



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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

Resolution 21(b)/2019

SUBJECT: BC FIRST NATIONS CANNABIS FRAMEWORK AND ACTION PLAN

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION:

WHEREAS:

- A. On October 17, 2018 the federal Cannabis Act came in to force, creating a legal framework for the production, distribution, sale, and possession of cannabis in Canada. Within this framework, provincial governments are responsible for determining how cannabis is distributed and sold within their jurisdictions. The Government of British Columbia subsequently passed the Cannabis Control and Licensing Act, the Cannabis Distribution Act, and the Motor Vehicle Act, along with a number of new and amended regulations;
- B. Federal and Provincial legislation was passed with only limited engagement with Indigenous Peoples, despite the impact that it will have on First Nations governments and communities;
- C. First Nations have an interest in revenue, economic development, health, safety, and education, among other matters, as they relate to cannabis, and which are tied to inherent jurisdiction;

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terry Teegee".

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

- D. the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which the government of Canada has adopted without qualification, 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 20 (1): Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and develop their political, economic and social systems or institutions, to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities.

Article 21: Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the area of education, employment vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security.

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 26 (1): Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.

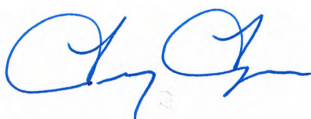
Article 32 (1): Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources;

- E. BCAFN participates on the BC-FNLJ Joint Working Group on the Legalization and Regulation of Non-Medical Cannabis in BC (JWG); and
- F. a First Nations Cannabis Framework and Action Plan has been prepared to support the principled and strategic direction of the BCAFN on the JWG, flowing from the existing work of the JWG and the BC First Nations Cannabis Forum held on March 27, 2019.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly fully supports the Regional Chief and the BCAFN in the ongoing engagement on the BC-FNLJ Joint Working Group on the Legalization and Regulation of Non-Medical Cannabis in BC (JWG);

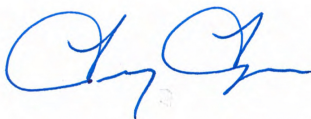
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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

2. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly directs the Regional Chief and working with the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) representatives on the JWG to advance the principled and strategic direction and activities outlined in the First Nations Cannabis Framework and Action Plan; and
3. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly directs the BCAFN Regional Chief, working with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the First Nations Summit as the FNLC, to call on the Provincial and Federal governments to recognize First Nations jurisdiction over recreational and medicinal cannabis, including jurisdiction related to taxation, and revenue sharing, and to secure ongoing funds to enable participation on the JWG according to the JWG Interim Terms of Reference.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief