



BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

1004 Landooz Road
Prince George, BC V2K 5S3
Website: www.bcafn.ca

BCAFN 17th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

November 17 & 18, 2020

Online via Zoom

Resolution 18/2020

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR FNLC RELATIONSHIP PROTOCOL WITH THE CANADIAN RED CROSS

MOVED BY: CHIEF DON TOM, TSARTLIP FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF GORDON PLANES, T'SOUKE NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. Emergency management continues to be a priority for First Nations as the impacts of natural disasters, pandemics, climate change and other events continue to exacerbate challenges faced by First Nations communities;
- B. 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 10: Indigenous peoples shall not be forcibly removed from their lands or territories. No relocation shall take place without the free, prior, and informed consent of the Indigenous peoples concerned and after agreement on just and fair compensation and, where possible, with the option of return.

Article 29 (1): Indigenous people have the right to the conservation and protection of the environment and the productive capacity of their lands or territories and resources. States shall establish and implement assistance

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 18th day of November 2020

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

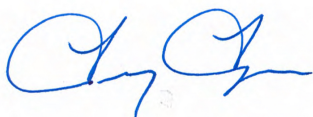
programmes for Indigenous peoples for such conservation and protection, without discrimination;

- C. The BC Assembly of First Nations, the UBCIC, and the First Nations Summit, and the BC Assembly of First Nations, working together as the First Nations Leadership Council, have developed in collaboration with the Canadian Red Cross a draft Relationship Protocol which aims to create a path forward that respects and recognizes the human rights of Indigenous Peoples; and
- D. the draft Relationship Protocol between the First Nations Leadership Council and the Canadian Red Cross has been developed to establish a process for joint dialogue, action, and cooperation on promoting safe and resilient First Nation communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly support the BCAFN Regional Chief to sign the attached draft Relationship Protocol between the BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit and Union of BC Indian Chiefs, working collectively as the First Nations Leadership Council, and the Canadian Red Cross; and
- 2. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Regional Chief, working with the First Nations Summit and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs as the First Nations Leadership Council, and the Canadian Red Cross to provide regular reports to the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly on the ongoing collaborative objectives and efforts as identified in the attached Relationship Protocol.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 18th day of November 2020



Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

RELATIONSHIP PROTOCOL

Between

BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS ,

FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT ,

UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA INDIAN CHIEFS

Collectively referred to as the **FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

And

THE CANADIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

This Agreement is made as of XXXX, 2020

WHEREAS:

1. The First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) is comprised of the political executives of the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN), First Nations Summit (FNS), and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC). The FNLC works together to secure the mandates to politically represent the interests of First Nations in British Columbia and develop strategies and actions to empower First Nations to bring about significant and substantive changes to government policy that will benefit all First Nations in British Columbia. The FNLC is not an Aboriginal Title and Rights or Treaty Rights holder and cannot engage in process to establish and provide free, prior and informed consent on behalf of individual Indigenous Peoples.
2. The Canadian Red Cross (CRC) is dedicated to improving the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity in Canada and throughout the world. CRC is a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. All CRC programs and activities are guided by the **Fundamental Principles of Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Unity, and Universality**. These principles allow the Red Cross to help people whatever their race, gender identity, or political beliefs.

3. The Parties believe that cooperative working relationships and effective communications can contribute directly to the well-being of communities by facilitating collaborative action in key and priority areas.

PURPOSE:

4. To establish a collaborative and constructive working relationship, through a joint dialogue process that focuses on mutual areas of interest and priorities.
5. To affirm the intention of the Parties for their commitment to ongoing and voluntary collaboration, respecting the knowledge, standards, culture and ways of knowing and being of First Nations communities; thus, enabling safe and resilient First Nations communities across British Columbia.
6. To engage in ongoing joint dialogue and action on a broad range of issues and initiatives related to emergency management.

PRINCIPLES:

7. The agreement is guided by the spirit of cooperation, respect, partnership, and the understanding, recognition and application of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People* (UN). This intention is further fortified by the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* legislation of British Columbia, which aims to create a path forward that respects and recognizes the human rights of Indigenous peoples while introducing better transparency and predictability in the work we do together.
8. The Parties recognize and acknowledge First Nations spiritual, social and cultural practices associated with the land, environmental and natural resources must be respected and share the vision of healthy, resilient communities for current and future generations.
9. The Parties acknowledge and respect the historic, current, and future relationship between the FNLC and CRC. Commitments include resolutions of support by BCAFN, FNS, UBCIC, and agreements between the National Assembly of First Nations and CRC.
10. The Parties will work collaboratively to share their respective knowledge, expertise, and experience to serve First Nations in BC, with a focus on the promotion of resilience-building priorities and interests.

DETAILS:

11. Recognizing Indigenous rights and inclusive of community input always, CRC, through its Indigenous Peoples Framework is continuously working to achieve its commitment to reconciliation, as set out more particularly in Appendix A.
12. Recognizing the strength, expertise, and knowledge of both parties, FNLC and CRC commit to undertake collaborative efforts in the development of strategies and initiatives intended to advance Indigenous Peoples resilience and well-being.

IMPLEMENTATION:

13. The Parties agree to meet at least once annually to build joint work and communication plans including measurable outcomes for the upcoming year. Parties also agree to an annual review of progress on relationship commitments.
14. The Parties will work collaboratively to explore ways to offer culturally appropriate and relevant assistance and emergency response programs related to recovery and risk reduction, violence prevention and well-being.
15. In order to reduce the impact of emergencies on First Nations communities, CRC will strive to make disaster preparedness, response, relief and recovery programming more accessible to First Nations in British Columbia with the support of the FNLC in this endeavour.
16. The Parties will work cooperatively to advocate and facilitate violence prevention and well-being initiatives, including planning, awareness raising, education and training, to help reduce risks and vulnerabilities, mitigate harm, and build capacity within leadership, communities, organizations, and partners to promote safe environments.
17. Together, the FNLC and CRC will explore options to increase, at their request, First Nation's engagement in CRC programs to enhance the opportunities for First Nations people to further their knowledge and skills, via Red Cross volunteering and employment, in both domestic and international operations and contexts.

TERM AND REVIEW:

18. This Relationship Protocol shall be effective upon signing by both Parties for a term of five (5) years and will be subject to renewal by written notice to ensure the relevance and renewal of commitment to the objectives. It may be terminated by the FNLC or the Red Cross with three months' notice.
19. The Parties understand that the words "Partners", "Partner" or "Partnership" wherever used in this Relationship Protocol are intended to emphasize the cooperative nature of the relationship. The Parties agree that they are not partners in the legal sense. The acts of one Party will not in any way bind the second Party, the Parties share no expectation of profit and no joint or several liabilities is created as a result of this "Relationship Protocol".
20. The Parties acknowledge that this Relationship Protocol does not create any enforceable legal or equitable rights or any obligation, but merely serves to document the parameters that have been set and the areas in which discussions have been held in which understandings in principles have been reached.
21. The Parties may agree in writing to amend this Protocol.
22. This Protocol does not and is not intended to, define or extinguish any Aboriginal or treaty rights.

Signed in the city of _____ on the _____ day of _____

For the BC Assembly of First Nations:	
Name (Print):	
Title:	
Date:	

For the First Nations Summit	
Name (Print):	
Title:	
Date:	

For the Union of BC Indian Chiefs:	
Name (Print):	
Title:	
Date:	

For the Canadian Red Cross	
Name (Print):	Patrick Quealey
Title:	VicePresident BC & Yukon
Date:	

Appendix A – CRC’s Indigenous Peoples Framework