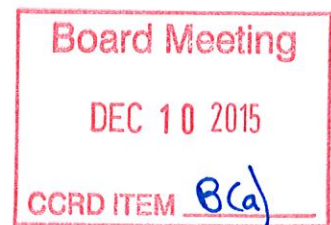


CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DATE: November 13, 2015

ATTENTION

These minutes are draft and subject to amendment. Final approval and adoption is by resolution at the next scheduled meeting.



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES – November 13, 2015

In Attendance:	Electoral Area A	Director Cathi McCullagh (via phone)
	Electoral Area B	Chair Reginald Moody-Humchitt
	Electoral Area C	Director Alison Sayers (via phone)
	Electoral Area D	Director Richard Hall
	Electoral Area E	Director Samuel Schooner
	CAO	Darla Blake
	CFO	Donna Mikkelson (portion)
	CEDO	Tanis Shedden (portion)
	Public Works Manager	Ken McIlwain (portion)
	Local Gov't Intern	Kyle Mettler (portion)
	Recording Secretary	Cheryl Waugh

Members of the gallery – one (portion)

PART I - INTRODUCTION

1. **Call to Order**

The Chair and called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

- a) Late Item C(n) Denny Island Airport Commission minutes dated November 5, 2015
- b) Late Item C(g) Board Remuneration for November 12, 2015 Workshop
- c) Late Item A(a) CCRD Diagnostic Study Analysis of Governance and Service Delivery Issues

15-11-01 M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. **Disclosures of Financial Interest**

The Chair reminded Board Members of the requirements of Sections 100(2)(b) and 101(1)(2) and (3) of the Community Charter to disclose any interest during the meeting when the matter is discussed.

4. **Disclosures of Interests Affecting Impartiality**

The Chair reminded Board Members that in the interest of good governance, where there is a perceived interest that may affect their impartiality in consideration of a matter, a declaration should be made.

(A) **IN CAMERA MATTERS**

- a. Release from in camera

15-11-02 M/S Directors Hall/Schooner that an in camera matter be released

CARRIED

15-11-05IC *M/S Directors Schooner/Sayers that the following be released from in camera:*

That the Central Coast Regional District (CCRD) Diagnostic Study and Analysis of Governance and Service Delivery Issues report prepared by the Chief Administrative Officer and dated November 5, 2015 be released from in camera and delivered in open public meeting on November 13, 2015.

CARRIED

At the in camera meeting held on November 12, 2015 the board of directors conducted an evaluation of the Chief Administrative Officer which included setting goals and strategic priorities for 2016. The board also undertook an assessment of the whole Board, individual directors and the Board Chair, with the assistance of a consultant.

The board also held a workshop regarding an application to the province to conduct a Governance and Service Delivery Study and Analysis, which included a discussion on a possible scope of study resulting in a basis for study Terms of Reference.

The board of directors is very interested to develop a proactive, accountable and transparent process during the course of this study. They will take a proactive role in community engagement and in identification of the issues. At the end of the day, the board hopes to have the central coast communities fully engaged and working collectively for the betterment of our communities and our region. Diversity will only add value to the process and to the study recommendations.

15-11-03 M/S Hall/Sayers that the Board of Directors amends its unanimous decision of September 10, 2015 to read as follows:

THAT the Central Coast Regional District officially requests the province fund a governance study for the Central Coast to undertake a diagnostic study and analysis of governance and service delivery issues; and

THAT the Board request a letter be sent to the Ministry of Community Sport and Cultural Development, explaining the intentions of the Regional District with the request to funding support toward a Governance Study that is split into 3 Phases over the next 2-3 years; and

THAT the Board approve the proposed Terms of Reference for the Governance Study entitled: Central Coast Regional District Diagnostic Study and Analysis of Governance and Service Delivery Issues, subject to any amendments required or suggested by the Ministry; and

THAT, subject to receiving support from the Ministry, staff be directed to develop a work plan for the study, including budget, timeline, and a request for proposal (RFP) for the Board's consideration and approval.

CARRIED

(B) **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

a) Regular Board Meeting, October 8, 2015.

15-11-04 M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that the minutes of the Regular Board meeting dated, October 8, 2015, be adopted.

CARRIED

PART II- PUBLIC CONSULTATION

This item was moved to 10:15 a.m.

1. Delegations –

a. RCMP Community quarterly update – Sgt Thiessen (Chief Webber absent with regrets)

Sgt. Thiessen provided a quarterly update on various RCMP activities and internal planning underway for the Bella Coola detachment. He outlined the type of complaints the detachment handles, the pressures experienced and where the demands of the police are.

2015 compared to 2014 to date

83% decrease in property crimes (mischief/thefts)

Charges submitted to Crown Council are on par

Driving complaints decreased by 63% (does not include impaired driving)

Impaired Driving decreased by 13% likely due to change in enforcement techniques

Assaults increased by 36% and this is a #1 priority for the RCMP to address

Sexual assaults decreased by 43%

Break and Enters decreased by 53%

Part of the performance plan from last year included putting personal offenses at the top. Domestic violence is being addressed in the community through self-awareness workshops on violence against women and sharing information about support services that exist. Consideration is being given to having a similar workshop for men to discuss conflict management and present role models. The domestic violence unit at RCMP Headquarters will develop a program which will be funded by civil forfeiture.

The Chair thanked Sgt. Thiessen who then left the meeting.

b. Elcy LePage of Interior Roads

Elcy LePage, Quality Manager for Interior Roads provided an update on the winter maintenance plan for public roads. They are ready for winter with equipment in place and have two shifts running. Pat Gunderson is the senior foreman for both service areas overseeing both Anahim Lake and the Bella Coola Valley. Snow plowing, sanding and salting priorities were described and there have been no major changes with duties. Interior Roads is working with other stakeholders such as ICBC and the RCMP to educate drivers regarding winter tire specifications and legal requirements.

Interior Roads does not clear driveways when plowing but a grader is sent out after the main snow has been plowed back. The snow plow will create a windrow of snow and the

public is asked not to push it back onto the road as it would create a hazard. Plowing will always be to the right and it was suggested property owners leave a space on the left of the driveway for snow to be deposited thus reducing the amount of snow that will end up on the driveway by the plow.

For any road concerns the best way to contact Interior Roads is to call 1-800-842-4122 which has 24/7 service and a message will be relayed to the foreman within 24 hours.

Ms. LePage announced she will be leaving this service area on January 1st and moving to the 100 Mile area. A new Quality Manager will be introduced to the Board next month.

The Chair thanked Ms. LePage and she left the meeting.

RECESS

RECONVENE

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:49 a.m.

c. Ernest Hall for North & Central Coast Ferry Advisory Committee

Ernest Hall, Bella Coola representative to the North & Central Coast Ferry Advisory Committee spoke to significant developments regarding the restoration of ferry service on the central coast.

Shirley Bond, Minister Responsible for Tourism and Todd Stone, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure have agreed to the formation of a government-supported working group to develop a vision for economic development on the central coast. Aboriginal Tourism BC is forming the working group and once formalized all orders of business will be brought to the CCRD. The desire is to receive this support in writing from Minister Bond.

In communication with BC Ferries plans are still being discussed to replace the MV Nimpkish. The vessel class being considered would be capable of sailing between Bella Coola and Port Hardy in a direct sailing. The hope is there will be future discussion of extending the service through a longer summer season, approximately mid-May to mid-October.

The Chair commented that a lot of work is being undertaken locally and continued pressure should be applied to reinstate a larger vessel to serve the central coast not only for tourism but for economic development.

The Chair thanked Mr. Hall and appreciated all of his efforts. Mr. Hall left the meeting.

PART III – LOCAL GOVERNANCE

(C) OPERATIONS UPDATES & POLICY MATTERS ARISING

Administrative Services

a) Chief Administrative Officer's Report dated November 5, 2015

15-11-05 M/S Directors Sayers/Schooner that the Chief Administrative Officer's Report dated November 5, 2015 be received.

CARRIED

15-11-06 M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that the Strategic Priorities for 2016 be identified in order of weighting as follows: Asset Management Plan 30%, Governance Study 30%, Solid Waste Management Plan 25%, Economic Development Plan 15% and that the Shearwater Water Service be moved to the work plan.

CARRIED

b) Grants

i. NDIT – Local Government Management Intern 2016

15-11-07 M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that the Chief Administrative Officer report dated November 5, 2015, Northern Development Initiative Trust-2016/17 Local Government Management Internship Program application be received

CARRIED

15-11-08 M/S Directors Schooner/Hall THAT the Central Coast Regional District (CCRD) Board of Directors approves Administration making an application to Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) for the purpose of hosting a Local Government Management Intern and if successful NDIT will grant \$35,000 to CCRD from the Northwest Regional Account,

AND THAT the CCRD Board hereby approves the Chair and CAO to sign the Local Government Management Intern grant application, on behalf of the Central Coast Regional District,

AND THAT should CCRD's application be successful, the CAO is authorized to enter into an employment contract with a suitable Local Government Management Intern, for the term of 12 months commencing the 1st May 2016 and expiring on 30 April 2017.

CARRIED

ii. UBCM Asset Management Planning Grant Program & Ministry of Community Sport and Cultural Development, Asset Management Planning, grants for engineering condition assessment of CCRD assets.

Kyle Mettler spoke to the report and answered questions for the board.

15-11-09 M/S Directors Hall/Schooner THAT the CCRD Board of Directors approve an application to UBCM Asset Management Planning Grant Program to help fund an engineering condition assessment of CCRD assets.

CARRIED

- 15-11-10** M/S Directors Hall/Sayers THAT the CCRD Board of Directors approve an application to the Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development to help fund an engineering condition assessment of CCRD assets.

CARRIED

- c) Active Communities Bella Coola – request for Board support resolution for a letter to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Active Communities Bella Coola is making a formal request to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to widen the shoulder sections of Highway 20 in-between 4 Mile Reservation and the Bella Coola townsite. Wider shoulders will provide a safer route for everyone and possible encourage more to walk and/or cycle to/from town.

- 15-11-11** M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that a letter be provided to Active Communities Bella Coola to support their request to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to widen the shoulder sections of Highway 20 in-between 4 Mile Reservation and the Bella Coola town site.

CARRIED

- d) Bella Coola Music Festival – request for Board support resolution to the Bella Coola Music Festival's NDIT Grant application.

- 15-11-12** M/S Directors Hall/Sayers that the board authorize a letter be sent supporting the Bella Coola Music Festival's application to Northern Development Initiative Trust for the Bella Coola Music Festival funding in the amount of \$2500 from the 'Fabulous Festivals and Events' 2015/2016 funding.

CARRIED

Financial Services

- e) Financial Report January – October 2015, dated November 5, 2015

The CFO presented a brief financial statement of revenues and expenditures for the first ten months of the year. Revenues are below budget due to grants not yet claimed and grants approved but not yet received. Claims are generally filed at year end.

Expenditures are also below budget, but for the most part, will be brought into line as costs continue to accumulate. Some exceptions were noted.

- 15-11-13** M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that the Financial Report January – October 2015, dated November 5, 2015, be received.

CARRIED

- f) Budget Discussion on Revenue Sources – dated November 5, 2015

The regional district will see a drop in revenue sources for 2016. Notably, the provincial Strategic Community Investment Fund (SCIF) will be reduced by \$15,000, affecting several functions. This shortfall requires mitigation if the regional district is to maintain service levels.

Known expenditures that are expected to increase, at this early stage in budget development, will affect Solid Waste Management, Land Use Planning, the Bella Coola Airport and the Swimming Pool.

- The regional board has already approved a new rates and charges bylaw for the airport, and this will offset most of the anticipated expenditures.
- The Swimming Pool is anticipating a longer season next year and their user fees and rentals are also expected to increase, but not enough to cover the increase in expenses.
- Solid Waste Management increases will be offset by an increase in the Nuxalk Nation contribution in addition to a tax levy increase. User fees are currently under consideration for this function as well, since they have not changed in several years.
- Unfortunately, the Land Use Planning function has few options in terms of increasing revenues, but expenditures must be accommodated if the regional district is to move forward in a meaningful way with updating the Official Community Plan and accompanying mapping. Seeking funding from grant programs has been exhausted with more than disappointing results, so the default must be a tax levy increase.

Input was requested from the board. Options for consideration included a redistribution of the SCIF amongst the various services provided by the regional district, user fee increases, local contribution agreements or Impact Benefit Agreement and always, a closer look at the areas where expenses may be reduced.

15-11-14 M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that the Budget Discussion on Revenue Sources dated November 5, 2015 be received.

CARRIED

Return to Part II - Public Consultation

g) Board Remuneration for November 12, 2015 Workshop

15-11-15 M/S Directors Hall/Sayers that the Central Coast Regional District Board of Directors be remunerated for the workshops held November 12, 2015, in the amount of \$150.00 to each director, in accordance with the CCRD Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw 442, 1(c).

CARRIED

Development Services

h) Economic Development

i. Community Economic Development Report dated November 5, 2015

Community Economic Development Officer (CEDO), Tanis Shedden reported the Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) is seeking a replacement for a community at large member. The next meeting of the EDAC is November 26th.

The Central Coast Chamber of Commerce Business Fair has been postponed to November 21st.

The Grant Writing Workshop held on October 16th was well received with 38 in attendance. Additional workshop opportunities are being explored.

A representative from the BC Food System Network came to the valley earlier in November to meet with a group of local producers and retailers. There are exciting opportunities for small pilot projects in partnership with local retailers, producers, restaurants and community organizations. Action items will continue to be developed into 2016. Thank you to the 17 enthusiastic attendees.

The CAO and CEDO have submitted an application to the NDI's 2016 Economic Development Capacity Building program.

Director Sayers thanked Ms. Shedden for all of the outreach work she has been doing.

15-11-16 M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that Community Economic Development Report dated November 5, 2015 be received. **CARRIED**

i) Land Use Planning – report dated November 5, 2015.

The Land Use Planning report tracks the interest of the public regarding enquiries related to the regional district's Zoning and Official Community Plan (OCP) bylaws, maps and other information regarding land use planning.

15-11-17 M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that the Land Use Planning Report dated November 5, 2015 be received. **CARRIED**

j) Official Community Planning, Advisory Committee minutes dated November 3, 2015

15-11-18 M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that the OCPAC minutes dated November 3, 2015 be received. **CARRIED**

Public Works

k) Public Works Monthly report dated November 5, 2015

Public Works Manager, Ken McIlwain spoke to some of the highlights of his report.

Solid Waste Management- The Ministry of Environment (MoE) is in the final stage of developing the second edition of the guidelines for municipal landfills, titled "Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste". The Public Works Manager recently attended a webinar hosted by the MoE which focused on the new, upcoming landfill criteria. This will be posted on the Ministry's website by next week and there may be exemptions for small landfills and other levels of flexibility. There are some areas they won't be compromising, such as required engineering reports. Once reviewed, the Public Works Manager will report back to the Board. Last year a working group

was formed and the CCRD contributed a modest sum to be part of the group and gave our official comments on the original draft form and we also participated via the Coast Waste Management Association. The Ministry appears to have listened to the areas of concern but this will be unknown until the revised guidelines have been reviewed.

Recycling is going very well with a doubling of the product amount going to Multi-Materials BC. The metal pile has also been removed with 400 tons gone.

Recreation Facilities- The Walker Island concession building construction is almost to lockup stage. More than 80% of the wood has been milled locally and was sourced from landfill clearing project.

Bella Coola Townsite Water System- Recent servicing of fire hydrants in townsite was tied in with a Nuxalk Nation contractor to share hydrant servicing

15-11-19 M/S Directors Sayers/Schooner that the Public Works Department Report dated November 5, 2015 be received.

CARRIED

Leisure Services Commissions

l) Denny Island Recreation Commission minutes dated October 8, 2015

15-11-20 M/S Directors Hall/Sayers that the Denny Island Recreation Commission minutes dated October 8, 2015 be received.

CARRIED

Item b) c., b) d. and Item d) a. & b. require clarification by the Board. The CAO will seek clarification for the above items from the Denny Island Recreation Commission October 8 minutes and report back to the Board.

Transportation Services

m) Bella Coola Airport/Denny Island Airport report dated November 5, 2015

15-11-21 M/S Directors McCullagh/Sayers that the Bella Coola Airport/Denny Island Airport report dated November 5, 2015 be received.

CARRIED

n) Denny Island Airport Commission minutes dated November 5, 2015 – late item

15-11-22 M/S Directors McCullagh/Schooner that the Denny Island Airport Commission minutes dated November 5, 2015 be received.

CARRIED

RECESS

RECONVENE

The regular meeting reconvened at 12:12pm

(D) EXECUTIVE REPORTS

a) Chair's Report – Reg Moody-Humchitt provided a short verbal statement related to BC Ferries and Ernest Hall's presentation. He has been very involved with the caucus and next steps will be forming the working group committee and moving forward from there.

b) Electoral Area Reports

i. Area A – Director McCullagh – no report

ii. Area B - *see Chair's Report*

iii. Area C – Director's report dated November 5, 2015

15-11-23 M/S Directors Hall/McCullagh that the report from the Director for Area C, dated November 5, 2015 be received.

CARRIED

iv. Area D – Director Hall – no report

v. Area E – nothing to report

(E) BYLAWS AND POLICIES

a) A-21 – Use of Flood Mitigation Resources

15-11-24 M/S Directors Sayers/McCullagh that Policy A-21 Use of Flood Mitigation Resources be approved as amended.

CARRIED

b) E-5 - Directors Attendance at Board Meetings

15-11-25 M/S Directors Schooner/McCullagh that E-5 - Directors Attendance at Board Meetings be approved as amended.

CARRIED

c) F-2 – Directors/Travel Cost Reimbursement

15-11-26 M/S Directors McCullagh/Hall that Policy F-2 – Directors/Travel Cost Reimbursement be rescinded.

CARRIED

d) F-5 – Administration Cost Recovery from Services

15-11-27 M/S Directors McCullagh/Hall that Policy F-5 – Administration Cost Recovery from Services be approved as amended.

CARRIED

e) F-17 – Application for Grant-in-Aid

15-11-28 M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that Policy F-17 – Application for Grant-in-Aid be approved as amended.

CARRIED

PART IV– GENERAL BUSINESS

(F) GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Municipal Insurance Association – MIABC Dividend Cheque
- b) Auditor General for Local Government – Introduction of new Auditor General

15-11-29 M/S Directors Schooner/Hall that items (F)(a) & (b) be received.

CARRIED

(G) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Chair

Corporate Officer

RECEIVED

DEC 03 2015

CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

BYLAW NO. 449
SCHEDULE "C"

Central Coast Regional District

DELEGATION to BOARD REQUEST FORM

Date of Application: 12/3/2015 Board Meeting Date 12/10/2015

Name of person or group wishing to appear before the Board of Directors: Greg Sayers

Address: 4217 HWY 20, Hazelrig BC V0T1H0

Number of people attending: 1 Spokesperson Name: Greg Sayers

Subject of presentation: Physician Assistants in British Columbia

Purpose of presentation:

- information only
- requesting a letter of support
- Other (provide details)

Request that board forward letter & supporting materials to UBCM healthy communities committee

Contact person (if different than above): _____

Daytime telephone number: 250 982 0074

Email address: willcreek medexp@fastmail.FM

Will you be providing supporting documentation? yes no

If yes:

- handouts at meeting (recommend delivered in advance)
- PowerPoint presentation
- publication in agenda (one original due by 4:00 pm seven days prior to your appearance date)
- Other (explain) letter

* Delegations will have a maximum of 15 minutes to make their presentation to the Board.
* Delegation speakers, please be advised that: All questions and answers during a delegation must only be directed or received to Board members. No questions are to be directed or received from the public.

* NOTE: Report for decision will appear elsewhere on the agenda.

Board Meeting
DEC 10 2015
CCRD ITEM B1.(a)

RECEIVED

DEC 03 2015

November 30, 2015

Central Coast Regional District
PO Box 186
Bella Coola, BC V0T 1C0

Central Coast Regional District

Dear Central Coast Regional District Directors,

I am writing to ask for your assistance in advocating to the province of British Columbia regarding the licensing and regulation of Physician Assistants (PAs). PAs play a critical role in health care in several provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, and New Brunswick), as well as in the Canadian Military, and have been very successful in the United States for 50 years. I have attached the BC Medical Association policy regarding PAs, which provides details regarding use of PAs by other provinces. Here is a short bit of the policy itself:

The BCMA supports the establishment and deployment of physician assistants (PAs) in British Columbia.

To ensure the optimal integration of PAs into BC's health care system, the BCMA recommends:

- *PAs be recognized by the provincial government as a regulated profession, with regulatory oversight by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia.*
- *Accessible, affordable, and adequate liability coverage be made available to and required of all PAs.*
- *The provincial government explore stable funding options for PAs.*

I have resided in the Central Coast region for over 7 years now, yet have been unable to practice medicine in my own Province due to lack of legislation in BC regarding my profession. Many other communities across BC also face challenges with access to adequate and affordable health care in their communities. Physician Assistants can fill many gaps in BC's medical services in a cost-effective manner, chief among these being lack of providers and continuity of care in rural and remote areas.

Please review the attached policy of the BCMA, and letter to Ministry of Health from the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA). And, please consider advocating to the province for the licensing of this very important and successful profession, through whatever means available to you. This is something that would not only benefit the residents of our regional district, but the residents of many other districts throughout the province as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Gregory H. Sayers, PA
PO Box 276
Hagensborg, BC V0T 1H0
250-982-0074



January 29, 2014

The Honourable Terry Lake
Minister of Health, British Columbia
PO Box 9050
STN PROV GOV
Victoria, BC

Dear Minister:

The Canadian Association of Physician Assistants would like to request the opportunity to meet with you in the coming months to discuss the introduction of the Physician Assistant (PA) profession in British Columbia.

PAs have been working in the Canadian Armed Forces for approximately 50 years and in the US for the last 40 years with almost 90,000 practicing today. PAs have been recognized as a health professional by the Canadian Medical Association since 2003 and are currently practicing within the public health care systems in the provinces of New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, and recently in Alberta. Working in collaboration with and under the supervision of a physician, PAs are physician extenders that can enhance the productivity of the physician and augment their practice. Scientific literature has documented that PAs can contribute to a reduction in wait times in emergency departments as part of emergency health care teams; an issue that we understand is of concern in the province, and in other areas of specialty. In addition, PAs are ideal for practice in rural and remote settings ultimately allowing the supervising physician to practice in one location while the PA practices, under the supervision of the physician, in another location. This patient-centered approach to medical care could have a significant impact in reducing wait times, improving patient flow and in providing access to quality health care for all residents of British Columbia.

It is CAPA's desire to see the PA profession introduced into the BC health system. CAPA has members residing in British Columbia who are qualified, medically trained and competent that would welcome the opportunity to work in this province.

CAPA has had ongoing discussions with Doctors BC as well as the College of Physicians and Surgeons regarding the introduction of the profession in the province. Both organizations are supportive of the profession and its integration into the BC health care system. Also Doctors BC has committed to participating in this meeting should the occasion arise.

Page 1 of 2

CAPA would welcome insight and recommendations from you on how we can work together to introduce the PA profession into the public health care system in BC.

We would like to thank you for your time and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Chris Rhule, MHS, CCPA, PA-C
National President
president@capa-acam.ca



Jack Buchanan, MPAS, CCPA
Pacific Chapter President
pacificchapterpresident@capa-acam.ca

Physician Assistants

Last Updated: October 2013

BCMA Position

- The BCMA supports the establishment and deployment of physician assistants (PAs) in British Columbia.
- To ensure the optimal integration of PAs into BC's health care system, the BCMA recommends:
 - PAs be recognized by the provincial government as a regulated profession, with regulatory oversight by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia.
 - Accessible, affordable, and adequate liability coverage be made available to and required of all PAs.
 - The provincial government explore stable funding options for PAs.

Background

Definition. PAs are health care professionals who provide a broad range of medical services with physician supervision [1]. PAs can perform a supplementary role in which physicians delegate tasks to improve the efficiency of care provided and/or a complementary role in primary care teams [2]. They may also provide care in a community where no physician is available.

PAs can work in any clinical setting to extend physician services [1]. Consequently, they may be employed in hospitals, within physician practices, in rural and remote communities, and in Aboriginal communities. In the United States, over 83,000 PAs are estimated to be active in clinical practice [3]. In Canada, PAs work in health care settings in Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, and in the Canadian Forces [1]. Recently, Alberta Health has hired two PAs in each the province's five health care zones as part of a pilot project to increase patients' access to care. PAs are not currently licensed to practise in British Columbia.

Education and Training. PAs are trained as generalists, following a formal course of medical education including 24 to 26 months of medical sciences (didactic) and clinical clerkships (preceptor) [4]. Four schools in Canada offer PA programs accredited by the Canadian Medical Association: The University of Toronto, McMaster University, the University of Manitoba, and the

Canadian Forces Medical Services School (Base Borden).

Scope of practice. PAs may perform any clinical duties delegated by physicians. The scope of practice for PAs is determined on an individual basis and typically outlined in a practice contract or agreement between the supervising physician(s), the PA, and the facility or service where the PA works [1].

Working as team members, PAs commonly perform diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive, and health maintenance services, which vary by practice setting [5]. Supervising physicians must be licensed to practise in their jurisdiction and be willing to exercise continuous supervision over the PA. This does not, however, necessarily require the continuous physical presence of the supervising physician at the time and place that services are rendered. Manitoba, for example, has established regulations describing how a physician is expected to supervise a PA remotely [6].

Experiences with PAs. In the US, the PA profession was established in the 1960s to improve and expand health care [7]. Data from US medical centres reveal that PAs provide a high degree of value and contribute to improvements in: continuity of care, access, patient safety, patient throughput, and length of stay [8]. In addition, practising PAs in the US have allowed

physicians to better use their time and talents to serve patients with complex conditions [9].

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MHLTC) has supported the introduction of PAs to address areas of high need as part of the HealthForceOntario health human resources strategy to reduce wait times and improve patient care. In 2008, MHLTC completed an emergency department pilot project, an evaluation which found that the use of PAs was associated with shorter wait times, shorter patient stays in the emergency department, and fewer patients leaving the hospital without being seen [10].

The use of PAs in a Manitoba orthopedic surgery program demonstrates that PAs can be well-integrated into care teams and can be used to increase surgical volume, which reduces wait times in a cost-effective manner [11]. Evidence also indicates patients have positive opinions of PAs and find that they provide useful information and communicate aspects of care, which contributes to a positive experience [11].

Analysis

The BCMA supports the establishment and deployment of PAs as one way to address the shortage of health human resources in the province. The preferred model for utilizing PAs in BC is through collaborative care teams under the supervision of physicians.

Because of their unique practice model, their generalist training, and potentially broad scope of practice, there are many opportunities to utilize PAs in BC. A systematic review of the role of PAs in rural health care suggests that PAs are a good fit for rural practice and are well-received by communities and physicians [12]. The review also notes that PAs practising in rural communities possess a larger scope of practice than PAs in urban settings, a necessary quality to match the extensive health care needs of rural populations [12]. Thus, one area to deploy PAs would be in rural communities in BC to improve access to under-served areas and populations.

Other settings to deploy PAs include areas of medicine where their presence will improve access the most, such as anaesthesia, surgery/OR assists, emergency departments, and primary care. Provinces using PAs

have demonstrated that they are a valuable part of the health care system. The benefit of PAs includes improved access and increased quality of care. As a result, the BCMA recommends that PAs be recognized as a regulated profession in BC. This includes ensuring the provision of accessible, affordable, and adequate liability coverage for all PAs, in addition to the exploration of funding by the provincial government. Because PAs practise with physician supervision, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC is the most appropriate body to regulate PAs.

References

1. Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. *About PAs*. Available at <http://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/>. Accessed August 30, 2013.
2. Everett, C.M., Schumacher, Wright, and Smith. *Physician assistants and nurse practitioners as a usual source of care*. *Journal of Rural Health* 2009, 25(4): 407-414.
3. American Academy of Physician Assistants. *2010 AAPA Physician assistant census*. 2010 Alexandria, VA.
4. Jones I.W. *What is a PA?* Presentation at the 2nd National PA Symposium, Ottawa ON, October 5, 2008.
5. Legler, C.D., Cawley and Fenn. *Physician assistants: education, practice and global interest*. *Medical Teachers* 2007, 29:e22-e25.
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7. American Academy of Physician Assistants. *Quick facts: Past, present, and future*. Available at http://www.aapa.org/the_pa_profession/quick_facts/resources/item.aspx?id=3840. Accessed August 30, 2013.
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9. Kimball, B.A., and Rothwell, W.S. *Physician assistant practice in Minnesota: Providing care as part of a physician-directed team*. *Minnesota Medicine* 2008, 91(5): 45-48.
10. Tepper J. *Physician assistants in Ontario: The road traveled*. Presentation at the 2nd National PA Symposium, Ottawa ON, October 5, 2008.
11. Bohm, E.R et al. *Experience with physician assistants in a Canadian arthroplasty program*. *Canadian Journal of Surgery* 2010, 53(2): 103-108.
12. Henry, L.R., et al. *The role of physician assistants in rural health care: A systematic review of the literature*. *Journal of Rural Health* 2011, 27(2): 220-229.



CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

TO: Chair Reg Moody and Board of Directors

FROM: Darla Blake, CAO

**SUBJECT: CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT -
03 December 2015**

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Chief Administrative Officer's Report dated 03 December 2015 be received.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The endorsed CCRD Integrated Strategic Plan 2015-2019 is now available on the CCRD website. If members of the public would like a hard copy they can come into the CCRD office to obtain a copy.

The 2015 Strategic Priorities are:

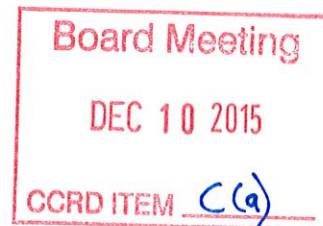
1. **Solid Waste Management Plan:** See Public Works Manager's report.
2. **Shearwater Water System:**
See Public Works Manager's report.
3. **Asset Management Planning:**
See Public Works Manager's report.
4. **Official Community Plan:** No meeting held, no update available.
5. **Economic Development Plan:**
See Economic Development Officer Report.

The 2016 Strategic Priorities: (more information on Feb 2016 agenda)

1. **Asset Management Planning:** Weighted 30%
2. **Governance Study – Phase 1:** Weighted 30%
3. **Solid Waste Management Plan:** Weighted 25%
4. **Economic Development Plan:** Weighted 15%

Moved to the 2016 Work Plan:

- Shearwater Water System (awaiting more information on grants)
- Official Community Plan (for completion in 2017)



GOVERNANCE MATTERS

Governance and Service Delivery Analysis and Study

This is to advise the board that as resolved at the November 2015 meeting (Resolution 15-11-03) a letter has been sent to the Ministry of Community Sport and Cultural Development requesting the Province assist with funding for the CCRD to undertake a diagnostic study and analysis of governance and service delivery issues, for the region.

The board will be kept informed as more information comes to hand.

GENERAL

Meeting with Nuxalk Nation Administrator

On 26 November 2015, the Nuxalk Nation Administrator (Wilma Mack) and CCRD Chief Administrative Officer (Darla Blake) met to discuss budget matters relating to several agreements between the two organizations.

The meeting was very productive and both agreed they would meet again, as there are many opportunities, and common topics to discuss, as well as information sharing that would benefit both our communities, in the future.

NDIT – 2016-2017 Local Government Management Internship Grant

To advise the board, as per the board resolution 15-11-08 at its 13 November 2015 meeting, the application to NDIT 2016-2017 Local Government Management Internship Grant has been completed and sent for their consideration.

Active Communities – Bella Coola request for support

As per the board resolution 15-11-11 at its 13 November 2015 meeting, a letter of support to widen and pave the shoulder of Hwy 20 between 4 Mile Reservation and the Bella Coola town site was written and sent.

The board may like to know, a thank you note for the letter of support was sent to CCRD.

Bella Coola Music Festival NDIT funding - request for support

As per the board resolution 15-11-12 at its 13 November 2015 meeting, a letter of support for the Bella Coola Music Festival's application for NDIT funding was written and sent.

The board may like to know, a note thanking CCRD for the letter of support for the NDIT funding was received. We were also advised that the Music Festival were successful in their application.

Respectfully Submitted



Darla Blake
Chief Administrative Officer



CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

DATE: 3 December 2015

TO: Board Chair Reginald Moody and Board Members

FROM: Darla Blake, Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: **Request for Board support and advocacy – Gregory Sayers**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Central Coast Regional District directs the Chief Administrative Officer to write to the Ministry of Health regarding licensing and regulating of Physician Assistants in British Columbia; with copies and support material sent to UBCM and AVICC requesting they broadcast the request for support to all local governments, on this matter.

DISCUSSION

The Board received a letter from Gregory Sayers, a qualified registered Physician Assistant, asking for Board assistance in advocating to the province of British Columbia regarding the licensing and regulation of Physician Assistants (PAs).

While the Province has not established licensing and regulating of PAs, the BC Medical Association does support the establishment and deployment of physician assistants (PAs).

Attached for your information is a copy of the BCMA policy and a letter to the Ministry of Health from the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA).

Respectfully Submitted

Darla Blake
Chief Administrative Officer

Board Meeting
 DEC 10 2015
 CCRD ITEM C(6)

RECEIVED

DEC 03 2015

November 30, 2015

Central Coast Regional District
 PO Box 186
 Bella Coola, BC V0T 1C0

Central Coast Regional District

Dear Central Coast Regional District Directors,

I am writing to ask for your assistance in advocating to the province of British Columbia regarding the licensing and regulation of Physician Assistants (PAs). PAs play a critical role in health care in several provinces (Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, and New Brunswick), as well as in the Canadian Military, and have been very successful in the United States for 50 years. I have attached the BC Medical Association policy regarding PAs, which provides details regarding use of PAs by other provinces. Here is a short bit of the policy itself:

The BCMA supports the establishment and deployment of physician assistants (PAs) in British Columbia.

To ensure the optimal integration of PAs into BC's health care system, the BCMA recommends:

- *PAs be recognized by the provincial government as a regulated profession, with regulatory oversight by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia.*
- *Accessible, affordable, and adequate liability coverage be made available to and required of all PAs.*
- *The provincial government explore stable funding options for PAs.*

I have resided in the Central Coast region for over 7 years now, yet have been unable to practice medicine in my own Province due to lack of legislation in BC regarding my profession. Many other communities across BC also face challenges with access to adequate and affordable health care in their communities. Physician Assistants can fill many gaps in BC's medical services in a cost-effective manner, chief among these being lack of providers and continuity of care in rural and remote areas.

Please review the attached policy of the BCMA, and letter to Ministry of Health from the Canadian Association of Physician Assistants (CAPA). And, please consider advocating to the province for the licensing of this very important and successful profession, through whatever means available to you. This is something that would not only benefit the residents of our regional district, but the residents of many other districts throughout the province as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Gregory H. Sayers, PA
 PO Box 276
 Hagensborg, BC V0T 1H0
 250-982-0074



January 29, 2014

The Honourable Terry Lake
Minister of Health, British Columbia
PO Box 9050
STN PROV GOV
Victoria, BC

Dear Minister:

The Canadian Association of Physician Assistants would like to request the opportunity to meet with you in the coming months to discuss the introduction of the Physician Assistant (PA) profession in British Columbia.

PAs have been working in the Canadian Armed Forces for approximately 50 years and in the US for the last 40 years with almost 90,000 practicing today. PAs have been recognized as a health professional by the Canadian Medical Association since 2003 and are currently practicing within the public health care systems in the provinces of New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, and recently in Alberta. Working in collaboration with and under the supervision of a physician, PAs are physician extenders that can enhance the productivity of the physician and augment their practice. Scientific literature has documented that PAs can contribute to a reduction in wait times in emergency departments as part of emergency health care teams; an issue that we understand is of concern in the province, and in other areas of specialty. In addition, PAs are ideal for practice in rural and remote settings ultimately allowing the supervising physician to practice in one location while the PA practices, under the supervision of the physician, in another location. This patient-centered approach to medical care could have a significant impact in reducing wait times, improving patient flow and in providing access to quality health care for all residents of British Columbia.

It is CAPA's desire to see the PA profession introduced into the BC health system. CAPA has members residing in British Columbia who are qualified, medically trained and competent that would welcome the opportunity to work in this province.

