



Ref. 51083

April 15, 2021

Regional Chief Terry Teegee
BC Assembly of First Nations
1004 Landooz Road
Prince George BC V2K 5S3
Via email to: maureen.buchan@bcfn.ca

Cheryl Casimer
Robert Phillips
Lydia Hwitsum
First Nations Summit
Suite 1200 – 100 Park Royal South
West Vancouver BC V7T 1A2
Via email to: cbraker@fns.bc.ca

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip
Chief Don Tom
Kukpi7 Judy Wilson
Union of BC Indian Chiefs
401-312 Main Street
Vancouver BC V6A 2T2
Via email to: andrea@ubcic.bc.ca

Dear First Nations Leadership Council:

Your letter of December 18, 2020 addressed to the Honourable John Horgan, Premier, regarding the Tale of Two Nations report, has been forwarded to me for response. Thank you also for your letter of March 26, 2021, addressed to myself and Premier Horgan. We appreciate you taking the time to share your observations and concerns regarding the Métis Nation of British Columbia's report.

The Province has firmly established relationships with First Nations in British Columbia (B.C.), developed through the many years of striving to fulfill the constitutional obligation to consult on land and resource decisions that may adversely affect section 35 rights.

The Province does not have similar relationships established with other Indigenous Nations, including Métis people, who have members who reside in B.C. today. We are clear: any agreement with Métis people in B.C. must not infringe on those First Nations rights.

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That said, the Province continues to be committed to strengthening its relationship with the Métis Nation of British Columbia on matters of joint interest as we seek to honour the diverse and unique needs of the Indigenous peoples of B.C.

I appreciate the opportunity to respond to your letter and your concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Murray Rankin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Murray" and the last name "Rankin" clearly legible.

Murray Rankin, QC
Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

CC: Honourable John Horgan
Premier