



BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

1992 Landooz Road
Prince George, BC V2K 5S3
Website: www.bcafn.ca

BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
October 28, 29 & 30, 2025
Hybrid – In person & online via Zoom

Resolution 35/2025

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR THE BC FIRST NATIONS TRANSPORTATION ASSESSMENT REPORT AND ACTION PLAN

Moved by: CHIEF AARON PETE, CHAWATHIL FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF MAUREEN LUGGI, WET'SUWET'EN FIRST NATION

DECISION: ABSTENTION: CHIEF DON HARRIS, DOUGLAS FIRST NATION
CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. First Nations in BC have been developing and utilizing complex modes of movement via transportation networks and trading routes since time immemorial, which were disrupted by colonial and discriminatory policies that limited mobility and isolated Nations;
- B. First Nations in BC continue to experience inequitable access to safe, affordable, reliable transportation and low-carbon transportation, undermining economic development, health and wellbeing, community cohesion, and access to essential services, while infringing on First Nations' inherent rights, constitutionally protected and Treaty rights, jurisdiction, and sovereignty;
- C. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration)*, which the government of Canada has adopted without qualification and has, alongside the government of BC, passed legislation committing to implement, affirms:

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 30th day of October 2025

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

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 18: Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures, as well as to maintain and develop their own indigenous decision-making institutions;

Article 19: States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them;

Article 21: (1) Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security. (2) States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities;

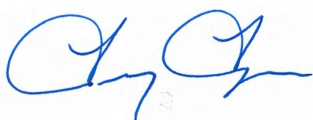
Article 23: Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development. In particular, indigenous peoples have the right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programmes affecting them and, as far as possible, to administer such programmes through their own institutions;

Article 25: Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard;

Article 32: (1) Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources. (2) States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources. (3) States shall provide effective mechanisms for just and fair redress for any such activities, and appropriate measures shall be taken to mitigate adverse environmental, economic, social, cultural or spiritual impact;

- D. First Nations women, girls, and Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex, and asexual, and others with gender and/or sexual diversity (2SLGBTQQA+) individuals continue to face increased risks, safety concerns and violence when travelling which contributes toward the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQA+ people

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 30th day of October 2025

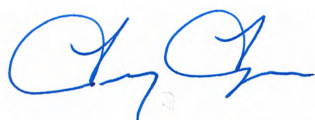


Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

(MMIWG2S+). The MMIWG2S+ Calls for Justice urge governments to fund safe, affordable transit (CFJ 4.8) and require service providers to address exploitation and trafficking (CFJ 8.1), yet the AFN's 2024 Progress Report notes no progress on CFJ 4.8;

- E. Despite minimal contribution to greenhouse gas emissions, First Nations in BC face disproportionate impacts from climate change. Changing weather patterns and extreme weather events such as floods, heat domes and wildfires expose the inequitable and fragile state of transportation, with limited emergency routes and inadequate climate-resilient infrastructure, leaving many Nations vulnerable to isolation and delayed response;
- F. The BC Provincial Government and the Government of Canada have both failed to meet legislated transportation emissions reduction targets as outlined in the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 and the Government of Canada's 2030 Emissions Reduction Plan. In BC, transportation emissions have instead increased 18% from 2007 to 2022 and make up 42% of the province's total emissions;
- G. The transition to a low-carbon transportation system is essential to mitigating and adapting to climate change. However, this transition must be approached holistically from a rights, equity and reconciliation lens;
- H. The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act) Action Plan Measure (APM) 3.9 commits the BC provincial government to "identify and implement multi-modal transportation solutions that provide support and enable the development of sustainable, safe, reliable and affordable transportation options for First Nations communities. (Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure)";
- I. The Government of Canada's United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (UNDA) APM 15 (Ch.2) commits the Government of Canada to "continue to work with First Nations on closing infrastructure gaps on reserve", which includes transportation;
- J. By BCAFN Resolution 05/2025, the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly endorsed the BC First Nations Climate Leadership Agenda (BC FNCL Agenda), which includes recommendations related to supporting reforming funding and program delivery and improving the climate resilience of First Nations transportation infrastructure (Theme 3, Recommendation 3.2 and Theme 7, Recommendation 7.1);
- K. By BCAFN Resolution 06/2022, the Chiefs-in-Assembly of the First Nations Leadership Council organizations supported and endorsed the BC First Nations Climate Strategy and Action Plan (BC First Nations Climate Strategy), which identifies key actions towards achieving an equitable transportation system by and for First Nations (Theme 4.2, Objective 4.2.1 and Objective 4.2.2);
- L. By Resolution 12/2023, the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly directed BCAFN to: "assess gaps and opportunities that restrict and assist First Nations in BC to access equitable, safe, reliable, and affordable low-carbon and active transportation and transportation services within and

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 30th day of October 2025



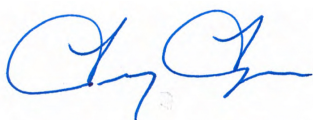
Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

between communities, and provide recommendations for legislation, policy, and program reform to advance these goals”;

- M. With support from the former Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation (now the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions), the BCAFN launched the First Nations Low-Carbon Transportation Project in 2022. Phase 1 of the project (Fall 2022–March 2025) was established as a three-year initiative, with additional funding secured to extend the project for a further two years under Phase 2 (April 2025–March 2027);
- N. The BCAFN developed the first draft of the BC First Nations Transportation Assessment Report and Action Plan (Transportation Action Plan), formally called the Transportation Assessment Report (TAR), in collaboration with the Community Energy Association (CEA), building on the BC First Nations Climate Strategy and the BC FNCL Agenda. The recommendations were informed by activities carried out throughout Phase 1 of the First Nations Low-Carbon Transportation project, including in-depth desktop research and policy review, interviews and engagement, the BCAFN Transportation Survey, and the key learnings from each of the Phase 1 Pilot Project Communities’ Gaps and Opportunities Analysis Reports;
- O. The Transportation Action Plan entitled, *“First Nations in BC on the Move: Recommendations for Advancing First Nations Low-Carbon Transportation and Mobility”* lays out an action plan that includes forty-seven (47) recommendations organized under ten (10) holistic and integrated themes to advance First Nations equitable access to safe, affordable, accessible, reliable transportation and low-carbon transportation. The Transportation Action Plan’s themes highlight/call for the need for greater investment in multi-modal and public transit, closing the infrastructure gap, advancing cultural and physical safety, supporting First Nations-led active transportation, and enhancing on-reserve capacity. The report further emphasizes prioritizing First Nations access to marine transportation, ensuring a just transition, advancing and upholding First Nations’ decision-making, reforming funding and program delivery, and securing equitable access to private vehicles, including electric vehicles; and
- P. The Transportation Action Plan recommendations will support BCAFN’s and First Nation-led advocacy in Phase 2 the First Nations Low-Carbon Transportation project, advancing calls to Crown governments, Crown corporations, local governments, organizations and industry for improved policies, programs, shared decision-making, and investment that prioritize an equitable, accessible, safe, affordable, and reliable transportation system and low-carbon transportation system that aligns with the rights, needs, realities, and priorities of First Nations in BC.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:


Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 30th day of October 2025



Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly fully endorse the Transportation Assessment Report and Action Plan (Transportation Action Plan) and the recommendations as presented in the Transportation Action Plan;
2. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the Regional Chief and BCAFN to advocate for the full implementation of the Transportation Action Plan recommendations in coordination with the implementation of the BC FN Climate Strategy and the BC FNCL Agenda;
3. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly call upon Crown governments, Crown corporations, local governments, organizations and industry to substantially increase investment and work collaboratively with BCAFN and relevant partner organizations to implement the Transportation Action Plan recommendations; and
4. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly directs the Regional Chief to advocate for ongoing collaboration, shared decision-making, and co-implementation of the Transportation Action Plan recommendations with rights and titleholders in full alignment with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 30th day of October 2025

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

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief