



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Resolution 15/2019

Musqueam Community Centre, Xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Vancouver, BC
September 18-20, 2019

SUBJECT: SUPPORT-IN-PRINCIPLE FOR PROTOCOL ON COOPERATION AND COMMUNICATION
BETWEEN THE FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL, FIRST NATIONS TAX COMMISSION,
FIRST NATIONS FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT BOARD, FIRST NATIONS FINANCE AUTHORITY,
LANDS ADVISORY BOARD, ABORIGINAL FINANCIAL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF BC, NEW
RELATIONSHIP TRUST AND FIRST NATIONS PUBLIC SERVICE SECRETARIAT

MOVED BY: CHIEF HARVEY MCLEOD, UPPER NICOLA INDIAN BAND

SECONDED BY: MARTHA MATTHEW, PROXY, SIMPCW FIRST NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. First Nations hold inherent right of self-determination, self-government and title to their respective lands, territories, and resources (including waters), which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired and continue to exercise their respective inherent authorities and jurisdictions;
- B. In British Columbia, the land question remains largely outstanding. Not every First Nation in BC has taken the same path in seeking resolution, rather, each making independent decisions on the best way forward: be it treaties, agreements, other constructive arrangements or litigation. Such decisions are specific to individual communities and are respected as such;

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 19th day of September, 2019, at the Musqueam Community Centre, Xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Vancouver, BC

A blue ink signature of Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief.

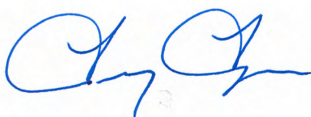
Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

- C. A coordinated and Nation-driven approach to a new fiscal framework is needed in order to close the socio-economic gap experienced by most First Nations; such gaps cannot be closed within the status quo framework instituted by the federal and provincial levels of government. There is a pressing interest in assisting all First Nations in BC in moving beyond the existing fiscal relationship with the Crown and to address the need for relevant and effective information-sharing to support First Nations in discussing key fiscal issues, capacity development, and exercising their inherent right of self-determination, self-government, including authorities and jurisdictions;
- D. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which the government of Canada has adopted without qualifications, and has, alongside the government of BC committed to implement, affirms:
- 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 21: (1) Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security; (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 the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities;
- F. The overall aim of this protocol is to support First Nations to drive fiscal discussions and develop capacity in a manner that supports the work of their respective First Nation governments; and
- H. This protocol represents a commitment by the BCAFN, FNS, UBCIC, FNTC, FNFMB, FNFA, LAB, AFOABC, NRT and FNPSS to coordinate their political and technical strengths, work together in a cooperative manner, and to provide support for one another's efforts, and First Nations' efforts, to advance the recognition, respect and accommodation of Aboriginal Title and Rights, and Treaty Rights to improve the lives of First Nations people in British Columbia.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly supports-in-principle the BCAFN entering into a Protocol on Cooperation and Communication with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, First Nations Summit, First Nations Tax Commission, First Nations Financial Management Board, First Nations Finance Authority, First Nations Lands Advisory Board, Aboriginal Financial Officers Association of BC, New Relationship Trust and First Nations Public Service Secretariat, which is designed to coordinate political and technical strength to:
 - a. support First Nations to drive fiscal discussions and develop capacity in a manner that supports the work of their respective First Nation governments;
 - b. to advance the recognition, respect and accommodation of Aboriginal Title and Rights, and Treaty Rights; and

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

- c. to improve the socio-economic conditions of BC First Nations.

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

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief