



## BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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**BCAFN SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY**  
**March 7 & 8, 2024**  
**Online via Zoom**

**Resolution 03/2024**

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR RELATIONSHIP BUILDING BETWEEN THE BC FIRST NATIONS  
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND YUKON FIRST  
NATIONS**

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**MOVED BY: CHIEF JERRY JACK, MOWACHAHT/MUCHLAHT FIRST NATION**

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**SECONDED BY: CHIEF JOE PIERRE, ?AQ'AM**

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**DECISION: CARRIED**

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### **WHEREAS:**

A. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* states:

Article 3: Indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

Article 4: Indigenous peoples, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to their internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means for financing their autonomous functions.

Article 5: Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social, and cultural institutions, while retaining their right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State.

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**Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024**

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**Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief**

Article 9: Indigenous peoples and individuals have the right to belong to an indigenous community or nation, in accordance with the traditions and customs of the community or nation concerned. No discrimination of any kind may arise from the exercise of such a right.

Article 20: 1. Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and develop their political, economic and social systems or institutions, to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities.

B. The BCAFN Is mandated by Resolutions 31/2021 - A BC First Nations Centre Of Excellence for Economic Development, and Resolution 13/2017 - Support For The BCAFN Sustainable Economic Development And Fiscal Relations Strategy;

C. There are fourteen (14) First Nations in the Yukon Territory (YT), and the British Columbia (BC) Yukon border bifurcates four (4). There are long-standing relationships and partnerships between Yukon and BC First Nations and established trade networks pre-dating the assertion of borders by the Yukon Act of 1898;

D. The BCAFN proposes to reach out to First Nations in the Yukon through the BC First Nations Centre of Excellence for Economic Development (FNCoE) to build relationships and garner interest in the FNCoE. Fostering collegial, productive cross-border relationships with our relatives and colleagues in the Yukon will benefit First Nations in BC;

E. There does not exist a dedicated, First Nations-led institution in the Yukon to support the economic development of First Nations across all sectors.

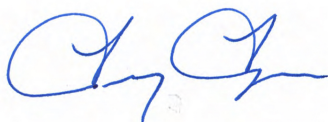
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BC First Nations Centre of Excellence for Economic Development staff to work towards developing relationships with the First Nations in the Yukon, and report to the Chiefs-in-Assembly at the 2024 Annual General Assembly; and

2. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BC First Nations Centre of Excellence for Economic Development staff to seek approval from the BCAFN Board of Directors should any arrangements, protocols, agreements, or memoranda of understanding be developed.

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**Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024**



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**Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief**