

OUR LAND IS OUR FUTURE

UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA INDIAN CHIEFS

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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. 2018-40

RE: Support for the FNLC Wild Salmon Summit Draft Recommendations

WHEREAS wild Pacific salmon are an integral keystone in the culture, economy and livelihood of First Nations throughout BC;

WHEREAS the steady decline of healthy and abundant wild salmon stocks has reached a crisis point;

WHEREAS 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:

Article 26: 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...;

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

WHEREAS First Nations in BC have diverse interests, perspectives and priorities with respect to the management, rehabilitation and protection of wild salmon, and as self-determining Nations, share a responsibility to manage resources in a manner that respects the interdependence we have with one another;

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WHEREAS First Nations in BC have a common interest in increasing decision-making and control with respect to the regulation, policy, planning, management, protection and rehabilitation of wild salmon, salmon habitat and salmon fisheries;

WHEREAS UBCIC Resolution 2012-19 reaffirms UBCIC's role to strongly advocate for Aboriginal Title, Rights and Treaty Rights with respect to fisheries and aquaculture, as mandated through existing resolutions;

WHEREAS UBCIC Resolution 2012-36 calls for the UBCIC to advocate for the protection, conservation and safeguarding of wild salmon stocks, in particular reproduction areas;

WHEREAS the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC), a collaborative working partnership between the UBCIC, the First Nations Summit (FNS) and the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN), hosted the "Wild Salmon Summit: In a Time of Reconciliation a Summit to Protect and Restore Wild Salmon Through Indigenous Jurisdiction and Authority" ("Wild Salmon Summit"), with the following goals:

1. Conduct an environmental scan of the mandates and operations of First Nations Fisheries Organizations in BC in relation to wild salmon;
2. Discuss the current state of wild salmon health and identify barriers to ensuring healthy wild salmon populations; and
3. Develop a shared strategic vision for wild salmon in BC; and

WHEREAS delegates at the Wild Salmon Summit proposed the following recommendations as they relate to the protection, rehabilitation and management of wild salmon, wild salmon habitat and wild salmon fisheries:

1. Develop a shared political vision, and strategic pro-active provincial plan, amongst BC First Nations, for the rehabilitation, protection and management of wild salmon/salmon habitat and fisheries through the implementation and recognition of our inherent jurisdictions, authorities, titles, rights and responsibilities:
 - a. FNLC strike a Political Steering Committee to develop/identify recommended immediate province-wide priorities (FNLC, BC First Nations representatives, Pacific Salmon Commission, FNFC);
 - b. Governance Models: Tier 1 (First Nations-Intertribal relations), Tier 2 (Nation-to-Nation, government-to-government: Tripartite Processes/DFO-FNLC MOU/BC Wild Salmon Advisory Council);
 - c. Access equitable, sustaining funding sources;
2. Complete an environmental scan and develop a plan to recognize, coordinate and activate the technical knowledge, Indigenous knowledge and experiences of our own Indigenous Fisheries Organizations and Nations in relation to the political table/governance model;
3. Suggest purposes and priorities that the shared table can bring forward;
4. Short Term Goals: Implementation of the Wild Salmon Policy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs-in-Assembly fully endorse the recommendations of the Wild Salmon Summit;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the UBCIC Executive to work collectively with the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN) and the First Nations

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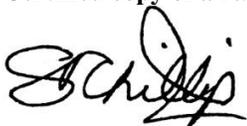
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Summit (FNS), as the First Nations Leadership Council, to identify interim political and technical representation to populate a Political Steering Committee on Wild Salmon; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the UBCIC Executive to work with BC First Nations Fisheries Council and other like-minded organizations to seek adequate resources to support the Wild Salmon Summit's recommendations.

Moved: Chief Lee Spahan, Coldwater Indian Band
Seconded: Kukpi7 Wayne Christian, Splatnin
Disposition: Carried
Date: October 4, 2018

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