

OUR LAND IS OUR FUTURE

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UNION OF B.C. INDIAN CHIEFS
ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OCT 2ND TO 4TH, 2018
MOCCASIN SQUARE GARDENS, Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc Territory

Resolution no. 2018-39

RE: Development and Implementation of a BC First Nations Forest Strategy

WHEREAS the BC government continues to engage in forestry-related activities without the full and respectful recognition of First Nations Title and Rights, and Treaty Rights, and fails to engage BC First Nations in meaningful shared decision-making;

WHEREAS current provincial policies do not provide a meaningful share of revenue from forestry activities to ensure First Nations can build their governance capacity;

WHEREAS the forest sector in BC is undergoing significant transformation regardless of the impacts on First Nations Title and Rights;

WHEREAS 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 implement, affirms:

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;

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;

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Article 29(1): Indigenous peoples have the right to the conservation and protection of the environment and the productive capacity of their lands or territories and resource; and[...];

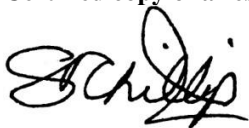
WHEREAS provincial policies, operating practices and legislation need to change to fully implement the UN Declaration, allow for shared decision-making, and allow for the development of a renewed process for land use planning and stewardship over lands and resources; and

WHEREAS by UBCIC Resolution 2012-14 “Support for First Nations Leadership Council Renewing its “Declaration & Protocol of Recognition, Support, Cooperation and Coordination with the First Nations Forestry Council,” and UBCIC Resolution 2016-15 “Support for First Nations Forestry Council and Improved Forest Range Revenue Sharing and Tenure Solution,” UBCIC has consistently supported the work of the FNFC.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support the continued work of the BC First Nations Forestry Council to develop and implement a BC First Nations Forest Strategy which states that consent must be sought from First Nations on all forestry issues in their territories, and that reflects the policy and legislative changes needed to increase revenue sharing, shared decision-making, and the meaningful involvement of BC First Nations as full partners in the forest sector.

Moved: Chief Maureen Chapman, Skawahlook First Nation
Seconded: Robert Scow, Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis First Nation (Proxy)
Disposition: Carried
Date: October 4, 2018

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