



BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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BCAFN SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
March 9 & 10, 2022
Online via Zoom

Resolution 01/2022

SUBJECT: INTERSECTIONAL ADVOCACY AND CAPACITY BUILDING GROUNDED
IN FIRST NATIONS KNOWLEDGES

MOVED BY: JAYDE CHINGEE, PROXY, MCLEOD LAKE INDIAN BAND

SECONDED BY: CHIEF BYRON LOUIS, OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. First Nations people and communities are diverse, and this diversity holds and reflects a multitude of dimensions such as age and life stage, sexual orientation, gender, sex, ability, cultural identity, spirituality, connection to family, community, and land, socio-economic experiences regarding employment, education, housing, and mental wellness, the impact of colonialism such as inter-generational trauma and violence, geography and location, among other identity factors;
- B. Care for, and inclusion of people that reflect all dimensions of diversity are central to many First Nations worldviews. First Nations recognize that everything is connected and that holistic approaches are crucial;

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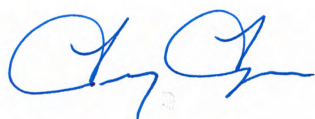
Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

- C. While this spectrum of diversity is not reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the UN Declaration touches upon the basic principles of inclusion and diversity, stating:

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.

- D. Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) is a western method of analysis that was developed to help ensure practitioners are consider and include the perspectives, experiences, priorities, needs, and strengths of all people who will be impacted by the work that is taking place. While GBA+ is now becoming a component of Crown governments' and mainstream organizations' processes, the principles and values of inclusion, diversity, equity, justice, and holistic approaches reflected in GBA+ are intrinsic to many First Nations cultures and worldviews;
- E. Unfortunately, colonialism has impacted the transmission of First Nations' languages and cultural teachings, separated families, disenfranchised women, gender diverse, Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex, and asexual people, and interrupted access to and permanently impacted important lands, waters and traditional resources, among other impacts;
- F. Nevertheless, First Nations remain grounded in our laws and cultures, and committed to revitalizing the ways in which we care for and uplift diversity in our communities. This knowledge provides a foundation for ensuring we consider and include the perspectives, experiences, priorities, needs, and strengths of all people who will be impacted by the work that is taking place, and represents a distinct approach to GBA+;
- G. Through Resolution 11/2020 *Support for Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People Declaration and Strategy* the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly supported the Indigenous Women and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People's Declaration, and directed the BC Assembly of First Nations to develop a strategic plan for addressing the Declaration and other issues that impact Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people;
- H. BCAFN is currently planning for engagement and development regarding the strategic action plan called for in Resolution 11/2020;

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- I. The development of capacity-building, educational, and practical tools grounded in First Nations knowledges related to diversity, inclusion, justice, and equity will strengthen the development and implementation of the strategic action plan and the work of First Nations governments and organizations

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly affirm that First Nations governments and organizations have responsibilities and interests in supporting the wellbeing of all First Nations people, in all their diversity, and acknowledge that this requires intersectional, inclusive, equity and justice-seeking approaches to legislative mechanisms, advocacy, policy, and programs; and
2. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly call on the Regional Chief to support and advance dialogue and the development of tools to support First Nations approaches to GBA+, including the development of a toolkit and pilot initiative.

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