

OUR LAND IS OUR FUTURE

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UNION OF B.C. INDIAN CHIEFS
48TH ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SEPTEMBER 21ST TO 23RD, 2016
MUSQUEAM COMMUNITY CENTRE, x^wməθk^wəy^{əm} (MUSQUEAM TERRITORY)

Resolution no. 2016-35

RE: Support for the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's Opposition to the Dakota Access Pipeline

WHEREAS on July 25th, 2016, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approved the construction of the over 1,100-mile Dakota Access Pipeline to carry over a half-million barrels of crude oil through Lake Oahe, only a half-mile from the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation;

WHEREAS the Dakota Access Pipeline poses a dangerous threat to the health and wellbeing of the Dakota and Lakota people of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, threatening to contaminate their waters, crops, and sacred burial grounds, and the construction of the pipeline violates United States federal law requiring meaningful consultation of Indigenous tribes, the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty, and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;

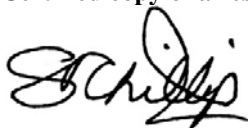
WHEREAS the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People* states:

Article 26(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 29(2): States shall also take effective measures to ensure that no storage or disposal of hazardous materials shall take place in the lands or territories of Indigenous peoples without their free, prior, and informed consent.

Article 32(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

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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;

WHEREAS the UBCIC Chiefs Council has passed numerous resolutions opposing the construction of pipelines through traditional territories, the contamination of water and other resources by dangerous mining and oil projects, and supporting Indigenous groups in their fight for the protection of their ancestral lands;

WHEREAS on August 15th, 2016, the UBCIC Executive sent a letter of support to the citizens of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, reaffirming the UBCIC's opposition to dangerous pipeline projects and support of Aboriginal Title and Rights, environmental conservation, resource preservation, and cultural protection;

WHEREAS on September 14th, 2016, UBCIC President Grand Chief Stewart Phillip traveled to support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in the historic defense of their water and territory, met with tribal leadership, and honoured the incredible Indigenous solidarity by meeting and speaking with defenders at the site.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and allies in their opposition to the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline;

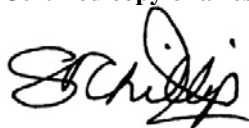
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs-in-Assembly recognize and affirm the importance of standing with and supporting Indigenous peoples internationally who are defending their Title and Rights, and Treaty Rights;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the UBCIC Executive to support the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and those protesting the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline through support letters, showcases of solidarity, social media posts, and, subject to resources, monetary and resource donations as requested by the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and those protesting at the construction site;

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the UBCIC Executive to circulate this resolution to other First Nations organizations across Canada in order to garner nationwide support for international Indigenous collaboration against environmental destruction, government-sanctioned poisoning of Indigenous resources, and denial of inherent Indigenous rights to the land that Indigenous peoples have inhabited since time immemorial.

Moved: Chief Don Tom, Tsartlip First Nation
Seconded: Chief Ernie Crey, Cheam First Nation
Disposition: Carried by Omnibus Motion
Date: September 22, 2016

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