



Ref. 47933

September 30, 2019

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip  
Chief Don Tom  
Kukpi7 Judy Wilson  
Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs  
401 – 312 Main Street  
Vancouver BC V6A 2T2

Dear Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs Executive:

I am writing this letter in response to your letter of August 20<sup>th</sup> and Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) resolution 2019-23. I am in receipt of this resolution and have reviewed the Summary Report of the symposium titled “Implementing our Title and Rights: Upholding Self-Determination through Nation-to-Nation, Consent-Based Negotiations and Agreement-Making.” We were pleased to provide a financial contribution to support this symposium, and I appreciate the constructive work that took place, as evidenced through the Report and the principles contained therein.

One of the components of resolution 2019-23 stated that:

- *The UBCIC Chiefs Council directs the UBCIC Executive to work with like-minded organizations to ensure the following further work takes place:*
  1. *Development of a strategy for advancing and implementing the principles in negotiations through coordinated action to ensure governments respect them;*
  2. *Development of an action plan for transforming negotiations that in addition to the principles, includes models of agreements, steps and processes that may be applied, and standard tools that may assist First Nations (such as language identifying approaches to certainty that reject reliance on legal techniques) in negotiations; and*

.../2

3. *Planning of more forums on key negotiation topics, starting with consent-based decision-making.*

I am very interested in engaging in a collaborative dialogue with UBCIC on the concepts outlined in this resolution, and to discuss the principles set out in the Report. In my view, such a dialogue will assist in informing the Province's negotiation approach moving forward, in conjunction with other guidance, including the Draft 10 Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples.

I trust this letter will be met with a positive response, and I have asked ministry officials to reach out to your team at UBCIC to begin this important discussion.

I want to close by re-iterating that I am very encouraged by the work set out in the Summary Report. We stand at an important moment and together, we can take steps that set us on the path towards recognition and a new relationship of shared accountability and partnership. I look forward to taking this journey with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Fraser', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Scott Fraser  
Minister