



## BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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**BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**September 19-21, 2023**  
**Hybrid - In person & online via Zoom**

**Resolution 34/2023**

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**SUBJECT:** **COMMEMORATING 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEADERSHIP ACCORD**

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**Moved BY:** **PROXY SEMPULYAN GONZALES, SQUAMISH NATION**

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**SECONDED BY:** **KUKPI7 ROSANNE CASIMER, TK'EMLÚPS TE SECWÉPEMC**

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**DECISION:** **CARRIED**

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**WHEREAS:**

- A. On March 17, 2005, the political executives of the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN), First Nations Summit (FNS), and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) signed the *Leadership Accord*. The purpose of the Accord is to: affirm mutual respect between the participating organizations; formalize a cooperative working relationship to politically represent the interests of First Nations in BC and develop strategies and actions to bring about significant and substantive changes to government policy that will benefit all First Nations in BC; and focus on a range of issues and initiatives of common interest or concern among First Nations in BC, including consultation and accommodation, national processes, and social and economic program and service issues.
- B. The working relationship among the BCAFN, FNS, and UBCIC described in the *Leadership Accord* is referred to as the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC). It is a political coalition with the purpose of generating power through unity, cooperation, and collaboration between existing political First Nations organizations, each of which continues to uphold its own governance rules and accountability mechanisms to its constituents. The mandate of the FNLC is determined only through the mandates of each of its participating organizations – the BCAFN, FNS, and UBCIC – as established via resolution of their respective memberships.

**Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2023**

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**Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief**

- C. In 2010, an All Chiefs Task Force led a review of the processes of, and work undertaken by, the FNLC pursuant to the Leadership Accord, and shared recommendations to improve processes for increased unity and efficiency. This included effectively calling for the development of a Terms of Reference for the First Nations Leadership Council.
- D. Through a process of engagement and All Chiefs Assemblies in 2010 and 2011, a draft Terms of Reference for the FNLC was developed. In June 2011, the BCAFN passed Resolution 06(d), 2011, *Endorsement of First Nations Leadership Council Terms of Reference and Accountability Framework*, formally adopting Terms of Reference for the FNLC and noting that it must be interpreted and implemented in a manner consistent with the mandates and other legal and contractual obligations of the three political organizations.
- E. Since the adoption of the FNLC Terms of Reference in 2011, a number of political developments have occurred, including but not limited to the *Commitment Document and Concrete Actions* (2015), the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (2019), and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (2021). These have brought about a new political and legal landscape and, therefore, new opportunities for advancing common issues.
- F. March 17, 2025 will mark the twenty-year anniversary of the signing of the *Leadership Accord*. This is an opportunity for honouring our journey and accomplishments to date, recommitment through ceremony to unity on issues of common concern, and renewal of the processes of collaboration.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- 1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly support commemorating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Leadership Accord in 2025, including updating the Leadership Accord for renewal on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and updating the FNLC Terms of Reference.
- 2. This process of renewal of the Leadership Accord and the FNLC Terms of Reference will include opportunities for title and rights holders to share their views individually and to come together to develop shared collective views and points of consensus.
- 3. The results of this process of renewal of the Leadership Accord and the FNLC Terms of Reference will be presented to an All Chiefs Assembly for review and consideration, as well as to each of the assemblies of the BCAFN, FNS, UBCIC.
- 4. The process to renew the FNLC Terms of Reference and Accountability Framework be completed in advance of March 2025.

**Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2023**



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**Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief**