



BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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

BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
September 21, 22, & 23, 2022
Hybrid - In person & online via Zoom

Resolution 29/2022

SUBJECT: PROVINCIAL STATUTORY HOLIDAY FOR NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

MOVED BY: CHIEF DON TOM, TSARTLIP FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF LEE SPAHAN, COLDWATER INDIAN BAND

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Call to Action #80 calls upon the federal government to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour survivors and to ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.
- B. in June 2021, the federal government passed Bill C-5, An Act to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, the Interpretation Act, and the Canada Labour Code, to designate September 30th as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and make it a federal statutory holiday. This was supported by resolutions of the Chiefs in Assembly of the BC Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Summit, and Union of BC Indian Chiefs.
- C. the creation of a new provincial statutory holiday in BC requires changes to provincial employment standards through legislation or regulation. The Province of BC made a commitment to engage residential school survivors and Indigenous partners and communities on whether to make this a statutory holiday in BC, and how September 30th should be observed each year in BC.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 23rd day of September 2022

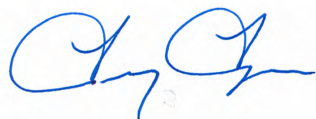
Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

- D. First Nations have advised the Province of BC that the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation should be marked by reflection, truth telling, and remembrance for all British Columbians, while honouring and upholding the resilience and strength of residential school survivors and intergenerational survivors.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly fully supports making September 30 a provincial statutory holiday through changes to legislation and regulation made in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples; and
2. the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly calls upon the Province of BC to make meaningful investments in public education, commemoration, and remembrance events, sites, memorials, and other initiatives that are planned by Indigenous peoples.

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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