CAPA has had ongoing discussions with Doctors BC as well as the College of Physicians and Surgeons regarding the introduction of the profession in the province. Both organizations are supportive of the profession and its integration into the BC health care system. Also Doctors BC has committed to participating in this meeting should the occasion arise.

Page 1 of 2

CAPA would welcome insight and recommendations from you on how we can work together to introduce the PA profession into the public health care system in BC.

We would like to thank you for your time and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Chris Rhule, MHS, CCPA, PA-C
National President
president@capa-acam.ca



Jack Buchanan, MPAS, CCPA
Pacific Chapter President
pacificchapterpresident@capa-acam.ca

Physician Assistants

Last Updated: October 2013

BCMA Position

- The BCMA supports the establishment and deployment of physician assistants (PAs) in British Columbia.
- To ensure the optimal integration of PAs into BC's health care system, the BCMA recommends:
 - PAs be recognized by the provincial government as a regulated profession, with regulatory oversight by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia.
 - Accessible, affordable, and adequate liability coverage be made available to and required of all PAs.
 - The provincial government explore stable funding options for PAs.

Background

Definition. PAs are health care professionals who provide a broad range of medical services with physician supervision [1]. PAs can perform a supplementary role in which physicians delegate tasks to improve the efficiency of care provided and/or a complementary role in primary care teams [2]. They may also provide care in a community where no physician is available.

PAs can work in any clinical setting to extend physician services [1]. Consequently, they may be employed in hospitals, within physician practices, in rural and remote communities, and in Aboriginal communities. In the United States, over 83,000 PAs are estimated to be active in clinical practice [3]. In Canada, PAs work in health care settings in Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, and in the Canadian Forces [1]. Recently, Alberta Health has hired two PAs in each the province's five health care zones as part of a pilot project to increase patients' access to care. PAs are not currently licensed to practise in British Columbia.

Education and Training. PAs are trained as generalists, following a formal course of medical education including 24 to 26 months of medical sciences (didactic) and clinical clerkships (preceptor) [4]. Four schools in Canada offer PA programs accredited by the Canadian Medical Association: The University of Toronto, McMaster University, the University of Manitoba, and the

Canadian Forces Medical Services School (Base Borden).

Scope of practice. PAs may perform any clinical duties delegated by physicians. The scope of practice for PAs is determined on an individual basis and typically outlined in a practice contract or agreement between the supervising physician(s), the PA, and the facility or service where the PA works [1].

Working as team members, PAs commonly perform diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive, and health maintenance services, which vary by practice setting [5]. Supervising physicians must be licensed to practise in their jurisdiction and be willing to exercise continuous supervision over the PA. This does not, however, necessarily require the continuous physical presence of the supervising physician at the time and place that services are rendered. Manitoba, for example, has established regulations describing how a physician is expected to supervise a PA remotely [6].

Experiences with PAs. In the US, the PA profession was established in the 1960s to improve and expand health care [7]. Data from US medical centres reveal that PAs provide a high degree of value and contribute to improvements in: continuity of care, access, patient safety, patient throughput, and length of stay [8]. In addition, practising PAs in the US have allowed

physicians to better use their time and talents to serve patients with complex conditions [9].

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MHLTC) has supported the introduction of PAs to address areas of high need as part of the HealthForceOntario health human resources strategy to reduce wait times and improve patient care. In 2008, MHLTC completed an emergency department pilot project, an evaluation which found that the use of PAs was associated with shorter wait times, shorter patient stays in the emergency department, and fewer patients leaving the hospital without being seen [10].

The use of PAs in a Manitoba orthopedic surgery program demonstrates that PAs can be well-integrated into care teams and can be used to increase surgical volume, which reduces wait times in a cost-effective manner [11]. Evidence also indicates patients have positive opinions of PAs and find that they provide useful information and communicate aspects of care, which contributes to a positive experience [11].

Analysis

The BCMA supports the establishment and deployment of PAs as one way to address the shortage of health human resources in the province. The preferred model for utilizing PAs in BC is through collaborative care teams under the supervision of physicians.

Because of their unique practice model, their generalist training, and potentially broad scope of practice, there are many opportunities to utilize PAs in BC. A systematic review of the role of PAs in rural health care suggests that PAs are a good fit for rural practice and are well-received by communities and physicians [12]. The review also notes that PAs practising in rural communities possess a larger scope of practice than PAs in urban settings, a necessary quality to match the extensive health care needs of rural populations [12]. Thus, one area to deploy PAs would be in rural communities in BC to improve access to under-served areas and populations.

Other settings to deploy PAs include areas of medicine where their presence will improve access the most, such as anaesthesia, surgery/OR assists, emergency departments, and primary care. Provinces using PAs

have demonstrated that they are a valuable part of the health care system. The benefit of PAs includes improved access and increased quality of care. As a result, the BCMA recommends that PAs be recognized as a regulated profession in BC. This includes ensuring the provision of accessible, affordable, and adequate liability coverage for all PAs, in addition to the exploration of funding by the provincial government. Because PAs practise with physician supervision, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC is the most appropriate body to regulate PAs.

References

1. Canadian Association of Physician Assistants. *About PAs*. Available at <http://capa-acam.ca/about-pas/>. Accessed August 30, 2013.
2. Everett, C.M., Schumacher, Wright, and Smith. *Physician assistants and nurse practitioners as a usual source of care*. *Journal of Rural Health* 2009, 25(4): 407-414.
3. American Academy of Physician Assistants. *2010 AAPA Physician assistant census*. 2010 Alexandria, VA.
4. Jones I.W. *What is a PA?* Presentation at the 2nd National PA Symposium, Ottawa ON, October 5, 2008.
5. Legler, C.D., Cawley and Fenn. *Physician assistants: education, practice and global interest*. *Medical Teachers* 2007, 29:e22-e25.
6. Clinical Assistants Regulation. Man. Reg. 183/99. Available at <http://www.canlii.org/mb/laws/regu/1999r.183/20080818/whole.html>. Accessed March 17, 2009.
7. American Academy of Physician Assistants. *Quick facts: Past, present, and future*. Available at http://www.aapa.org/the_pa_profession/quick_facts/resources/item.aspx?id=3840. Accessed August 30, 2013.
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9. Kimball, B.A., and Rothwell, W.S. *Physician assistant practice in Minnesota: Providing care as part of a physician-directed team*. *Minnesota Medicine* 2008, 91(5): 45-48.
10. Tepper J. *Physician assistants in Ontario: The road traveled*. Presentation at the 2nd National PA Symposium, Ottawa ON, October 5, 2008.
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12. Henry, L.R., et al. *The role of physician assistants in rural health care: A systematic review of the literature*. *Journal of Rural Health* 2011, 27(2): 220-229.

2016 CCRD Board

Agenda Decline

Directors Mtg

Stat Holiday

Conventions

JANUARY

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JULY

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AUGUST

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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LGMA CAO Forum Feb

MFA AGM - March 31st - CAO/CEO Forum - March 29-30

AVICC - Apr 8-10

UBCM - Sept 26-30

Board Meeting

CCRD ITEM



Central Coast Regional District
Board Appointments
December 10, 2015

Commissions/Committees

Centennial Pool Commission,	1. Joan Cole 2. Nicola Koroluk 3. Janice Kyle 4. Brian Lande	5. Karen Lansdowne 6. Connie Nygaard 7.
Denny Island Airport Commission	Board Director 1. Ingmar Lee 2. Danny Oliver	3. Mark Schlichting 4. Doug Sharkey 5. Jean Wood
Denny Island Recreation Commission	Board Director 1. Crystal Anderson 2. Sharon Beloin 3. Ernie China	4. Steve Emery 5. Ingmar Lee 6. Mary Leslie 7. Kathy Sereda
Emergency Executive Committee	1. Board Director to Chair 2. Secretary 3. Emergency Coordinator Nuxalk Nation Rep, Roger Harris	4. Deputy Coordinator – Ocean Falls 5. Deputy Coordinator – Denny Island
Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC)	1. Board Director 2. Randy Hart, Nuxalk Dev Corp 3. Bo Reid, Heiltsuk Economic Dev Corp. 4. Tracy Switzer Ocean Falls	5. Ana Santos, Denny Island 6. Garrett Newkirk, Bella Coola Harbour 7. Lori Campbell 8. Ernest Hall 9. Chris Quinn,
Fire Department Executive Committee	1. Board Director 2. Chief, Fred Sorenson	3. Deputy Chief, Gilles Dionne 4. Secretary, Janice Kyle



Association Board Appointments

Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC)	1. board member 2. alternate
Bella Coola Harbour Authority	1. board member
Coast Sustainability Trust Regional Steering Committee (CSTII)	1. board member 2. alternate
Municipal Finance Authority (MFA)	1. board member 2. alternate
Municipal Insurance Association (MIA)	1. board member 2. alternate
Northern Development Initiative (NDI)	1. board member 2. alternate
Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL)	1. board member 2. alternate

Board Meeting

DEC 10 2015

CCRD ITEM _____



CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

DATE: 03 December 2015

TO: Board Chair Reginald Moody and Board Members

FROM: Darla Blake, Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT: **Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada:
Calls to Action pertaining to local governments**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Central Coast Board of Directors receives the information.

That the CCRD Board of Directors approves the items under “what CCRD can do”, as CCRD steps forward in its commitment to Truth and Reconciliation at a local level.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 3: An Enhanced and Strengthened Region

Objective 3.2: Continually strengthened intergovernmental relationships

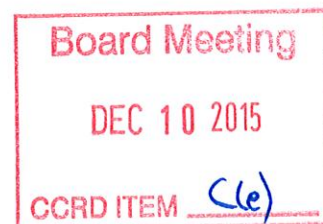
Strategy: Continually liaise with all First Nations within our district

BACKGROUND

After six years of hearings and testimony, a summary of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) summary report, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling the Future*, was released to the public on June 2, 2015.

The report contained 'Calls to Action', several of which were directed to, or actionable by, local governments. To initiate dialogue on the TRC recommendations, Dr. Marie Wilson, Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, was invited to address the assembly at the 2015 UBCM Convention in Vancouver. She reminded the assembly that this is only the beginning of the reconciliation journey, and challenged local governments to advance the process of reconciliation at the local level.

At the 8 October 2015 CCRD board meeting, it was resolved to direct staff to research the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action and to provide a report to the Board as to how these could be implemented within the CCRD.



DISCUSSION

Of the 94 'Calls to Action', 15 relate to municipal and/or all orders of government:

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) summary report, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling the Future*, was only just released to the public on June 2, 2015. It is still early days to see exactly what actions the various levels of government will embrace as their 'Call to Action'; and with the new federal government, it is also premature to see what possible funding may be made available from the federal government to assist the various levels of government to achieve recommended actions.

CCRD administration read and researched the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report, and identified 15 related municipal 'Calls to Action'. Many of the 15 'Calls to Action' are well beyond the resources within the CCRD to undertake, however they are not beyond the board advocating on behalf of First Nations.

Administration would suggest the board take a pragmatic approach to any 'Call to Action' they can achieve, with the view that should/when the federal government introduce new programs and/or funds to support the TRC recommendations, this would significantly assist CCRD to possibly embrace more actions.

Truth & Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action pertaining to local governments

Child Welfare

3. *We call upon **all levels of government** to fully implement Jordan's Principle.*

Jordan's Principle is a child-first principle intended to ensure that First Nations children do not experience denials, delays or disruptions of public services ordinarily available to other children due to jurisdictional disputes. The Principle is an essential mechanism for protecting the human, constitutional and treaty rights of First Nations children.

What CCRD can do?

CCRD Board will advocate to other levels of government for assurances that the implementation of Jordan's Principle are a government priority, and that governments are actively working with First Nations to fully implement the child-first protections.

Language & Culture

17. *We call upon **all levels of government** to enable residential school Survivors and their families to reclaim names changed by the residential school system by waiving administrative costs for a period of five years for the name-change process and the revision of official identity documents, such as birth certificates, passports, driver's licenses, health cards, status cards, and social insurance numbers.*

What CCRD can do?

CCRD will advocate for the affordable reclamation of personal names.

Health

23. *We call upon all levels of government to:*
- i. *Increase the number of Aboriginal professionals working in the health-care field*
 - ii. *Ensure the retention of Aboriginal health-care providers in Aboriginal communities*
 - iii. *Provide cultural competency training for all health-care professionals*

What CCRD can do?

CCRD will advocate for the retention of Aboriginal health-care providers in Aboriginal communities.

CCRD will advocate for an increase in the numbers of Aboriginal health professionals to serve in our communities.

Justice

40. *We call on all levels of government, in collaboration with Aboriginal people, to create adequately funded and accessible Aboriginal-specific victim programs and services with appropriate evaluation mechanisms.*

What CCRD can do?

CCRD will advocate other levels of government for the creation and evaluation of Aboriginal-specific victim programs and services.

Canadian Governments and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People

43. *We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation.*

What CCRD can do?

CCRD Board and Administration will read the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People to further understand the matters of reconciliation, and we have included in this board agenda a copy of the document for public knowledge and information.

CCRD will advocate to other levels of government they read, comprehend, adopt and then implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples principles, and implement recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, relevant to their particular level of government.

Royal Proclamation and Covenant of Reconciliation

47. *We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and **municipal governments** to repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous peoples and lands, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius, and to reform those laws, government policies, and litigation strategies that continue to rely on such concepts.*

What CCRD can do?

CCRD will review any CCRD policies/bylaws that may rely on concepts of European sovereignty.

National Council for Reconciliation

55. *We call upon **all levels of government** to provide annual reports or any current data requested by the National Council for Reconciliation so that it can report on the progress towards reconciliation. The reports or data would include, but not be limited to:*

What CCRD can do?

CCRD will monitor and report on its progress of CCRD agreed "Calls to Action" through our Annual Report and we will provide annual data to the National Council for Reconciliation, on request.

Professional Development and Training for Public Servants

57. *We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and **municipal governments** to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal Rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.*

What CCRD can do?

CCRD will commit in its 2016 budget, funds to educate all Administration and a minimum of 2 directors to undertake Indigenous Cultural Competency training.

Education and Reconciliation

64. *We call upon **all levels of government** that provide public funds to denomination schools to require such schools to provide an education on comparative religious studies.*

What CCRD can do?

While CCRD does not provide public funding to schools, CCRD will commit to advocating the province, that publically funded denominated schools teach comparative religious studies, including Aboriginal spiritual beliefs.

Missing Children and Burial Information

- 75. *We call upon the federal government to work with provincial, territorial, and **municipal governments**, churches, Aboriginal communities, former residential school students, and current landowners to develop and implement strategies and procedures for the ongoing identification, documentation, maintenance, commemoration, and protection of residential school cemeteries or other sites at which residential school children were buried. This is to include the provision of appropriate memorial ceremonies and commemorative markers to honour the deceased children.*

- 76. *We call upon the parties engaged in the work of documenting, maintaining, commemorating, and protecting residential school cemeteries to adopt strategies in accordance with the following principles:*
 - i. *The Aboriginal community most affected shall lead the development of such strategies.*
 - ii. *Information shall be sought from residential school Survivors and other Knowledge Keepers in the development of such strategies*
 - iii. *Aboriginal protocols shall be respected before any potentially invasive technical inspection and investigation of a cemetery site.*

What CCRD can do?

CCRD has no involvement in cemeteries, however, we will advocate and encourage others to maintain and honour commemorative gravesites of missing residential school children.

CCRD will support a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

(These comments cover items #75 & 76)

National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation

- 77. *We call upon provincial, territorial, **municipal**, and community **archives** to work collaboratively with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to identify and collect copies of all records relevant to the history and legacy of the residential school system, and to provide these to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.*

What CCRD can do?

CCRD will provide any archival records it may hold (if any), on request.

Sports and Reconciliation

87. *We call upon **all levels of government**, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, sports halls of fame, and other relevant organizations, to provide public education that tells the national story of Aboriginal athletes in history.*
88. *We call upon **all levels of government** to take action to ensure long-term Aboriginal athlete development and growth, and continued support for the North American Indigenous Games, including funding to host the games and for provincial and territorial team preparation and travel.*

What CCRD can do?

The CCRD will work collaboratively with our local First Nations to advocate and support Indigenous sports development and competitions, as budgets may allow.

(This comment covers items # 87 & 88)

Business and Reconciliation

92. *We call upon **the corporate sector** in Canada to adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a reconciliation framework and to apply its principles, norms, and standards to corporate policy and core operational activities involving Indigenous peoples and their lands and resources. This would include, but not be limited to, the following:*
- i. Commit to meaningful consultation, building respectful relationships, and obtaining the free, prior, and informed consent of Indigenous peoples before proceeding with economic development projects.*
 - ii. Ensure that Aboriginal peoples have equitable access to jobs, training, and education opportunities in the corporate sector, and that Aboriginal communities gain long-term sustainable benefits from economic development projects*
 - iii. Provide education for management and staff on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.*

What CCRD can do?

CCRD will continue its commitment to strengthen intergovernmental relationships and continually liaising with all First Nations within our district. We will do this by undertaking meaningful consultation, building respectful relationship and gaining informed consent on development projects.

It should be noted that CCRD currently, works collaboratively with First Nations, in our region, on many aspects of CCRD business, these include but are not limited to:

- Representatives from Nuxalk and Heiltsuk Nations Economic Development Corporations, sit on the Economic Development Advisory Committee
- A collaborative agreement on Solid Waste Management with the Nuxalk Nation, whose contributions equals that of property tax contributions.
- A collaborative agreement on Emergency Management with the Nuxalk Nation
- A collaborative Mutual Aid agreement for additional Fire Service provision
- A collaborative service agreement for the provision of water service to the Bella Coola town site.
- Continue with collaborative Community 2 Community forums with our First Nations neighbours, discussing issues in common and finding pathways together to overcome these.

CCRD will develop an Equal Opportunity Employment policy that ensures Aboriginal peoples have equitable access to jobs, training, and professional development when employed by CCRD.

CONSULTATION

N/A

LEGISLATION /POLICY

N/A

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Within current approved budget: No

2016 Budget – Indigenous Cultural Competency Training budget for staff and 2 directors Yes

RISK MANAGEMENT

Administration has evaluated potential risks with the proposal and assessed these as negligible with no requirements for controls.

CONCLUSION

The Board has indicated they wish to embrace the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations, and requested Administration provide a report on how the local government relevant recommendations, could be implemented within the CCRD.

Reconciliation begins with each and every one of us. Reconciliation also requires courageous leadership, commitment and a sustained effort to achieve any 'call to action' recommendations CCRD may approve, as outlined above in this report.

Our actions must be done in meaningful, concrete ways and by working collaboratively with Aboriginal peoples. At the same time, recognizing CCRD as a small regional district has limitations to our financial and human resources which may impact on what we can achieve.

However, as local leaders much can be done - it is important to lead by example, demonstrating our commitment to making changes where we can and to continually foster positive relationship with Aboriginal peoples, based on honesty and respect. This is in addition to CCRD's biggest contribution, which is our role as advocate and lobbyist, asking other levels of government to also commit and adhere to the principles and Truth & Reconciliation Commission recommendations – therein lies the first of many steps on the path to reconciliation.

FROM TRUTH TO ACTION AT THE CCRD LEVEL:

It is therefore recommended, the CCRD Board of Directors approves the items above under "what CCRD can do", as CCRD steps forward in its commitment to Truth and Reconciliation at a local level.

Respectfully submitted



Darla Blake
Chief Administrative Officer



Truth and
Reconciliation
Commission of Canada

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action



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2015

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, 2012

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Calls to Action

In order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission makes the following calls to action.

Legacy

CHILD WELFARE

1. We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to commit to reducing the number of Aboriginal children in care by:
 - i. Monitoring and assessing neglect investigations.
 - ii. Providing adequate resources to enable Aboriginal communities and child-welfare organizations to keep Aboriginal families together where it is safe to do so, and to keep children in culturally appropriate environments, regardless of where they reside.
 - iii. Ensuring that social workers and others who conduct child-welfare investigations are properly educated and trained about the history and impacts of residential schools.
 - iv. Ensuring that social workers and others who conduct child-welfare investigations are properly educated and trained about the potential for Aboriginal communities and families to provide more appropriate solutions to family healing.
 - v. Requiring that all child-welfare decision makers consider the impact of the residential school experience on children and their caregivers.
2. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with the provinces and territories, to prepare and publish annual reports on the number of Aboriginal children (First Nations, Inuit, and Métis) who are in care, compared with non-Aboriginal children, as well as the reasons for apprehension, the total spending on preventive and care services by child-welfare agencies, and the effectiveness of various interventions.
3. We call upon all levels of government to fully implement Jordan's Principle.
4. We call upon the federal government to enact Aboriginal child-welfare legislation that establishes national standards for Aboriginal child apprehension and custody cases and includes principles that:
 - i. Affirm the right of Aboriginal governments to establish and maintain their own child-welfare agencies.
 - ii. Require all child-welfare agencies and courts to take the residential school legacy into account in their decision making.
 - iii. Establish, as an important priority, a requirement that placements of Aboriginal children into temporary and permanent care be culturally appropriate.
5. We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to develop culturally appropriate parenting programs for Aboriginal families.

EDUCATION

6. We call upon the Government of Canada to repeal Section 43 of the *Criminal Code of Canada*.
7. We call upon the federal government to develop with Aboriginal groups a joint strategy to eliminate

educational and employment gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians.

- 8. We call upon the federal government to eliminate the discrepancy in federal education funding for First Nations children being educated on reserves and those First Nations children being educated off reserves.
- 9. We call upon the federal government to prepare and publish annual reports comparing funding for the education of First Nations children on and off reserves, as well as educational and income attainments of Aboriginal peoples in Canada compared with non-Aboriginal people.
- 10. We call on the federal government to draft new Aboriginal education legislation with the full participation and informed consent of Aboriginal peoples. The new legislation would include a commitment to sufficient funding and would incorporate the following principles:
 - i. Providing sufficient funding to close identified educational achievement gaps within one generation.
 - ii. Improving education attainment levels and success rates.
 - iii. Developing culturally appropriate curricula.
 - iv. Protecting the right to Aboriginal languages, including the teaching of Aboriginal languages as credit courses.
 - v. Enabling parental and community responsibility, control, and accountability, similar to what parents enjoy in public school systems.
 - vi. Enabling parents to fully participate in the education of their children.
 - vii. Respecting and honouring Treaty relationships.
- 11. We call upon the federal government to provide adequate funding to end the backlog of First Nations students seeking a post-secondary education.
- 12. We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to develop culturally appropriate early childhood education programs for Aboriginal families.

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

- 13. We call upon the federal government to acknowledge that Aboriginal rights include Aboriginal language rights.

- 14. We call upon the federal government to enact an Aboriginal Languages Act that incorporates the following principles:
 - i. Aboriginal languages are a fundamental and valued element of Canadian culture and society, and there is an urgency to preserve them.
 - ii. Aboriginal language rights are reinforced by the Treaties.
 - iii. The federal government has a responsibility to provide sufficient funds for Aboriginal-language revitalization and preservation.
 - iv. The preservation, revitalization, and strengthening of Aboriginal languages and cultures are best managed by Aboriginal people and communities.
 - v. Funding for Aboriginal language initiatives must reflect the diversity of Aboriginal languages.
- 15. We call upon the federal government to appoint, in consultation with Aboriginal groups, an Aboriginal Languages Commissioner. The commissioner should help promote Aboriginal languages and report on the adequacy of federal funding of Aboriginal-languages initiatives.
- 16. We call upon post-secondary institutions to create university and college degree and diploma programs in Aboriginal languages.
- 17. We call upon all levels of government to enable residential school Survivors and their families to reclaim names changed by the residential school system by waiving administrative costs for a period of five years for the name-change process and the revision of official identity documents, such as birth certificates, passports, driver's licenses, health cards, status cards, and social insurance numbers.

HEALTH

- 18. We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to acknowledge that the current state of Aboriginal health in Canada is a direct result of previous Canadian government policies, including residential schools, and to recognize and implement the health-care rights of Aboriginal people as identified in international law, constitutional law, and under the Treaties.
- 19. We call upon the federal government, in consultation with Aboriginal peoples, to establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes

between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and to publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends. Such efforts would focus on indicators such as: infant mortality, maternal health, suicide, mental health, addictions, life expectancy, birth rates, infant and child health issues, chronic diseases, illness and injury incidence, and the availability of appropriate health services.

20. In order to address the jurisdictional disputes concerning Aboriginal people who do not reside on reserves, we call upon the federal government to recognize, respect, and address the distinct health needs of the Métis, Inuit, and off-reserve Aboriginal peoples.
21. We call upon the federal government to provide sustainable funding for existing and new Aboriginal healing centres to address the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual harms caused by residential schools, and to ensure that the funding of healing centres in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories is a priority.
22. We call upon those who can effect change within the Canadian health-care system to recognize the value of Aboriginal healing practices and use them in the treatment of Aboriginal patients in collaboration with Aboriginal healers and Elders where requested by Aboriginal patients.
23. We call upon all levels of government to:
 - i. Increase the number of Aboriginal professionals working in the health-care field.
 - ii. Ensure the retention of Aboriginal health-care providers in Aboriginal communities.
 - iii. Provide cultural competency training for all health-care professionals.
24. We call upon medical and nursing schools in Canada to require all students to take a course dealing with Aboriginal health issues, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, and Indigenous teachings and practices. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

JUSTICE

25. We call upon the federal government to establish a written policy that reaffirms the independence of the

Royal Canadian Mounted Police to investigate crimes in which the government has its own interest as a potential or real party in civil litigation.

26. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to review and amend their respective statutes of limitations to ensure that they conform to the principle that governments and other entities cannot rely on limitation defences to defend legal actions of historical abuse brought by Aboriginal people.
27. We call upon the Federation of Law Societies of Canada to ensure that lawyers receive appropriate cultural competency training, which includes the history and legacy of residential schools, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.
28. We call upon law schools in Canada to require all law students to take a course in Aboriginal people and the law, which includes the history and legacy of residential schools, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.
29. We call upon the parties and, in particular, the federal government, to work collaboratively with plaintiffs not included in the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement to have disputed legal issues determined expeditiously on an agreed set of facts.
30. We call upon federal, provincial, and territorial governments to commit to eliminating the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in custody over the next decade, and to issue detailed annual reports that monitor and evaluate progress in doing so.
31. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to provide sufficient and stable funding to implement and evaluate community sanctions that will provide realistic alternatives to imprisonment for Aboriginal offenders and respond to the underlying causes of offending.
32. We call upon the federal government to amend the Criminal Code to allow trial judges, upon giving reasons, to depart from mandatory minimum sentences and restrictions on the use of conditional sentences.

33. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to recognize as a high priority the need to address and prevent Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), and to develop, in collaboration with Aboriginal people, FASD preventive programs that can be delivered in a culturally appropriate manner.
34. We call upon the governments of Canada, the provinces, and territories to undertake reforms to the criminal justice system to better address the needs of offenders with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), including:
 - i. Providing increased community resources and powers for courts to ensure that FASD is properly diagnosed, and that appropriate community supports are in place for those with FASD.
 - ii. Enacting statutory exemptions from mandatory minimum sentences of imprisonment for offenders affected by FASD.
 - iii. Providing community, correctional, and parole resources to maximize the ability of people with FASD to live in the community.
 - iv. Adopting appropriate evaluation mechanisms to measure the effectiveness of such programs and ensure community safety.
35. We call upon the federal government to eliminate barriers to the creation of additional Aboriginal healing lodges within the federal correctional system.
36. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to work with Aboriginal communities to provide culturally relevant services to inmates on issues such as substance abuse, family and domestic violence, and overcoming the experience of having been sexually abused.
37. We call upon the federal government to provide more supports for Aboriginal programming in halfway houses and parole services.
38. We call upon the federal, provincial, territorial, and Aboriginal governments to commit to eliminating the overrepresentation of Aboriginal youth in custody over the next decade.
39. We call upon the federal government to develop a national plan to collect and publish data on the criminal victimization of Aboriginal people, including data related to homicide and family violence victimization.

40. We call on all levels of government, in collaboration with Aboriginal people, to create adequately funded and accessible Aboriginal-specific victim programs and services with appropriate evaluation mechanisms.
41. We call upon the federal government, in consultation with Aboriginal organizations, to appoint a public inquiry into the causes of, and remedies for, the disproportionate victimization of Aboriginal women and girls. The inquiry's mandate would include:
 - i. Investigation into missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls.
 - ii. Links to the intergenerational legacy of residential schools.
42. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to commit to the recognition and implementation of Aboriginal justice systems in a manner consistent with the Treaty and Aboriginal rights of Aboriginal peoples, the *Constitution Act, 1982*, and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, endorsed by Canada in November 2012.

Reconciliation

CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS AND THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

43. We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* as the framework for reconciliation.
44. We call upon the Government of Canada to develop a national action plan, strategies, and other concrete measures to achieve the goals of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.

ROYAL PROCLAMATION AND COVENANT OF RECONCILIATION

45. We call upon the Government of Canada, on behalf of all Canadians, to jointly develop with Aboriginal peoples a Royal Proclamation of Reconciliation to be issued by the Crown. The proclamation would build on the Royal Proclamation of 1763 and the Treaty of Niagara of 1764, and reaffirm the nation-to-nation relationship between Aboriginal peoples and the Crown. The proclamation would include, but not be limited to, the following commitments:

- i. Repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples such as the Doctrine of Discovery and *terra nullius*.
 - ii. Adopt and implement the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* as the framework for reconciliation.
 - iii. Renew or establish Treaty relationships based on principles of mutual recognition, mutual respect, and shared responsibility for maintaining those relationships into the future.
 - iv. Reconcile Aboriginal and Crown constitutional and legal orders to ensure that Aboriginal peoples are full partners in Confederation, including the recognition and integration of Indigenous laws and legal traditions in negotiation and implementation processes involving Treaties, land claims, and other constructive agreements.
46. We call upon the parties to the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement to develop and sign a Covenant of Reconciliation that would identify principles for working collaboratively to advance reconciliation in Canadian society, and that would include, but not be limited to:
- i. Reaffirmation of the parties' commitment to reconciliation.
 - ii. Repudiation of concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and *terra nullius*, and the reformation of laws, governance structures, and policies within their respective institutions that continue to rely on such concepts.
 - iii. Full adoption and implementation of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* as the framework for reconciliation.
 - iv. Support for the renewal or establishment of Treaty relationships based on principles of mutual recognition, mutual respect, and shared responsibility for maintaining those relationships into the future.
 - v. Enabling those excluded from the Settlement Agreement to sign onto the Covenant of Reconciliation.
 - vi. Enabling additional parties to sign onto the Covenant of Reconciliation.

47. We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous peoples and lands, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and *terra nullius*, and to reform those laws, government policies, and litigation strategies that continue to rely on such concepts.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT PARTIES AND THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

48. We call upon the church parties to the Settlement Agreement, and all other faith groups and interfaith social justice groups in Canada who have not already done so, to formally adopt and comply with the principles, norms, and standards of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* as a framework for reconciliation. This would include, but not be limited to, the following commitments:
- i. Ensuring that their institutions, policies, programs, and practices comply with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.
 - ii. Respecting Indigenous peoples' right to self-determination in spiritual matters, including the right to practise, develop, and teach their own spiritual and religious traditions, customs, and ceremonies, consistent with Article 12:1 of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.
 - iii. Engaging in ongoing public dialogue and actions to support the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.
 - iv. Issuing a statement no later than March 31, 2016, from all religious denominations and faith groups, as to how they will implement the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.
49. We call upon all religious denominations and faith groups who have not already done so to repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and *terra nullius*.

EQUITY FOR ABORIGINAL PEOPLE IN THE LEGAL SYSTEM

50. In keeping with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, we call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal organizations, to fund the establishment of Indigenous law institutes for the development, use, and

understanding of Indigenous laws and access to justice in accordance with the unique cultures of Aboriginal peoples in Canada.

51. We call upon the Government of Canada, as an obligation of its fiduciary responsibility, to develop a policy of transparency by publishing legal opinions it develops and upon which it acts or intends to act, in regard to the scope and extent of Aboriginal and Treaty rights.
52. We call upon the Government of Canada, provincial and territorial governments, and the courts to adopt the following legal principles:
 - i. Aboriginal title claims are accepted once the Aboriginal claimant has established occupation over a particular territory at a particular point in time.
 - ii. Once Aboriginal title has been established, the burden of proving any limitation on any rights arising from the existence of that title shifts to the party asserting such a limitation.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR RECONCILIATION

53. We call upon the Parliament of Canada, in consultation and collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to enact legislation to establish a National Council for Reconciliation. The legislation would establish the council as an independent, national, oversight body with membership jointly appointed by the Government of Canada and national Aboriginal organizations, and consisting of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal members. Its mandate would include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - i. Monitor, evaluate, and report annually to Parliament and the people of Canada on the Government of Canada's post-apology progress on reconciliation to ensure that government accountability for reconciling the relationship between Aboriginal peoples and the Crown is maintained in the coming years.
 - ii. Monitor, evaluate, and report to Parliament and the people of Canada on reconciliation progress across all levels and sectors of Canadian society, including the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.
 - iii. Develop and implement a multi-year National Action Plan for Reconciliation, which includes research and policy development, public education programs, and resources.
54. We call upon the Government of Canada to provide multi-year funding for the National Council for Reconciliation to ensure that it has the financial, human, and technical resources required to conduct its work, including the endowment of a National Reconciliation Trust to advance the cause of reconciliation.
55. We call upon all levels of government to provide annual reports or any current data requested by the National Council for Reconciliation so that it can report on the progress towards reconciliation. The reports or data would include, but not be limited to:
 - i. The number of Aboriginal children—including Métis and Inuit children—in care, compared with non-Aboriginal children, the reasons for apprehension, and the total spending on preventive and care services by child-welfare agencies.
 - ii. Comparative funding for the education of First Nations children on and off reserves.
 - iii. The educational and income attainments of Aboriginal peoples in Canada compared with non-Aboriginal people.
 - iv. Progress on closing the gaps between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities in a number of health indicators such as: infant mortality, maternal health, suicide, mental health, addictions, life expectancy, birth rates, infant and child health issues, chronic diseases, illness and injury incidence, and the availability of appropriate health services.
 - v. Progress on eliminating the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children in youth custody over the next decade.
 - vi. Progress on reducing the rate of criminal victimization of Aboriginal people, including data related to homicide and family violence victimization and other crimes.
 - vii. Progress on reducing the overrepresentation of Aboriginal people in the justice and correctional systems.
56. We call upon the prime minister of Canada to formally respond to the report of the National Council for Reconciliation by issuing an annual "State of Aboriginal Peoples" report, which would outline the government's plans for advancing the cause of reconciliation.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS

57. We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

CHURCH APOLOGIES AND RECONCILIATION

58. We call upon the Pope to issue an apology to Survivors, their families, and communities for the Roman Catholic Church's role in the spiritual, cultural, emotional, physical, and sexual abuse of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis children in Catholic-run residential schools. We call for that apology to be similar to the 2010 apology issued to Irish victims of abuse and to occur within one year of the issuing of this Report and to be delivered by the Pope in Canada.
59. We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement to develop ongoing education strategies to ensure that their respective congregations learn about their church's role in colonization, the history and legacy of residential schools, and why apologies to former residential school students, their families, and communities were necessary.
60. We call upon leaders of the church parties to the Settlement Agreement and all other faiths, in collaboration with Indigenous spiritual leaders, Survivors, schools of theology, seminaries, and other religious training centres, to develop and teach curriculum for all student clergy, and all clergy and staff who work in Aboriginal communities, on the need to respect Indigenous spirituality in its own right, the history and legacy of residential schools and the roles of the church parties in that system, the history and legacy of religious conflict in Aboriginal families and communities, and the responsibility that churches have to mitigate such conflicts and prevent spiritual violence.
61. We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement, in collaboration with Survivors and representatives of Aboriginal organizations, to establish permanent funding to Aboriginal people for:
- i. Community-controlled healing and reconciliation projects.

- ii. Community-controlled culture- and language-revitalization projects.
- iii. Community-controlled education and relationship-building projects.
- iv. Regional dialogues for Indigenous spiritual leaders and youth to discuss Indigenous spirituality, self-determination, and reconciliation.

EDUCATION FOR RECONCILIATION

62. We call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments, in consultation and collaboration with Survivors, Aboriginal peoples, and educators, to:
- i. Make age-appropriate curriculum on residential schools, Treaties, and Aboriginal peoples' historical and contemporary contributions to Canada a mandatory education requirement for Kindergarten to Grade Twelve students.
 - ii. Provide the necessary funding to post-secondary institutions to educate teachers on how to integrate Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods into classrooms.
 - iii. Provide the necessary funding to Aboriginal schools to utilize Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods in classrooms.
 - iv. Establish senior-level positions in government at the assistant deputy minister level or higher dedicated to Aboriginal content in education.
63. We call upon the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada to maintain an annual commitment to Aboriginal education issues, including:
- i. Developing and implementing Kindergarten to Grade Twelve curriculum and learning resources on Aboriginal peoples in Canadian history, and the history and legacy of residential schools.
 - ii. Sharing information and best practices on teaching curriculum related to residential schools and Aboriginal history.
 - iii. Building student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect.
 - iv. Identifying teacher-training needs relating to the above.
64. We call upon all levels of government that provide public funds to denominational schools to require such schools to provide an education on comparative religious studies, which must include a segment on

Aboriginal spiritual beliefs and practices developed in collaboration with Aboriginal Elders.

65. We call upon the federal government, through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, post-secondary institutions and educators, and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation and its partner institutions, to establish a national research program with multi-year funding to advance understanding of reconciliation.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

66. We call upon the federal government to establish multi-year funding for community-based youth organizations to deliver programs on reconciliation, and establish a national network to share information and best practices.

MUSEUMS AND ARCHIVES

67. We call upon the federal government to provide funding to the Canadian Museums Association to undertake, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, a national review of museum policies and best practices to determine the level of compliance with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and to make recommendations.
68. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, and the Canadian Museums Association to mark the 150th anniversary of Canadian Confederation in 2017 by establishing a dedicated national funding program for commemoration projects on the theme of reconciliation.
69. We call upon Library and Archives Canada to:
- i. Fully adopt and implement the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and the *United Nations Joint-Orientlicher Principles*, as related to Aboriginal peoples' inalienable right to know the truth about what happened and why, with regard to human rights violations committed against them in the residential schools.
 - ii. Ensure that its record holdings related to residential schools are accessible to the public.
 - iii. Commit more resources to its public education materials and programming on residential schools.
70. We call upon the federal government to provide funding to the Canadian Association of Archivists to undertake, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, a national review of archival policies and best practices to:

- i. Determine the level of compliance with the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and the *United Nations Joint-Orientlicher Principles*, as related to Aboriginal peoples' inalienable right to know the truth about what happened and why, with regard to human rights violations committed against them in the residential schools.
- ii. Produce a report with recommendations for full implementation of these international mechanisms as a reconciliation framework for Canadian archives.

MISSING CHILDREN AND BURIAL INFORMATION

71. We call upon all chief coroners and provincial vital statistics agencies that have not provided to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada their records on the deaths of Aboriginal children in the care of residential school authorities to make these documents available to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.
72. We call upon the federal government to allocate sufficient resources to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to allow it to develop and maintain the National Residential School Student Death Register established by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.
73. We call upon the federal government to work with churches, Aboriginal communities, and former residential school students to establish and maintain an online registry of residential school cemeteries, including, where possible, plot maps showing the location of deceased residential school children.
74. We call upon the federal government to work with the churches and Aboriginal community leaders to inform the families of children who died at residential schools of the child's burial location, and to respond to families' wishes for appropriate commemoration ceremonies and markers, and reburial in home communities where requested.
75. We call upon the federal government to work with provincial, territorial, and municipal governments, churches, Aboriginal communities, former residential school students, and current landowners to develop and implement strategies and procedures for the ongoing identification, documentation, maintenance, commemoration, and protection of residential school cemeteries or other sites at which residential school children were buried. This is to include the provision of

appropriate memorial ceremonies and commemorative markers to honour the deceased children.

76. We call upon the parties engaged in the work of documenting, maintaining, commemorating, and protecting residential school cemeteries to adopt strategies in accordance with the following principles:
- i. The Aboriginal community most affected shall lead the development of such strategies.
 - ii. Information shall be sought from residential school Survivors and other Knowledge Keepers in the development of such strategies.
 - iii. Aboriginal protocols shall be respected before any potentially invasive technical inspection and investigation of a cemetery site.

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

77. We call upon provincial, territorial, municipal, and community archives to work collaboratively with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to identify and collect copies of all records relevant to the history and legacy of the residential school system, and to provide these to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation.
78. We call upon the Government of Canada to commit to making a funding contribution of \$10 million over seven years to the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, plus an additional amount to assist communities to research and produce histories of their own residential school experience and their involvement in truth, healing, and reconciliation.

COMMEMORATION

79. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Survivors, Aboriginal organizations, and the arts community, to develop a reconciliation framework for Canadian heritage and commemoration. This would include, but not be limited to:
- i. Amending the Historic Sites and Monuments Act to include First Nations, Inuit, and Métis representation on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada and its Secretariat.
 - ii. Revising the policies, criteria, and practices of the National Program of Historical Commemoration to integrate Indigenous history, heritage values, and memory practices into Canada's national heritage and history.

iii. Developing and implementing a national heritage plan and strategy for commemorating residential school sites, the history and legacy of residential schools, and the contributions of Aboriginal peoples to Canada's history.

80. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process.
81. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Survivors and their organizations, and other parties to the Settlement Agreement, to commission and install a publicly accessible, highly visible, Residential Schools National Monument in the city of Ottawa to honour Survivors and all the children who were lost to their families and communities.
82. We call upon provincial and territorial governments, in collaboration with Survivors and their organizations, and other parties to the Settlement Agreement, to commission and install a publicly accessible, highly visible, Residential Schools Monument in each capital city to honour Survivors and all the children who were lost to their families and communities.
83. We call upon the Canada Council for the Arts to establish, as a funding priority, a strategy for Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists to undertake collaborative projects and produce works that contribute to the reconciliation process.

MEDIA AND RECONCILIATION

84. We call upon the federal government to restore and increase funding to the CBC/Radio-Canada, to enable Canada's national public broadcaster to support reconciliation, and be properly reflective of the diverse cultures, languages, and perspectives of Aboriginal peoples, including, but not limited to:
- i. Increasing Aboriginal programming, including Aboriginal-language speakers.
 - ii. Increasing equitable access for Aboriginal peoples to jobs, leadership positions, and professional development opportunities within the organization.
 - iii. Continuing to provide dedicated news coverage and online public information resources on issues of concern to Aboriginal peoples and all Canadians,

including the history and legacy of residential schools and the reconciliation process.

85. We call upon the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, as an independent non-profit broadcaster with programming by, for, and about Aboriginal peoples, to support reconciliation, including but not limited to:
- i. Continuing to provide leadership in programming and organizational culture that reflects the diverse cultures, languages, and perspectives of Aboriginal peoples.
 - ii. Continuing to develop media initiatives that inform and educate the Canadian public, and connect Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Canadians.
86. We call upon Canadian journalism programs and media schools to require education for all students on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations.

SPORTS AND RECONCILIATION

87. We call upon all levels of government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, sports halls of fame, and other relevant organizations, to provide public education that tells the national story of Aboriginal athletes in history.
88. We call upon all levels of government to take action to ensure long-term Aboriginal athlete development and growth, and continued support for the North American Indigenous Games, including funding to host the games and for provincial and territorial team preparation and travel.
89. We call upon the federal government to amend the Physical Activity and Sport Act to support reconciliation by ensuring that policies to promote physical activity as a fundamental element of health and well-being, reduce barriers to sports participation, increase the pursuit of excellence in sport, and build capacity in the Canadian sport system, are inclusive of Aboriginal peoples.
90. We call upon the federal government to ensure that national sports policies, programs, and initiatives are inclusive of Aboriginal peoples, including, but not limited to, establishing:
- i. In collaboration with provincial and territorial governments, stable funding for, and access to, community sports programs that reflect the diverse

cultures and traditional sporting activities of Aboriginal peoples.

- ii. An elite athlete development program for Aboriginal athletes.
 - iii. Programs for coaches, trainers, and sports officials that are culturally relevant for Aboriginal peoples.
 - iv. Anti-racism awareness and training programs.
91. We call upon the officials and host countries of international sporting events such as the Olympics, Pan Am, and Commonwealth games to ensure that Indigenous peoples' territorial protocols are respected, and local Indigenous communities are engaged in all aspects of planning and participating in such events.

BUSINESS AND RECONCILIATION

92. We call upon the corporate sector in Canada to adopt the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* as a reconciliation framework and to apply its principles, norms, and standards to corporate policy and core operational activities involving Indigenous peoples and their lands and resources. This would include, but not be limited to, the following:
- i. Commit to meaningful consultation, building respectful relationships, and obtaining the free, prior, and informed consent of Indigenous peoples before proceeding with economic development projects.
 - ii. Ensure that Aboriginal peoples have equitable access to jobs, training, and education opportunities in the corporate sector, and that Aboriginal communities gain long-term sustainable benefits from economic development projects.
 - iii. Provide education for management and staff on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

NEWCOMERS TO CANADA

93. We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with the national Aboriginal organizations, to revise the information kit for newcomers to Canada and its citizenship test to reflect a more inclusive history of the diverse Aboriginal peoples of Canada, including

information about the Treaties and the history of residential schools.

94. We call upon the Government of Canada to replace the Oath of Citizenship with the following:

I swear (or affirm) that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, Her Heirs and Successors, and that I will faithfully observe the laws of Canada including Treaties with Indigenous Peoples, and fulfill my duties as a Canadian citizen.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada

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[Home](#) > Canada Endorses the UN Declaration On The Rights Of Indigenous Peoples

Canada Endorses the UN Declaration On The Rights Of Indigenous Peoples

On November 12th the government of Canada finally formally endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The government's official statement falls far short of actual endorsement, however, emphasizing that the declaration "does not reflect customary international law nor change Canadian laws" and further emphasizing Canada's objection to most of the major rights spelled out in the declaration. First Nations leaders nonetheless welcomed the announcement as a step in the right direction. Shawn Atleo, the national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, issued a statement saying that, "Today marks an important shift in our relationship, and now, the real work begins. Now is our time to work together towards a new era of fairness and justice for First Nations and a stronger Canada for all Canadians, guided by the Declaration's core principles of respect, partnership and reconciliation."

Canada's announcement leaves the United States as the only country still maintaining its vote against the declaration in the UN General Assembly. The Obama administration is reviewing its position on the declaration, but has yet to actually reverse that position. To support

Cultural Survival's campaign to persuade Obama to endorse the declaration, click [here](#) ^[1].

[Read a joint statement of First Nation organizations in response to Canada's endorsement of the Declaration](#) ^[2]

Canada's Statement of Support on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

"Today, Canada joins other countries in supporting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In doing so, Canada reaffirms its commitment to promoting and protecting the rights of Indigenous peoples at home and abroad.

The Government of Canada would like to acknowledge the Aboriginal men and women who played an important role in the development of this Declaration.

The Declaration is an aspirational document which speaks to the individual and collective rights of Indigenous peoples, taking into account their specific cultural, social and economic circumstances.

Although the Declaration is a non-legally binding document that does not reflect customary international law nor change Canadian laws, our endorsement gives us the opportunity to reiterate our commitment to continue working in partnership with Aboriginal peoples in creating a better Canada.

Under this government, there has been a shift in Canada's relationship with First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, exemplified by the Prime Minister's historic apology to former students of Indian Residential Schools, the creation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the apology for relocation of Inuit families to the High Arctic and the honouring of Métis veterans at Juno Beach.

These events charted a new path for this country as a whole, one marked by hope and reconciliation and focused on cherishing the richness and depth of diverse Aboriginal cultures.

Canada continues to make exemplary progress and build on its positive relationship with Aboriginal peoples throughout the country, a relationship based on good faith, partnership and mutual respect.

The Government's vision is a future in which Aboriginal families and communities are healthy, safe, self-sufficient and prosperous within a Canada where people make their own decisions, manage their own affairs and make strong contributions to the country as a whole.

The Government has shown strong leadership by protecting the rights of Aboriginal people in Canada. The amendment to the Canadian Human Rights Act, the proposed Gender Equity in Indian Registration Act and the proposed legislation concerning matrimonial real property rights on reserve are just a few recent examples.

