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 30/2026

SUBJECT:	**CLOSING THE BC FIRST NATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE GAP**
MOVED BY:	**CHIEF ANGIE BAILEY, AITCHELITZ FIRST NATION**
SECONDED BY:	**CHIEF JERRY JACK, MOWACHAHT/MUCHALAHT FIRST NATION**
DECISION:	**CARRIED**

WHEREAS:

A. First Nations in BC experience a lower quality of life in comparison with the rest of the BC population due to centuries of colonial violence and exploitation, systemic underfunding of First Nations housing and infrastructure, and the ongoing failure of the Crown to honour its fiduciary and constitutional obligations;

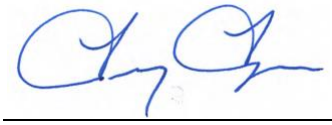
B. for decades, and since the COVID-19 pandemic, First Nations have faced unprecedented housing insecurity both on and off reserve, and disproportionately represent the unhoused and housing insecure population in BC and across Canada;

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, committed to implementing, affirms:

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

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

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means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities. (2): Indigenous peoples deprived of their means of subsistence and development are entitled to just and fair redress;
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;

D. since 2009, BCAFN has hosted several province-wide forums on First Nations housing and homelessness to promote critical and ongoing dialogue and identify gaps and solutions to addressing the housing crisis for First Nations in BC while accelerating First Nations' equitable access to safe, inclusive, and culturally appropriate housing and infrastructure;

E. the First Nations Housing and Infrastructure Council (FNHIC) was established through mandates from BC rights and title holders as outlined in BCAFN Resolution 18/2017, First Nations Summit (FNS) Resolution 0618.04, and Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) Resolution 2018-11. The resolutions called for the creation of a housing and infrastructure organization to ensure First Nations' self-determination, jurisdiction, authority, and control over housing and infrastructure in BC;

F. FNHIC currently administers housing, asset management, and infrastructure services in BC through five regional hubs and the First Nations Housing Managers Association, which provides capacity support to First Nations;

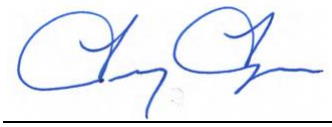
G. in the 2020 Throne Speech, the Government of Canada committed to closing the Indigenous infrastructure gap on a distinctions-based basis, and this commitment was further reflected in the 2021 Ministerial mandate letters;

H. in 2023, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), in collaboration with more than 400 First Nations, industry experts, and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), released the *Closing the Infrastructure Gap by 2030 (CTIG) Report*, which estimated the cost of addressing the housing and infrastructure gap on First Nations reserves by 2030 to be $349.2 billion;

I. the Auditor General of Canada's *Report on Housing in First Nations Communities*, released in March 2024, confirmed that there has been no meaningful improvement in housing conditions in First Nations since 2003, with many communities continuing to face severe overcrowding, mould contamination, and lack of access to safe drinking water;

J. BCAFN, UBCIC, and FNS, working together as the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC), have expressed significant concern over the lack of funding for First Nations housing and infrastructure, and have continued to call for adequate and sustainable investments into First Nations housing and infrastructure both on and off reserve;

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K. BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly, via Resolution 08/2024, called on all levels of government to provide adequate and sustainable resources for housing solutions that meet the needs of all First Nations in BC, both on and off reserve, so that no individual or community is left behind;

L. further, BCAFN Resolution 12/2025 called for the development of a comprehensive BC-specific cost analysis and needs assessment, in accordance with the AFN's CTIG Report, to ensure alignment of federal, provincial, and municipal funding with First Nations priorities;

M. according to the AFN's updated cost estimate, the national CTIG estimate has increased to $376.1 billion, reflecting more recent escalation factors and accounting for federal spending from 2023 to 2025;

N. in September 2026, BCAFN released a regional analysis of the AFN Closing the Infrastructure Gap (CTIG) report, providing the first BC-specific estimate of what it will take to bring First Nations on-reserve housing and infrastructure up to the level of the rest of the BC population. According to the report, an estimated $92.3 billion will be needed by 2040 to close the BC First Nations infrastructure gap. Housing and infrastructure were the largest categories, totalling $32.6 billion and $24.4 billion, respectively; and

O. making the necessary financial investments to close the First Nations infrastructure gap is a fundamental issue of reconciliation and restorative justice, and is essential to the health, safety, and economic development of First Nations. Closing the infrastructure gap will improve the quality of life for both First Nations and the Canadian population at large;

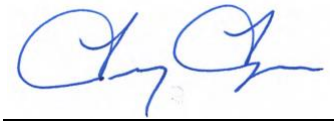
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly support and endorse the findings of the *BCAFN Closing the Infrastructure Gap by 2040 - BC Regional Analysis Report,* and urge Canada and the province of BC to reaffirm their commitments, make the necessary investments to Close the Infrastructure Gap, recognize First Nations' fundamental human right to safe, affordable, and culturally appropriate housing, and ensure First Nations can enjoy a comparable quality of life to the rest of the BC and Canadian population;

2. the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly call on Canada and the province of BC to immediately announce the required national $376.1 billion and provincial $92.3 billion budget allocations needed to close the Canadian and BC First Nations infrastructure gap, and to work with First Nations to co-develop a comprehensive, needs-based, and sustainable fiscal framework with legislated timelines and accountability mechanisms to disburse the necessary critical investments; and

3. the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BCAFN to work with the UBCIC and the FNS, collectively as the FNLC, to engage with the FNHIC, AFN and other relevant bodies to coordinate

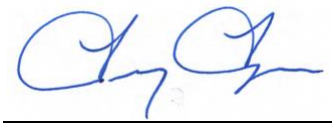
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advocacy efforts and ensure a unified approach to addressing the First Nations infrastructure gap at the provincial and federal levels.

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