



BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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

BCAFN 18th ANNUAL SPECIAL CHIEFS MEETING
March 9 & 10, 2022
Online via Zoom

Resolution 17/2022

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR MORATORIUM ON SALE OF CROWN LANDS IN
UNCEDED TERRITORIES**

MOVED BY: CHIEF AILEEN PRINCE, NAK'AZDLI WHUT'EN

SECONDED BY: CHIEF SAMUEL SCHOONER, NUXALK NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. the Province of British Columbia has historically sold lands that are in First Nation territories where no treaty exists nor a land purchase transaction has taken place, and the lands have not been relinquished to the Crown by treaty or agreement;
- B. the Province of British Columbia continues its practice of awarding crown lands to non-First Nation citizens without ownership of said lands being legally under the jurisdiction of the Province;
- C. 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 through legislation, affirms:

Article 10:

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

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. And

Article 26:

1. Indigenous peoples have the rights to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.
2. Indigenous peoples have the right to own, use, develop and control the lands, territories and resources that they possess by reason of traditional ownership or other traditional occupation or use, as well as those which they have otherwise acquired.
3. States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned. And

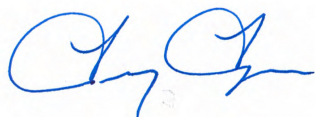
Article 27: States shall establish and implement, in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned, a fair, independent, impartial, open and transparent process, giving due respect to indigenous peoples' laws, traditions, customs and land tenure systems, to recognize and adjudicate the rights of indigenous peoples pertaining to their land, territories and resources, including those which were traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used. Indigenous peoples shall have the right to participate in this process.

- D. Nak'azdli Whut'en has protested the allocations of Crown Land to the BC Government along with six other First Nations in Dakelh Territory and has been granted an order, pursuant to Section 10.1 of the Land Act, to halt all crown grant allocations until March 31, 2022, which does not provide sufficient time to prepare our Reconciliation position papers or our Land Use Plan;
- E. Nak'azdli Whut'en has signed the Pathways Forward 2.0 Agreement which is a precursor to negotiating a Reconciliation Agreement with Canada and the Province of BC; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. the BCAFN Chief-in-Assembly fully support Nak'azdli Whut'en's request, dated October 5, 2021, for an extension, to the Sale of Crown Land Moratorium until March 31, 2025;

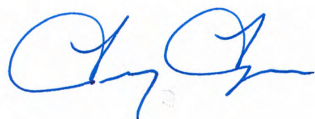
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2. that the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Regional Chief and staff to communicate to the Province of British Columbia, the need to have all sales and allocations of Crown Grants, and allocations within the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) halted until such time as First Nations have the opportunity to determine their own course of action with regard to these very important territorial matters; and
3. that the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct their Executive and staff to analyze the Provincial crown and ALR allocation processes to ensure they comply with the Article 10, 26 and 27 of UNDRIP as well as Bill 41 -DRIPA.

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

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief