



BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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

BCAFN 18th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
September 14, 15 & 16, 2021
Online via Zoom

Resolution 28/2021

SUBJECT: WOMEN AND 2SLGBTQIA+ DIALOGUE SESSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Moved BY: CHIEF SHARLEEN GALE, FORT NELSON FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: KUKPI7 ROSANNE CASIMIR, TK'EMLUPS TE SECWÉPEMC

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. Indigenous women from the BC region, met for the first Women's Dialogue Session hosted by the BC Assembly of First Nations on March 16-17, 2017 on the traditional territory of the Musqueam people, and on November 1-2, 2017 on the traditional territory of the Sts'ailes. The purpose for the sessions was to bring together First Nations women in leadership to discuss challenges, successes, and strategies to support and enhance the wellbeing and development of ourselves and our communities. The Women's Declaration that was developed during these sessions was supported by the BC Chiefs-in-Assembly via Resolution 01/2018 *Support for BC Indigenous Women's Declaration*;
- B. On January 24, 2020 another Dialogue Session was held on the traditional territory of the Musqueam people to build on the Declaration from 2017, support one another, and gain strength to thrive in the political, business, family, and community contexts we live and engage in. During this dialogue important conversations emerged regarding being inclusive of people with diverse gender identities and sexual orientations, those experiencing homelessness, those experiencing addictions, and youth. The 2020

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

iteration of the Declaration that was developed based on this session was supported by the BC Chiefs-in-Assembly via Resolution 11/2020 *Support for Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People Declaration and Strategy*;

- C. The 2021 Dialogue sessions were held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic, on April 13, 14, 15, and 22, 2021 and revolved around the themes of gender identity, allyship, self-care, wellness, and reclaiming our distinct roles and responsibilities. In response to dialogue at the 2020 Dialogue Sessions, the 2021 sessions were entitled, the *Women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People's Dialogue Sessions* in recognition of BCAFN's efforts to hold space that is inclusive of diverse genders and sexualities, and upholds the diversity of unique identities;
- D. Based on the 2021 Dialogue Sessions, the BCAFN prepared the *Report on the BC Assembly of First Nations 2021 Women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People's Dialogue Sessions: Nourishing Hope and Belonging*, which includes 13 recommendations that represent next steps where BCAFN can direct advocacy toward provincial and federal governments, undertake organizational level work, and support capacity and resources for First Nations in BC.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support the recommendations made in the *Report on the BC Assembly of First Nations 2021 Women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People's Dialogue Sessions: Nourishing Hope and Belonging*, and call on the Regional Chief and BCAFN Women's Representative to support their full implementation;
- 2. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly support the development of a BCAFN strategic action-plan for women, 2S, and LGBTQIA+ justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion which incorporates the recommendations from the *Nourishing Hope and Belonging* report.

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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