada's Comprehensive Claims Policy (CCP) is inadequate, ineffectual and contributes to the poverty and suffering in First Nation communities by preventing First Nations from receiving equitable benefit from our respective lands and resources;
- K. In January 2000, the BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, signed a "Consensus Statement", which states:

The Assembly of First Nations, including the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs, the Interior Alliance and the First Nations Summit, hereby join together publicly to affirm the Aboriginal title and rights of all First Nations in British Columbia and Canada. Canada's Comprehensive Claims Policy is predicated on the denial of our rights and title. We categorically reject this policy and Canada's implementation of this policy. We call upon Canada to assert the honour of the Crown and to adopt a new policy of recognition, affirmation and implementation of Aboriginal title;

- L. It is critical that the CCP is reformed to be consistent with Canada's Constitution and international standards, and in accordance with the principle that Aboriginal Title and Rights are best resolved by their recognition, implementation and reconciliation, not extinguishment;
- M. Canada and BC have continued to fail to work with First Nations to develop mutually-agreeable ways to recognize, protect and accommodate our Aboriginal Title and Rights and continues to take an "impoverished view of Aboriginal title."

N. On February 13, 2018, the BC Government's Throne Speech stated:

The rights and needs of Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia have been set aside for far too long. This government understands the enormous responsibility it has to Indigenous Peoples in the wake of inaction by government after government.

O. We know that true and lasting reconciliation will take time. If it is to be meaningful, it will require deep transformation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly call on the Federal Government to ensure Canada's Recognition and Implementation of Rights Framework includes the overhaul of Canada's Inherent Right to Self-government Policy, fiscal policies, Comprehensive Claims policy and mandates to recognize Aboriginal Title and Rights, reflect current case law including the *Tsilhqot'in* decision, and the work be done in collaboration and partnership with First Nations;
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly call on the Federal Government to ensure its framework includes updating its legislation, mandates, and policies, including the Updated Procedures for Meeting Legal Obligations When Consulting First Nations (2010), to reflect current case law including the *Tsilhqot'in* decision and be done in collaboration and partnership with First Nations; and
3. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly call on both governments to fully engage with all First Nations for renewed policies and mandates to include, but not limited to:
 - Articles of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;
 - Explicit and unequivocal recognition of Aboriginal Peoples and Aboriginal Title and Rights, including the inherent right of self-government and, in particular, that:
 - Aboriginal Title is a legal interest in the land itself and extends throughout the entire traditional territory of each First Nation, including the foreshore, seabed and other water bodies,
 - First Nations have a right to choose how the land is used, and
 - Aboriginal Title has an inescapable economic component
 - interim land protection;
 - a diversity of land tenure options, including recognition that First Nations' authority over their lands may stem from our inherent right and provides that Canada and BC will implement and live up their legal obligations, inclusive of international conventions, and the objectives, spirit and intent of existing and new treaties.



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

Resolution 07/2018

SUBJECT: DISSOLUTION OF BC TIMBER SALES CROWN CORPORATION

MOVED BY: LENNARD JOE, PROXY, SHACKAN INDIAN BAND

SECONDED BY: CHIEF LEE SPAHAN, COLDWATER INDIAN BAND

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. Article 26 of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* provides that:
- i. Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.
 - ii. Indigenous peoples have the right to own, use, develop and control the lands, territories and resources that they possess by reason of traditional ownership or other traditional occupation or use, as well as those which they have otherwise acquired.
 - iii. States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned.
- B. In its strategic plan, the BCTS's stated "Business Principles and Goals" include among other things:
- i. Provides a credible reference point for costs & pricing of timber harvested from public land in British Columbia.
 - ii. Provides a reliable supply of timber to the market through open and competitive auctions.
 - iii. Maximizes net revenue for the province.
- C. BCTS is the largest forest licensee operating throughout the province. The impact of BCTS on First Nations values and interests are not being considered, despite that the current BC government is working with First Nations on finding solutions towards reconciliation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly call for the dissolution of the Crown Corporation BC Timber Sales, which holds approximately 20% of Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) in the province, and work towards redistributing its allocated volume to First Nations in BC; and
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BC Assembly of First Nations to work with the First Nations Summit and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs to advocate:
 - i. For recognition that Aboriginal Title and Rights exists in every tree and all timber in the province, the BC government, in full and effective collaboration with First Nations, establish a fair market value for every tree and all timber harvested in a First Nations' respective territories; and
 - ii. that a collaborative process be established among First Nations and the BC Government for the redistribution of allocated volume to First Nations in BC.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief