



BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

BCAFN Annual General Meeting
Musqueam Community Centre, Vancouver, BC
October 11-13, 2017

RESOLUTIONS LIST

NUMBER	NAME
11/2017	MANDATE EXTENSION OF BCAFN GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
12/2017	ADOPTION OF THE 2016-2017 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
13/2017	SUPPORT FOR THE BCAFN SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND FISCAL RELATIONS STRATEGY
14/2017	MANDATE THE BC ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE SOCIETY AS REGIONAL LEAD AGENCY IN NATIONAL INDIGENOUS EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE FRAMEWORK DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION
15/2017	FNFC SUBMISSION TO THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT CANADA RE: <i>NAVIGATION PROTECTION ACT</i> REVIEW
16/2017	FNFC COALITION SUBMISSION TO FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA REGARDING THE <i>FISHERIES ACT</i> REVIEW
17/2017	TABLED - BC <i>WATER SUSTAINABILITY ACT</i> CONSULTATION FRAMEWORK
18/2017	SUPPORT FOR THE BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS HOUSING STRATEGY
19/2017	RESPONDING TO ANTCO INACTION ON FIRST NATIONS DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY IN BC
20/2017	ELIMINATING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE THROUGH LABOUR MARKET RESEARCH AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES
21/2017	STRIKING A NATION-TO-NATION CHIEFS WORKING GROUP
22/2017	SUPPORT FOR PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE A NEW FIRST NATIONS-CROWN FISCAL RELATIONSHIP
23/2017	WITHDRAWAL OF BILL C-58 (AN ACT TO AMEND THE <i>ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT</i> AND THE <i>PRIVACY ACT</i> AND TO MAKE CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO OTHER ACTS)



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Musqueam Community Centre, Vancouver, BC
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Resolution 11/2017

SUBJECT: MANDATE EXTENSION FOR THE BCAFN GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MOVED BY: GRAND CHIEF DOUG KELLY, PROXY, SOOWAHLIE FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF ALICE MCKAY, MATSQUI FIRST NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. On March 27, 2017 at the British Columbia Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) 13th Special Chiefs Assembly, BCAFN Resolution 02/2017 "Governance Committee" was adopted by the Chiefs-in-Assembly, calling for the creation of the Governance Committee (the 'Committee');
- B. The purpose of the Committee is to review BCAFN policy manuals (the 'BCAFN Manuals), as well as the BCAFN Constitution and bylaws, and provide recommendations for amendments at the BCAFN Annual General Meeting in October 2017;
- C. The Committee has prepared recommendations for the Chiefs-in-Assembly to consider regarding the reform of the Governance Manual, including the Constitution and Bylaws; and
- D. The work of the Committee requires further review and feedback from Chiefs-in-Assembly as well as support of the newly elected Regional Chief and Board members.
- E. The Committee's recommendations will be discussed and voted on by Chiefs-in-Assembly at the next Annual General Meeting in 2018.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terry Teegee".

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly extend the mandate of the BCAFN Governance Committee until the next Annual General Meeting 2018 to allow the Committee members to fully engage with BCAFN members to complete their work as articulated in BCAFN Resolution 02/2017 "Governance Committee";
2. Where requested by current Committee members, the Chiefs-in-Assembly will appoint new members to fill vacancies created by Committee members who submit their resignation from the Committee. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly appoints the following members:
 1. Tyrone McNeil, Tribal Chief, Stolo Tribal Council
 2. Chief Greg Louie, Ahousaht First Nation
 3. Chief Byron Louis, Okanagan Indian Band
 4. Kukpi7 Ryan Day, Bonaparte Indian Band
 5. Chief Vivian Tom, Wet'suwet'en First Nation
3. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BCAFN Governance Committee to create a workplan outlining a ratification plan as well as an engagement plan with members to ensure full review and feedback of the proposed changes prior to support and implementation of recommendations at the Annual General Meeting in 2018.

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
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Resolution 12/2017

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF THE 2016-2017 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MOVED BY: CHIEF LEE SPAHAN, COLDWATER INDIAN BAND

SECONDED BY: CHIEF WILF ADAM, LAKE BABINE FIRST NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly hereby adopt the 2016-2017 Audited Financial Statements as presented at the BCAFN 14th Annual General Meeting of October 11-13th, 2017.

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Musqueam Community Centre, Vancouver, BC
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Resolution 13/2017

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR THE BCAFN SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND FISCAL RELATIONS STRATEGY

MOVED BY: CHIEF WILF ADAM, LAKE BABINE FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF SUSAN MILLER, KATZIE FIRST NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

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

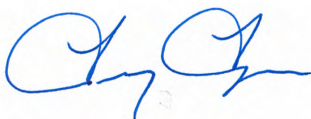
- i. **Article 5:** Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining their right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State.
- ii. **Article 20:** 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.
- iii. **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.
- iv. **Article 21, (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.

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- v. **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.
 - vi. **Article 32, (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.
- B.** All First Nations have inherent Rights, Title, and jurisdiction over the lands, waters, and resources within their traditional territories;
- C.** The provinces, territories, and the Government of Canada continue to extract and develop the resources on First Nation's traditional territories, and benefit significantly without fully and properly respecting the rights of First Nations under Treaty, constitutional law, and international law. The relationship between First Nations and the Crown requires sharing of jurisdiction, resource development, and benefits;
- D.** The National Aboriginal Economic Development Board (NAEDB) reported that continued economic marginalization of Canada's Indigenous peoples costs the Canadian economy \$27.7 billion each year;
- E.** Economic reconciliation is not possible if Indigenous peoples continue to be excluded from sharing in Canada's prosperity;
- F.** First Nations require resources from both the Provincial and Federal governments to establish sustainable funding for economic development pursuits for the benefit of future generations;
- G.** The BC Assembly of First Nations organizational mandate includes the "Development and promotion of policies and resources for the benefit of First Nations people in British Columbia including but not limited to economic, social, education, health and cultural matters;"
- H.** The BC Assembly of First Nations is working towards creating resources as part of a comprehensive strategy for improving outcomes and supporting First Nations in developing community-led sustainable economic development across their territories in British Columbia, which includes the following deliverables:
- i. The 'Black Books' project: a comprehensive economic development toolkit targeting various audiences in four volumes (overall economic development guide, guide for community entrepreneurs, guide for Chief and Council, including band managers, economic development officers, and a guide for Economic Development Corporations);
 - ii. The data modernization project: an initiative to support First Nations in collecting community owned data in accordance with the principles of "Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession";
 - iii. The Online Resource Centre: a web-resource which includes community and regional profiles, economic indexes, various templates for economic development uses, a user-friendly source of funding for economic and education purposes across federal and provincial government and which will house the 'Black Books';
 - iv. The 'Clustering' initiative which includes research to identify regional clustering opportunities for First Nations across sectors.

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- I. The British Columbia Assembly of First Nations is further focused on sustainable economic development through the new fiscal relationship being developed with the provincial and federal governments.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly support the ongoing work of BCAFN, in accordance with the BCAFN mandate, as it relates to the Sustainable Economic Development and Fiscal Relations Strategy.
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly support the development of the following deliverables of the Sustainable Economic Development and Fiscal Relations Strategy:
 - a. The 'Black Books' economic development toolkit;
 - b. The Data Modernization project;
 - c. The Online Resource Centre, including the community and regional profiles; and
 - d. The 'Clustering' initiative.

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
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Resolution 14/2017

SUBJECT: MANDATE THE BC ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE SOCIETY AS REGIONAL LEAD AGENCY IN NATIONAL INDIGENOUS EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE FRAMEWORK DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

MOVED BY: CHIEF CORINNA LEWEEN, CHESLATTA CARRIER NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF HARVEY MCLEOD, UPPER NICOLA INDIAN BAND

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. The federal government is developing with First Nations a national Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (IELCC) Framework towards delivering affordable, high quality, flexible and fully inclusive care for young First Nations children and their families, subject to First Nations direction and control.
- B. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* supports the mandate for Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care within an Indigenous right to strengthen and maintain distinct social and cultural institutions (Article 5), as an integral part of Indigenous cultural revitalization (Article 13.1), and as part of Indigenous educational systems for which there exists a right of Indigenous establishment and control (Article 14).
- C. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* creates a state obligation to “specific measures” which take into account children’s special vulnerability and the importance

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of education for their empowerment (Article 17.2) as well as an obligation of “particular attention” to be paid to the rights and needs of Indigenous children (among others) (Article 22).

- D. On July 14, 2016, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) passed Resolution 39/2016 endorsing the establishment of a First Nations national working group on ELCC from across disciplines of health, education, child and family services and early childhood with a mandate to oversee a 4-6-month community engagement process that would confirm and identify the key principles, priorities and an action plan for ELCC.
- E. BC Assembly of First Nations resolution 12/2016 mandated the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS) to be the lead agency to coordinate First Nations ELCC engagement in BC and fully supports BCACCS’s participation in the AFN Early Learning and Child Care working group.
- F. The engagement process having been completed, BCACCS is ensuring strong regional participation in the national Indigenous ELCC framework development process, including continuing regional First Nations ELCC engagement to ensure First Nations direction and control of regional implementation, and the provision of adequate capacities for community and regional leadership in First Nations ELCC.
- G. A continuing regional process toward an engagement-based, effective and legitimate IELCC framework is required for framework implementation (expected in April 2018) in ways that will best serve, support, and involve in decision-making First Nations communities and leadership, and thereby to direct future federal IELCC investments that will best support Indigenous children and families and to ensure the consistent support, including capacity support, of this area of First Nations-led development.
- H. BCACCS has 20 years of experience and expertise in building, supporting and operating Indigenous early learning and child care programs, policies, and supports in BC, has led or collaborated on numerous community engagement activities and action research projects pertaining to ELCC policy and practice, has led recent FNLC mandated regional ELCC First Nations engagement, and is participating in the development of IELCC framework drafting, including developing options for its implementation strategy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support the BC Aboriginal Child Care Society (BCACCS) as the lead agency to develop the recent province-wide First Nation engagement process on a national IELCC Framework into that framework, and carry it through approval and implementation processes such that it will be a basis for First Nations and their communities to exercise their authority to determine the systems and structures, as well as the programs and services, that

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provide ELCC supports to them—in ways they develop and control, by way of capacities provided and developed for the purpose;

2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly call on BCACCS to inform IELCC framework development and implementation subject to ongoing engagement and partnership development for regional First Nations leadership via advice and direction from Chiefs, community leaders and key stakeholders; and
3. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support the participation of BCACCS in the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) national working group on ELCC, and related and subsequent groups, toward and through national IELCC framework implementation and operation, and directs the BCAFN Executive to continue to work with BCACCS and the AFN to ensure adequate resourcing of the IELCC development, ongoing engagement and implementation processes in BC, as well as to help provide the political leadership for the regional partnerships that will be required to ensure the IELCC framework best responds to, and supports, First Nations children, families and communities in ways they determine.

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Resolution 15/2017

SUBJECT: FNFC SUBMISSION TO THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT CANADA RE: *NAVIGATION PROTECTION ACT* REVIEW

MOVED BY: CHIEF DALTON SILVER, SUMAS FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF BYRON LOUIS, OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. Without consultation with BC First Nations, in 2012 the Conservative Federal Government introduced changes to the Fisheries Act as part of Omnibus Bill C-38, which weakened habitat protections, attempted to limit the scope of Aboriginal fisheries, and reduced oversight of projects that could negatively affect aquatic resources and habitats.
- B. Without consultation with BC First Nations, in 2012 the Conservative Federal Government introduced changes to the Navigation Protection Act (NPA) as part of Omnibus Bill C-45, which drastically reduced the number of waterways protected by the NPA, leaving 99% of lakes, rivers and oceans in Canada unprotected under this legislation, and exempting several major industrial projects from federal purview.
- C. Prime Minister Trudeau has directed the Minister of Transport to review the 2012/2013 changes to the *Navigation Protection Act*.
 - The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities had been tasked with conducting this review;
 - The review was announced in June 2016;
 - The deadline for submissions to the Standing Committee was December 7, 2016;

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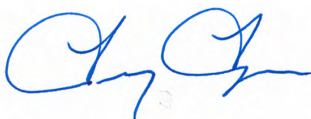
- The deadline for submissions directly to the Minister of Transport was January 31, 2017.
- The deadline for submissions responding to the Minister of Transport's response to the Report of the Standing Committee was August 28, 2017.

- D. The First Nations Fisheries Council of BC (FNFC) retained Ratcliff & Company to conduct a legal analysis on the Government Response to the Report of the Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities entitled "A Study of the Navigation Protection Act." The FNFC made a submission on August 28, 2017 in response to the Government's request for detailed comments on the Government Response as part of the ongoing review of the *Navigation Protection Act*. This submission focuses on constructive proposals to improve the Act, to restore protections for water and navigation, and to confirm the central role for indigenous peoples in governing this essential resource.
- E. The FNFC's submission reflects the need for the Government of Canada to properly consult with all First Nations Rights holders on matters related to water protection, policy, management and legislation, and to engage in co-management with First Nations. Implementation of the recommendations put forward in the submission would improve the environmental protection of navigable waterways on which First Nations across the province have always relied for health and for cultural, spiritual and economic wellbeing. The submission also seeks to uphold the Section 35(1) Rights of all BC First Nations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly communicate support for the First Nations Fisheries Council August 28th, 2017 submission to the Minister of Transport regarding the Government Response to the Report of the Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities titled "A Study of the *Navigation Protection Act*."
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BC Regional Chief to write a letter to the Minister of Transport in support of the First Nations Fisheries Council's submission to the Standing Committee. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly request that the letter be sent as soon as possible, as the timelines for this review are very short.

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
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Resolution 16/2017

SUBJECT: FNFC COALITION SUBMISSION TO FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA REGARDING THE FISHERIES ACT REVIEW

MOVED BY: CHIEF DALTON SILVER, SUMAS FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF BYRON LOUIS, OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. Without consultation with BC First Nations, in 2012 the Conservative Federal Government introduced changes to the *Fisheries Act* as part of Omnibus Bill C-38, which weakened habitat protections, attempted to limit the scope of Aboriginal fisheries, and reduced oversight of projects that could negatively affect aquatic resources and habitats.
- B. In June 2016, Prime Minister Trudeau has directed the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to review the 2012/2013 changes to the *Fisheries Act*, to restore lost protections and incorporate modern safeguards. Phase 1 of the review proceeded as follows:
- The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans was tasked with conducting this review;
 - The deadline for submissions to the Standing Committee was November 30, 2016;
 - Parallel to the Standing Committee review, the Minister and Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) engaged with First Nations and First Nation organizations in relation to the review of the *Fisheries Act*;
 - The deadline for First Nations submissions to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans was January 31, 2017;
 - The Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans tabled its report to the House of Commons on February 24, 2017; and

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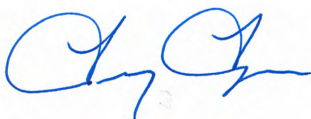
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- DFO tabled the Government Response to the Sixth Report of the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans “Review of Changes Made in 2012 to the *Fisheries Act*: Enhancing the Protection of Fish and Fish Habitat and the Management of Canadian Fisheries” on June 22, 2017.
- C. On July 25, 2017 Minister LeBlanc, announced phase 2 of consultations on the review of the *Fisheries Act*. In the first phase of this consultation, Indigenous people and the Canadian public provided Fisheries and Oceans Canada with clear views and recommendations on the restoration of lost protections and on modernization of the Act to better protect fish and fish habitat. This second phase of consultations is for DFO to seek views on potential program and policy changes for a revised *Fisheries Act*. The deadline to submit views and recommendations to DFO was August 28, 2017.
- D. The First Nations Fisheries Council of BC (FNFC) worked as a Coalition in partnership with regional First Nations organizations throughout the province and Mandell Pinder LLP to develop a submission to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard. The Coalition (the “Coalition”) submission focuses on recommended policy reforms that would remove barriers and provide necessary policy guidance to enable recognition and respect of First Nations’ inherent and constitutional rights and responsibilities to fish, fish habitat and fisheries.
- E. The Coalition submission reflects the need for the Government of Canada to properly consult with all First Nations Rights holders on matters related to fisheries policy, management and legislation, and to engage in joint management with First Nations. The Coalition recommends the collaborative development of a “Recognition and Respect Policy” which is intended to enable, facilitate and support the proper recognition and respect for First Nations’ inherent and constitutional rights and responsibilities within all aspects of the governance and management of fish, fish habitat and fisheries, thereby promoting the underlying purpose of reconciliation.
- F. Implementation of the recommendations put forward in the submission would recognize and respect First Nations’ inherent and constitutional rights and responsibilities, improve fisheries management practices and increase protection for the fish and aquatic resources on which First Nations across the province have always relied for nutritional, cultural, spiritual and economic wellbeing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support the Coalition’s submission to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard regarding the review of changes to the *Fisheries Act* including recommendations on restoring lost protections, modernizing the Act, and the necessary systemic and comprehensive changes to truly achieve transformation and evolve First Nation-Crown relations from the colonial denial that has resulted in over a century of conflict and distrust to effective and efficient nation-to-nation, government-to-government relations on how fish, fish habitat and fisheries are governed and managed; and
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly request that the BC Regional Chief write a letter to the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard in support of the Coalition’s submission to the Minister regarding changes to the *Fisheries Act*. We request that the letter be sent as soon as possible and request the Minister to respond within 30 days, as the timelines for this review are very short.

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
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Resolution 17/2017

SUBJECT: BC WATER SUSTAINABILITY ACT CONSULTATION FRAMEWORK

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION: TABLED

WHEREAS:

- A. Water is our lifeblood. All living things depend on it. It is a sacred element of our Aboriginal Title, Rights and Treaty Rights.
- B. Without a clearly defined and adequate consultation process with BC First Nations, in 2010 the BC Provincial Government initiated the Water Act Modernization process, and in 2016 passed into legislation the *Water Sustainability Act (WSA)*.
- C. The BC government is undertaking a phased approach to implementing the *Water Sustainability Act* and will continue to develop key regulations over the next 3 to 4 years, including those that have high potential for significant and direct impact on Aboriginal Rights and Title and Treaty Rights.
- D. The BC Government has still not articulated or implemented a framework for consulting with First Nations on the *Water Sustainability Act*.
- E. The Crown has a constitutional duty to consult with Aboriginal peoples when it contemplates conduct or a decision that may have an adverse impact on a recognized or asserted Aboriginal or Treaty Rights.
- F. The United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states (emphasis added):

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 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 26

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired.
2. Indigenous peoples have the right to own, use, develop and control the lands, territories and resources that they possess by reason of traditional ownership or other traditional occupation or use, as well as those which they have otherwise acquired.
3. States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources. Such recognition shall be conducted with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned.

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;

Article 39

Indigenous peoples have the right to have access to financial and technical assistance from States and through international cooperation, for the enjoyment of the rights contained in this Declaration.

- G. BCAFN Resolution 11/2010 directs the Regional Chief to communicate to the Province and Canada that the prior and unextinguished water rights of First Nations of British Columbia must be addressed and given priority before the Province proceeds with legislative and policy changes as proposed in to 2010 Discussion Paper.
- H. BCAFN Resolution 06(k)/2011 directs the Regional Chief to work with the National Chief to instruct the Provinces and Canada that mutually negotiated water consultation protocols between individual First Nations and the provincial government must be a prerequisite before all future water rights are assigned and that adequate consultations between First Nations and the provincial governments result in up-front watershed planning that considers the cumulative impacts on First Nations' lands and resources.
- I. BCAFN Resolution 06(k)/2011 also directs the Regional Chief to work with the National Chief to instruct the Provinces and Canada that the prior and unextinguished water rights of First Nations must be addressed and given priority before the Province assigns either short-term or long-term water access and water use rights to third parties in First Nations' territories.

- J. BCAFN Resolution 03(m)/2013 supports and endorses the Report on Key Findings of the BC First Nations Consultation and Accommodation Working Group, “Advancing an Indigenous Framework for Consultation and Accommodation in BC.”
- K. BCAFN Resolution 06(a)/2013 conveys the Chiefs in Assembly’s full support and endorsement of the Draft BC First Nations Water Rights Strategy, developed by the FNLC.
- L. BCAFN’s submissions to the BC provincial government on the WAM Discussion Paper in 2010 and on the WSA Legislative Proposal in 2013, state that any legislation and regulations developed in the province that have the potential to impact Aboriginal rights and title and treaty rights must be developed in conjunction with First Nations.
- M. BCAFN in partnership with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the First Nations Summit requested on numerous occasions the immediate engagement of the Province on the proposed *Water Sustainability Act* (WSA) and further to this, has requested and been denied an opportunity to enter into a Memorandum-of-Understanding.
- N. The First Nations Leadership Council provided comprehensive letters on numerous occasions setting out our collective position on the WSA policy proposal.
- O. The work of the First Nations Leadership Council pertaining to the *Water Sustainability Act* does not replace any existing discussions or negotiations respecting water sustainability that any Nations may currently have underway with additional partners, including Ministries, First Nation communities and/or Aboriginal organizations, nor does it preclude Nations from initiative new discussions or negotiations or any challenges that Nations feel need to be brought forward.
- P. The proposed resolution below was passed by the UBCIC Chiefs-in-Assembly in June 2017 as UBCIC Resolution 2017-24.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly directs the BC Regional Chief to work with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the First Nations Summit, as the First Nations Leadership Council, to call upon the BC provincial government to immediately co-develop a framework for, and to provide adequate resources to, First Nations to appropriately engage on the regulations pertaining to the *Water Sustainability Act* which have high potential for significant and direct impact on Aboriginal Rights and Treaty Rights, specifically Water Objectives, Area Based Regulations, and Water Sustainability Plans, to be undertaken with a Nation-based approach ensuring Nation-based interests are taken into account and accommodated.



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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Musqueam Community Centre, Vancouver, BC
October 11-13, 2017

Resolution 18/2017

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR THE BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

MOVED BY: CHIEF DAN GEORGE, BURNS LAKE BAND

SECONDED BY: CHIEF JACKIE THOMAS, SAIK'UZ FIRST NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. There is a significant gap in housing and infrastructure conditions between First Nations and other British Columbians. This gap is linked with a number of other social and economic factors and the poor conditions faced by many First Nations negatively affects their development, health, education and other social conditions.
- B. The United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* states:
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

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

programmes affecting them and, as far as possible, to administer such programmes through their own institutions.

- C. On March 13 & 14, 2017 in Songhees Territory, the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) hosted the BC Housing and Infrastructure Forum: Moving Forward on First Nations Housing and Infrastructure Reform in BC. The purpose of the Forum was to assist in determining the path forward in relation to First Nations authority for housing and infrastructure in the BC Region within the context of a national First Nations housing and infrastructure initiative.
- D. The BCAFN has prioritized housing and infrastructure and is developing a strategy to support safe and affordable housing and infrastructure for First Nation communities, individuals, and families.
- E. Following the March 13 & 14 Forum, the BCAFN widely distributed the Forum Report, "Creating a First Nations Housing & Infrastructure Authority: From Concept to Design," which provides a summary of thoughts and input from Housing Forum delegates regarding the creation of First Nations controlled housing and infrastructure authority in BC.
- F. On September 14, 2017, BCAFN issues an Expression of Interest for volunteer leaders to serve on a BC Chiefs Council on Housing and Infrastructure. This Chiefs Council would coordinate the process to design and implement a Housing & Infrastructure Authority that will provide authority and control to BC First Nations for all housing & infrastructure delivery in British Columbia.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly support the work from the March 13-14th, 2017 Housing Forum: Moving Forward on First Nations Housing and Infrastructure Reform in BC, and the recommendations contained within the Forum Report, "Creating a First Nations Housing & Infrastructure Authority: From Concept to Design."
2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Regional Chief, and the BC Representative on the Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure to work with the newly formed Chiefs Council on Housing and Infrastructure to implement action items from March 13-14th, 2017 Housing Forum Report.

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Musqueam Community Centre, Vancouver, BC
October 11-13, 2017

Resolution 19/2017

SUBJECT: RESPONDING TO ANTCO INACTION ON FIRST NATIONS DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY IN BC

MOVED BY: CHIEF DON TOM, TSARTLIP FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF ERNIE CREY, CHEAM FIRST NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. First Nations communities in B.C. continue to face disparities in access and opportunity due to the digital divide.
- B. The Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) has designated connectivity as a basic essential service for all Canadians.
- C. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which the province of British Columbia and the federal government have adopted without qualification, affirms:
Article 23: Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development ... and, as far as possible, to administer such programmes through their own institutions.
- D. The First Nations Technology Council (FNTC) operates with a mandate from First Nations Leadership Council(FNLC) including the BC Assembly of First Nations(BCAFN), First Nations Summit(FNS) and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs(UBCIC) to ensure that all 203 First Nations communities in BC have access to the internet and the capacity to utilize digital technologies to the fullest potential.

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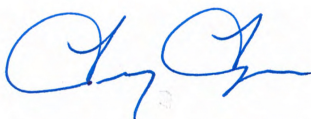
Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

- E. The All Nations Trust Company (ANTCO) has received \$59.6 million in government funding without meaningful input from First Nations leadership to address the digital divide faced by First Nations communities in B.C., with \$32.9 million of these funds remaining unspent;
- F. The BCAFN, through Resolution 10(c)/2017, called upon the Governments of British Columbia and Canada to work with the FNS, the UBCIC and BCAFN to engage the ANTCO in creating strategies for the release of funds to the First Nations Technology Council for the exclusive use and benefit of First Nations in BC that are working to address capacity building for the use and benefit of digital and connected technology;
- G. The BCAFN through Resolution 10(c)/2017, further called for any new funding for First Nations connectivity and capacity to be put in place for use and distribution by the First Nation Technology Council working with the FNS, the UBCIC and the BCAFN.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support strategies with which to eliminate the digital divide faced by First Nations communities in B.C.
- 2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Regional Chief, as part of the First Nations Leadership Council, to assist in the convening of relevant stakeholders (provincial and federal government authorities, First Nations leadership and the First Nations Technology Council) to develop strategies for the release of ANTCO funds and the establishment of the supplementary funds required to meaningfully address First Nations connectivity across B.C.

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Musqueam Community Centre, Vancouver, BC
October 11-13, 2017

Resolution 20/2017

SUBJECT: ELIMINATING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE THROUGH LABOUR MARKET RESEARCH AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MOVED BY: CHIEF DON TOM, TSARTLIP FIRST NATION

SECONDED BY: CHIEF ERNIE CREY, CHEAM FIRST NATION

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. First Nations communities in B.C. continue to face disparities in access and opportunity due to the digital divide.
- B. The province's technology sector continues to outpace the province's overall economic growth, and is expected to add an additional 47,000 new jobs to the B.C. economy by 2021.
- C. There does not yet exist a comprehensive overview of barriers to and opportunities for First Nations peoples in B.C. to fully and equally participate within the technology sector.
- D. Skills development opportunities in technology and innovation for First Nations communities continue to lag behind offerings available outside of First Nations communities.
- E. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which the province of British Columbia and the federal government have adopted without qualification, affirms:

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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.

- F. The First Nations Technology Council (FNTC) operates with a mandate from First Nations Leadership Council(FNLC) including the First Nations Summit(FNS), BC Assembly of First Nations(BCAFN) and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs(UBCIC) to ensure that all 203 First Nations communities in BC have access to the internet and the capacity to utilize digital technologies to the fullest potential.
- G. The FNTC is developing a set of initiatives (a First Nations innovation and technology labour market study and Bridging to Technology) that aim to better understand the barriers to and create opportunities for increased participation of First Nations peoples in the technology and innovation sectors.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support the development and delivery of the First Nations Technology Council's innovation and technology labour market study and Bridging to Technology initiatives;
- 2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly provide guidance and support where possible to inform the development of Indigenous-led research and community engagement methodologies for these initiatives.
- 3. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly assist with outreach and engagement efforts to raise awareness amongst its membership around these forthcoming initiatives.
- 4. The First Nations Technology Council to provide regular updates to the BC Assembly of First Nation, First Nations Summit and Union of BC Indian Chiefs.

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Musqueam Community Centre, Vancouver, BC
October 11-13, 2017

Resolution 21/2017

SUBJECT: STRIKING A NATION-TO-NATION CHIEFS WORKING GROUP

MOVED BY: KUKPI7 WAYNE CHRISTIAN, SPLATSIN

SECONDED BY: GRAND CHIEF DOUG KELLY, PROXY, SOOWAHLIE

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada announced his 5-point plan for a new relationship with Indigenous peoples in December 2015. The 5-point plan includes:
- I. Launch a national public inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous women.
 - II. Make significant investments in First Nations education.
 - III. Lift the two per cent cap on funding for First Nations programs.
 - IV. Implement all 94 recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
 - V. Repeal all legislation unilaterally imposed on Indigenous people by the previous government.
- B. The Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada has been tasked “to renew the relationship between Canada and Indigenous Peoples. This renewal must be a Nation-to-Nation relationship, based on recognition, rights, respect, co-operation, and partnership.”
- C. The Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada must re-engage First Nations in a renewed Nation-to-Nation process with Indigenous Peoples to make real progress on issues such as housing, employment, health and mental health care, community safety and policing, child welfare and education;

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- D. The Federal Government often limits its engagement and consultation to national, provincial, and territorial First Nations organizations for programs and services. Currently, the Government of Canada is consulting with the Assembly of First Nations, a national advocacy organization, which is not a Nation. Further, provincial or territorial First Nations advocacy organizations are not Nations.
- E. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which Canada has endorsed without qualifications, 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 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 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; and
- F. BC First Nations are diverse and are taking many paths to rebuilding their Nations. Taking Canada up on their offer for a Nation to Nation relationship requires BC First Nations to organize, develop a Nation to Nation governance structure, and prepare plans and approaches.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly strike an inclusive “Nation to Nation Chiefs Working Group” comprised of volunteer Chiefs and Tribal Leaders to carry out the following:
- a. Review the Mandate Letters for the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, Minister of Justice, Minister of Status of Women, Minister of Finance, Minister of Natural Resources, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard, Minister of Health, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development, and Labour, and Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development to identify opportunities and priorities for Nation to Nation collaboration with Canada.
- b. Review the All Chiefs’ Task Force Report & Recommendations and be informed by the advice of the Operational – Technical Working Group, Political – Legal Working Group, and the Coordinated Action Working Group. Build upon the advice and recommendations to organize BC First Nations, develop a governance structure, and coordinate advocacy efforts.
- c. Engage the Chairs of the following Indigenous Nations Councils – Fisheries, Forestry, Energy & Mining, Education and Health, and other like-minded organizations, to gather information,

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

advice and recommendations to support the development of a province wide strategy to support Nation rebuilding.

d. Consider and propose a new broad Governance Model that would reflect a true Nation to Nation relationship between and amongst Indigenous Nations and Canada based on traditional, linguistic, and historical governance structures of each Nation, not Indian Act systems.

e. Develop a high level political and leadership strategy to assist Indigenous Nations to achieve a Nation to Nation Relationship with Canada.

f. Prepare a report setting out the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Nation to Nation Chiefs' Working Group by the next BCAFN Special Chiefs Assembly.

2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BC Regional Chief to work with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the First Nations Summit, as the First Nations Leadership Council to identify volunteer Chiefs and Tribal Leaders to participate on the Nation to Nation Chiefs' Working Group.
3. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BC Regional Chief to work with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the First Nations Summit, as the First Nations Leadership Council, to identify a provincial/territorial organization to take the lead in supporting this work.
4. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the BC Regional Chief to work with the First Nation Summit, and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs as the First Nations Leadership Council to host a 2-day BC All Chiefs Meeting in early 2018, pending funding availability, for discussion and consideration of the report and recommendations from the Nation-to-Nation Working Group and for planning next steps.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Musqueam Community Centre, Vancouver, BC
October 11-13, 2017

Resolution 22/2017

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE A NEW FIRST NATIONS-CROWN FISCAL RELATIONSHIP

MOVED BY: KUKPI7 RON IGNACE, SKEETCHESTN INDIAN BAND

SECONDED BY: CHIEF DAVID JIMMIE, SQUIALA FIRST NATION

**ABSTAINED BY: KUKPI7 JUDY WILSON, NESKONLITH INDIAN BAND
KUKPI7 RYAN DAY, BONAPARTE INDIAN BAND
CHIEF JACKIE THOMAS, SAIK'UZ FIRST NATION
CHIEF ARCHIE PATRICK, STELLAT'EN FIRST NATION**

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* states:
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;
- B. First Nations as the original owners and stewards, have an intimate, unique and spiritual connection to the lands, resources and waters of their homelands. First Nations have the inalienable sovereign right to self-determination and each respective Nation is free to pursue its own economic, social, health and well-being, and cultural development;

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- C. Aboriginal title derives “from the prior occupation of Canada by Aboriginal peoples” (*Delgamuukw v. British Columbia, para. 114*), which must be fully addressed, but should not be a barrier to progress on establishing a new First Nations-Crown fiscal relationship that meets First Nation community needs and objectives.
- D. The Supreme Court of Canada has articulated that: “Three aspects of Aboriginal title are relevant here. First, Aboriginal title encompasses the right to exclusive use and occupation of land; second, Aboriginal title encompasses the right to choose to what uses land can be put, subject to the ultimate limit that those uses cannot destroy the ability of the land to sustain future generations of Aboriginal peoples; and third, that lands held pursuant to Aboriginal title have an inescapable economic component.” (*Delgamuukw v. British Columbia, [1997] 3 S.C.R. 1010 at para. 166.*)
- E. The current First Nation fiscal relationship is not a nation-to-nation one because it does not recognize a plurality of laws and responsibilities of Indigenous Nations and the Crown. Nor does it sufficiently recognize or provide space for First Nation tax or service jurisdiction. Therefore, the current relationship is failing because it does not provide stable, long-term revenues to support First Nation services and infrastructure at national standards.
- F. Many of the fiscal financing issues remain impediments to achieving stable First Nations governments, Treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements, and addressing such issues must be considered a high priority.
- G. Since the October 2015 federal election of the new Liberal Government, the Prime Minister has committed to a new nation-to-nation relationship with Indigenous peoples.
- H. Further, at the December 2015 Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Special Chiefs Assembly, Prime Minister Trudeau stated: “It’s time for a new fiscal relationship with First Nations that gives your communities sufficient, predictable and sustained funding...” While this statement is helpful, it only addresses one piece of a new fiscal framework. It must go beyond reliance on government funding for program and service delivery to close the socio-economic gap and support First Nations governments.
- I. There is a pressing need for First Nations to secure an economic base through revenue options, including: taxation, resource royalties and revenue sharing, and others.
- J. It is acknowledged that Canada has initiated a discussion with the AFN on a new fiscal relationship. Further, the Government of Canada and self-governing and negotiating Indigenous governments are engaged in a collaborative fiscal policy development initiative.
- K. On June 7, 2017, First Nations in British Columbia participated in a province-wide strategic dialogue session on defining a new First Nations fiscal relationship with the Crown, focusing on

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

the importance of adequately resourcing all First Nations governments through a comprehensive section 91(24) path to implement section 35 jurisdiction.

- L. At that session, a number of principles for a new First Nations fiscal relationship with the Crown were discussed by First Nations. The principles are a high-level, minimum starting point for discussion and include: Expanded Tax Powers and Clear Jurisdiction & Authorities; Incentives for Economic Development; Revenues Related to Service Responsibilities; Comparability; Improved Statistics; and Institutional Support.
- M. BC First Nations have been engaged in regional sessions throughout BC to discuss the new fiscal relationship and the BC Representative will provide a report based on the feedback received.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly support, in-principle, the document “Principles for a new First Nations–Crown Fiscal Relationship” as a minimum starting point to guide discussions of a new First Nations-Crown fiscal relationship.
- 2. Direct the BC representative on the AFN-Canada Fiscal Relations Working Group to review and consider these principles in its work on fiscal issues.
- 3. Encourage First Nations to:
 - i. Review and discuss the principles for a new First Nations–Crown Fiscal Relationship within their respective communities; and
 - ii. Amend or refine the principles as necessary to meet the unique needs and circumstances of each community.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief



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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Musqueam Community Centre, Vancouver, BC
October 11-13, 2017

Resolution 23/2017

SUBJECT: WITHDRAWAL OF BILL C-58 (AN ACT TO AMEND THE *ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT* AND THE *PRIVACY ACT* AND TO MAKE CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO OTHER ACTS)

MOVED BY: TYRONE MCNEIL, PROXY, SEABIRD ISLAND BAND

SECONDED BY: KUKPI7 WAYNE CHRISTIAN, SPLASTIN

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

- A. **Article 8** of the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*(UNDRIP), which Canada and BC has committed to enact without qualification, states that:
- 2. States shall provide effective mechanisms for prevention of, and redress for:
 - (b) Any action which has the aim or effect of dispossessing them of their lands, territories or resources;
- Article 19** states that 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.
- B. Since being elected in October 2015, the Liberal government has committed to an open and transparent government, which includes reforming the federal *Access to Information Act* and the *Privacy Act*;
- C. On June 19, 2017 the Government of Canada, through its President of the Treasury Board, introduced Bill C-58, An Act to Amend the Access to Information Act and the Privacy Act and to Make Consequential

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terry Teegee".

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

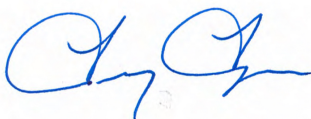
Amendments to Other Acts to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics;

- D. Bill C-58 passed second reading in the House on September 27, 2017;
- E. Bill C-58 was developed unilaterally, without any effort to consult First Nations, contrary to Canada's commitment to a Nation-to-Nation relationship and to work in equal partnership with First Nations;
- F. The Bill will compromise any attempts by Canada to meet the standards of redress for historical wrongs articulated in the UNDRIP, as it represents a significant regression of First Nations' existing rights of access to information;
- G. Bill C-58 will greatly impair the ability of First Nations to document their claims, grievances and disputes with the Government of Canada and will significantly impede First Nations' access to justice in resolving their claims. As such, Bill C-58 contravenes the Government of Canada's commitment to reconciliation with First Nations;
- H. First Nations' right of access to information is articulated in section 8(2)(k) of the Privacy Act; The Federal Court of Canada has also recognized and affirmed that Canada must disclose government records to First Nations conducting research to pursue claims against the Crown in accordance with section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, by virtue of its fiduciary duty, and to uphold the honour of the Crown; and
- I. The National Claims Research Directors have prepared a submission to the Standing Committee reviewing Bill C-58 which includes the recommendation that in keeping with Canada's commitment to reconciliation, the UNDRIP, and access to justice for First Nations. We call on the committee to withdraw Bill C-58 and engage in full and meaningful consultation with First Nations regarding legislative reforms to access to information, as well as fully endorsing the recommendations to improve Bill C-58 made by the Information Commissioner of Canada in her September 2017 report.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly call on the House of Commons Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics to withdraw Bill C-58 and engage in full and meaningful engagement and collaborate with First Nations regarding legislative reforms to access to information, as well as fully endorsing the recommendations to improve Bill C-58 made by the Information Commissioner of Canada in her September 2017 Report.
- 2. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully endorse the National Claims Research Directors submission on Bill C-58; and
- 3. The BC Chiefs-in-Assembly request the BC Regional Chief to correspond with the Attorney General of Canada regarding impacts of Bill C-58.

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