



BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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BCAFN SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
March 4 & 5, 2026
In person & online via Zoom

Resolution 12/2026

**SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF PROTOCOL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FIRST NATIONS
LEADERSHIP COUNCIL AND THE NATIVE COURTWORKER AND COUNSELLING
ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION: CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT (VOICE VOTE)

WHEREAS:

- A. First Nations hold inherent rights to self-determination, including the right to maintain and strengthen their political, legal, social, and cultural institutions, as affirmed in Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UN Declaration);
- B. the UN Declaration, which the government of Canada has adopted without qualification, and has, alongside the government of B.C., passed legislation committing to implement, affirms:
- Article 2: Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity.
 - Article 7(1): Indigenous individuals have the rights to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security of person;
 - (2): Indigenous peoples have the collective right to live in freedom, peace and security as distinct peoples and shall not be subjected to any act of genocide or any other act of violence, including forcibly removing children of the group to another group.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 5th day of March 2026

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

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 37: Indigenous peoples have the right to the recognition, observance and enforcement of treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements concluded with States or their successors and to have States honour and respect such treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements;

- C. on June 27, 2013, as mandated by Resolution 03(d)-2013, the BCAFN endorsed and entered into a Declaration and Protocol of Recognition, Support, Cooperation and Coordination (Protocol Agreement) with the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of British Columbia (NCCABC), as part of the First Nations Leadership Council, alongside the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) and the First Nations Summit (FNS);
- D. the Protocol Agreement has supported collaboration between BCAFN and NCCABC on matters related to justice, advocacy, policy development, and the advancement of culturally appropriate services for First Nations peoples;
- E. the existing Protocol Agreement is expiring, and the continued renewal of this agreement is necessary to ensure continuity, stability, and effectiveness in the working relationship between BCAFN and NCCABC; and
- F. renewing the Protocol Agreement will reaffirm the shared commitment of BCAFN and NCCABC to work collaboratively in support of First Nations justice priorities and the well-being of First Nations individuals, families, and communities across British Columbia.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly formally supports the renewal of the Protocol Agreement between the First Nations Leadership Council and the Native Courtworker and Counselling Association of British Columbia (NCCABC) and directs the Regional Chief to sign and endorse the renewed Protocol Agreement on behalf of the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly; and
2. the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly directs the Regional Chief and staff to continue working collaboratively with NCCABC under the renewed Protocol Agreement and to provide updates to the Chiefs-in-Assembly as appropriate.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 5th day of March 2026



Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief