BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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Prince George, BC V2K 5S3
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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
October 14, 15 & 16, 2026
In person & online via Zoom

Resolution 28/2026

SUBJECT:	**CONDEMNATION OF THE NATIVE EXTREMISM SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM AND DEMAND FOR FORMAL APOLOGY**
MOVED BY:	**CHIEF JERRY JACK, MOWACHAHT/MUCHALAHT FIRST NATION**
SECONDED BY:	**PROXY JUDY WILSON, SHUSWAP BAND**
DECISION:	**CARRIED**

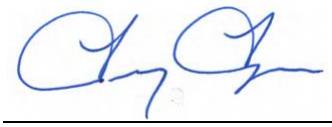
WHEREAS:

A. Indigenous Peoples have experienced a long history of surveillance and punitive measures for carrying out lawful political movements and advocacy, and cultural and traditional practices such as the potlatch, all of which have been wrongfully labelled 'extremism';

B. First Nations people in BC and Indigenous people across Canada, particularly land defenders, continue to experience intense state and police surveillance, specifically in relation to any opposition to federal projects such as pipelines, thereby making them targets for ongoing surveillance. Surveillance of this nature is a continuation of a centuries-long pattern used to control and manage Indigenous dissent;

C. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which the government of Canada has adopted without qualification, and has, alongside the government of BC, committed to implement, affirms:

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

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 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;
Article 7(1): Indigenous individuals have the rights to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security of person;
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;

D. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police ("RCMP") (formerly the North-West Mounted Police, 'NWP') was created to secure Western Canadian settlement, acting as a colonial arm to enforce federal policies against Indigenous peoples, including forced assimilation, land dispossession, and the residential school system;

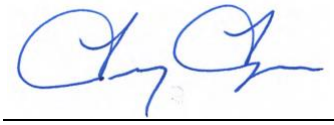
E. Legitimate, legal organization is protected under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms section 2(c), which guarantees the freedom of peaceful assembly, protecting the right to gather, protest and demonstrate; and section 2(d), which guarantees freedom of association, protecting the right to form organizations, associations, unions, and clubs to pursue common goals;

F. From the 1960s into the 1980s, the federal government and the RCMP Security Service (the predecessor to the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, 'CSIS') engaged in extensive surveillance of legitimate, legal Indigenous organizations and political bodies under the 'Native Extremism Program';

G. CBC Indigenous, after a four-year freedom-of-information battle, obtained and unveiled over 6,000 pages of declassified documents confirming the surveillance program;

H. RCMP Commissioner Mike Duheme expressed 'regret' on behalf of the RCMP for the extensive surveillance of Indigenous organizations and leaders but did not formally apologize. Further, Prime Minister Mark Carney has stated that a formal apology is necessary;

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I. Assembly of First Nations ("AFN") National Chief Cindy Woodhouse Nepinak has rejected the RCMP Commissioner's statement of regret, stating that statements of regret and promised apologies are not a sufficient response to this 'massive pattern of severe human rights violations';

J. Both the AFN National Chief and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs have called for the release of all records, unredacted, with proper measures to protect the privacy of First Nations individuals, and for the establishment of a national inquiry into federal policing and surveillance of First Nations; and

K. In April 2026, BCAFN Regional Chief Terry Teegee issued a press release calling for an immediate inquiry into the existence and impacts of these surveillance programs and ongoing systemic racism in police services while reiterating BCAFN and AFN's calls for reform of the justice system in alignment with the BC and National First Nations Justice Strategies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

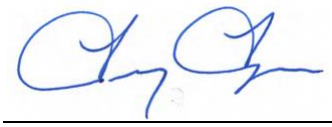
1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly demand a federal inquiry and call for the unredacted release of all internal, declassified documents related to the "Native Extremism Surveillance Program," that took place from the late 1960s into the 1980s;

2. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly call upon the federal government and the RCMP to issue a formal apology to First Nations in Canada for subjecting legitimate organizations, political bodies, land defenders, and others to extensive surveillance, compromising our freedoms and protections as set out in the UN Declaration and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms;

3. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly call upon the federal government to review key pieces of legislation, such as the Canadian Security Intelligence Service Act and relevant sections of the Criminal Code of Canada, to ensure that the legal tests to justify intrusive surveillance, including group monitoring, are meeting the highest threshold to uphold and center freedom of peaceful assembly and association; and

4. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly call upon the federal government to take all measures necessary to reinforce that political activism in the form of lawful advocacy, protest, or dissent does not justify surveillance, and to take all measures necessary to ensure that any type of surveillance that resembles the 'Native Extremism Program' cannot be replicated against First Nations.

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