This government has also taken concrete and viable actions in important areas such as education, skills development, economic development, employment, health care, housing and access to safe drinking water. These are part of a continuing agenda focused on real results with willing and able partners.

At the international level Canada has been a strong voice for the protection of human rights. Canada is party to numerous United Nations human rights conventions which give expression to this commitment.

Canada has a constructive and far-reaching international development program that helps to improve the situation of Indigenous peoples in many parts of the world. Canada's active involvement abroad, coupled with its productive partnership with Aboriginal Canadians, is having a real impact in advancing indigenous rights and freedoms, at home and abroad.

In 2007, at the time of the vote during the United Nations General Assembly, and since, Canada placed on record its concerns with various provisions of the Declaration, including provisions dealing with lands, territories and resources; free, prior and informed consent when used as a veto; self-government without recognition of the importance of negotiations; intellectual property; military issues; and the need to achieve an appropriate balance between the rights and obligations of Indigenous peoples, States and third parties. These concerns are well known and remain. However, we have since listened to Aboriginal leaders who have urged Canada to endorse the Declaration and we

have also learned from the experience of other countries. We are now confident that Canada can interpret the principles expressed in the Declaration in a manner that is consistent with our Constitution and legal framework.

Aboriginal and treaty rights are protected in Canada through a unique framework. These rights are enshrined in our Constitution, including our Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and are complemented by practical policies that adapt to our evolving reality. This framework will continue to be the cornerstone of our efforts to promote and protect the rights of Aboriginal Canadians.

The 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games were a defining moment for Canada. The Games instilled a tremendous sense of pride in being Canadian and highlighted to the world the extent to which Aboriginal peoples and their cultures contribute to Canada's uniqueness as a nation. The unprecedented involvement of the Four Host First Nations and Aboriginal peoples from across the nation set a benchmark for how we can work together to achieve great success.

In endorsing the Declaration, Canada reaffirms its commitment to build on a positive and productive relationship with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples to improve the well-being of Aboriginal Canadians, based on our shared history, respect, and a desire to move forward together."

58

Source URL (modified on March 2015): <https://www.culturalsurvival.org/news/canada-endorses-un-declaration-rights-indigenous-peoples#comment-0>

Links

[1] <https://www.culturalsurvival.org/take-action/usa-endorse-un-declaration/usa-urge-president-obama-endorse-un-declaration-rights>

[2] <https://www.culturalsurvival.org/news/canada/joint-statement-response-canada-s-endorsement-un-declaration-rights-indigenous-peoples>

United Nations
DECLARATION
on the **RIGHTS**
of **INDIGENOUS**
PEOPLES



United Nations



United Nations

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83
59

United Nations Declaration
on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples



Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/61/L.67 and Add.1)]

61/295. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the recommendation of the Human Rights Council contained in its resolution 1/2 of 29 June 2006,¹ by which the Council adopted the text of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

Recalling its resolution 61/178 of 20 December 2006, by which it decided to defer consideration of and action on the Declaration to allow time for further consultations thereon, and also decided to conclude its consideration before the end of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly,

Adopts the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as contained in the annex to the present resolution.

*107th plenary meeting
13 September 2007*

Annex

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and good faith in the fulfilment of the obligations assumed by States in accordance with the Charter,

Affirming that indigenous peoples are equal to all other peoples, while recognizing the right of all peoples to be different, to consider themselves different, and to be respected as such,

¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/61/53)*, part one, chap. II, sect. A.

Affirming also that all peoples contribute to the diversity and richness of civilizations and cultures, which constitute the common heritage of humankind,

Affirming further that all doctrines, policies and practices based on or advocating superiority of peoples or individuals on the basis of national origin or racial, religious, ethnic or cultural differences are racist, scientifically false, legally invalid, morally condemnable and socially unjust,

Reaffirming that indigenous peoples, in the exercise of their rights, should be free from discrimination of any kind,

Concerned that indigenous peoples have suffered from historic injustices as a result of, inter alia, their colonization and dispossession of their lands, territories and resources, thus preventing them from exercising, in particular, their right to development in accordance with their own needs and interests,

Recognizing the urgent need to respect and promote the inherent rights of indigenous peoples which derive from their political, economic and social structures and from their cultures, spiritual traditions, histories and philosophies, especially their rights to their lands, territories and resources,

Recognizing also the urgent need to respect and promote the rights of indigenous peoples affirmed in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements with States,

Welcoming the fact that indigenous peoples are organizing themselves for political, economic, social and cultural enhancement and in order to bring to an end all forms of discrimination and oppression wherever they occur,

Convinced that control by indigenous peoples over developments affecting them and their lands, territories and resources will enable them to maintain and strengthen their institutions, cultures and traditions, and to promote their development in accordance with their aspirations and needs,

Recognizing that respect for indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices contributes to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment,

Emphasizing the contribution of the demilitarization of the lands and territories of indigenous peoples to peace, economic and social

progress and development, understanding and friendly relations among nations and peoples of the world,

Recognizing in particular the right of indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education and well-being of their children, consistent with the rights of the child,

Considering that the rights affirmed in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous peoples are, in some situations, matters of international concern, interest, responsibility and character,

Considering also that treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements, and the relationship they represent, are the basis for a strengthened partnership between indigenous peoples and States,

Acknowledging that the Charter of the United Nations, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights² and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,² as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,³ affirm the fundamental importance of the right to self-determination of all peoples, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Bearing in mind that nothing in this Declaration may be used to deny any peoples their right to self-determination, exercised in conformity with international law,

Convinced that the recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples in this Declaration will enhance harmonious and cooperative relations between the State and indigenous peoples, based on principles of justice, democracy, respect for human rights, non-discrimination and good faith,

Encouraging States to comply with and effectively implement all their obligations as they apply to indigenous peoples under international instruments, in particular those related to human rights, in consultation and cooperation with the peoples concerned,

Emphasizing that the United Nations has an important and continuing role to play in promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous peoples,

² See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex

³ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III

Believing that this Declaration is a further important step forward for the recognition, promotion and protection of the rights and freedoms of indigenous peoples and in the development of relevant activities of the United Nations system in this field,

Recognizing and reaffirming that indigenous individuals are entitled without discrimination to all human rights recognized in international law, and that indigenous peoples possess collective rights which are indispensable for their existence, well-being and integral development as peoples,

Recognizing that the situation of indigenous peoples varies from region to region and from country to country and that the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical and cultural backgrounds should be taken into consideration,

Solemnly proclaims the following United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a standard of achievement to be pursued in a spirit of partnership and mutual respect:

Article 1

Indigenous peoples have the right to the full enjoyment, as a collective or as individuals, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as recognized in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁴ and international human rights law.

Article 2

Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity.

Article 3

Indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

Article 4

Indigenous peoples, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to

⁴Resolution 217 A (III)

their internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means for financing their autonomous functions.

Article 5

Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining their right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State.

Article 6

Every indigenous individual has the right to a nationality.

Article 7

1. Indigenous individuals have the rights to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security of person.
2. Indigenous peoples have the collective right to live in freedom, peace and security as distinct peoples and shall not be subjected to any act of genocide or any other act of violence, including forcibly removing children of the group to another group.

Article 8

1. Indigenous peoples and individuals have the right not to be subjected to forced assimilation or destruction of their culture.
2. States shall provide effective mechanisms for prevention of, and redress for:
 - (a) Any action which has the aim or effect of depriving them of their integrity as distinct peoples, or of their cultural values or ethnic identities;
 - (b) Any action which has the aim or effect of dispossessing them of their lands, territories or resources;
 - (c) Any form of forced population transfer which has the aim or effect of violating or undermining any of their rights;
 - (d) Any form of forced assimilation or integration;
 - (e) Any form of propaganda designed to promote or incite racial or ethnic discrimination directed against them.

Article 9

Indigenous peoples and individuals have the right to belong to an indigenous community or nation, in accordance with the traditions and customs of the community or nation concerned. No discrimination of any kind may arise from the exercise of such a right.

Article 10

Indigenous peoples shall not be forcibly removed from their lands or territories. No relocation shall take place without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples concerned and after agreement on just and fair compensation and, where possible, with the option of return.

Article 11

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to practise and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs. This includes the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archaeological and historical sites, artefacts, designs, ceremonies, technologies and visual and performing arts and literature.

2. States shall provide redress through effective mechanisms, which may include restitution, developed in conjunction with indigenous peoples, with respect to their cultural, intellectual, religious and spiritual property taken without their free, prior and informed consent or in violation of their laws, traditions and customs.

Article 12

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to manifest, practise, develop and teach their spiritual and religious traditions, customs and ceremonies; the right to maintain, protect, and have access in privacy to their religious and cultural sites; the right to the use and control of their ceremonial objects; and the right to the repatriation of their human remains.

2. States shall seek to enable the access and/or repatriation of ceremonial objects and human remains in their possession through fair, transparent and effective mechanisms developed in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned.

Article 13

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to revitalize, use, develop and transmit to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, philosophies, writing systems and literatures, and to designate and retain their own names for communities, places and persons.
2. States shall take effective measures to ensure that this right is protected and also to ensure that indigenous peoples can understand and be understood in political, legal and administrative proceedings, where necessary through the provision of interpretation or by other appropriate means.

Article 14

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning.
2. Indigenous individuals, particularly children, have the right to all levels and forms of education of the State without discrimination.
3. States shall, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, take effective measures, in order for indigenous individuals, particularly children, including those living outside their communities, to have access, when possible, to an education in their own culture and provided in their own language.

Article 15

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information.
2. States shall take effective measures, in consultation and cooperation with the indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and eliminate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among indigenous peoples and all other segments of society.

Article 16

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to establish their own media in their own languages and to have access to all forms of non-indigenous media without discrimination.

2. States shall take effective measures to ensure that State-owned media duly reflect indigenous cultural diversity. States, without prejudice to ensuring full freedom of expression, should encourage privately owned media to adequately reflect indigenous cultural diversity.

Article 17

1. Indigenous individuals and peoples have the right to enjoy fully all rights established under applicable international and domestic labour law.

2. States shall in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples take specific measures to protect indigenous children from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, taking into account their special vulnerability and the importance of education for their empowerment.

3. Indigenous individuals have the right not to be subjected to any discriminatory conditions of labour and, inter alia, employment or salary.

Article 18

Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures, as well as to maintain and develop their own indigenous decision-making institutions.

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 20

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and develop their political, economic and social systems or institutions, to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities.

2. Indigenous peoples deprived of their means of subsistence and development are entitled to just and fair redress.

Article 21

1. Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security.
2. States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.

Article 22

1. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities in the implementation of this Declaration.
2. States shall take measures, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, to ensure that indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination.

Article 23

Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development. In particular, indigenous peoples have the right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programmes affecting them and, as far as possible, to administer such programmes through their own institutions.

Article 24

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to their traditional medicines and to maintain their health practices, including the conservation of their vital medicinal plants, animals and minerals. Indigenous individuals also have the right to access, without any discrimination, to all social and health services.
2. Indigenous individuals have an equal right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. States shall take the necessary steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of this right.

Article 25

Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard.

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.
2. 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, as well as those which they have otherwise acquired.
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 27

States shall establish and implement, in conjunction with indigenous peoples concerned, a fair, independent, impartial, open and transparent process, giving due recognition to indigenous peoples' laws, traditions, customs and land tenure systems, to recognize and adjudicate the rights of indigenous peoples pertaining to their lands, territories and resources, including those which were traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used. Indigenous peoples shall have the right to participate in this process.

Article 28

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to redress, by means that can include restitution or, when this is not possible, just, fair and equitable compensation, for the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used, and which have been confiscated, taken, occupied, used or damaged without their free, prior and informed consent.
2. Unless otherwise freely agreed upon by the peoples concerned, compensation shall take the form of lands, territories and resources

equal in quality, size and legal status or of monetary compensation or other appropriate redress.

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 resources. States shall establish and implement assistance programmes for indigenous peoples for such conservation and protection, without discrimination.
2. States shall 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.
3. States shall also take effective measures to ensure, as needed, that programmes for monitoring, maintaining and restoring the health of indigenous peoples, as developed and implemented by the peoples affected by such materials, are duly implemented.

Article 30

1. Military activities shall not take place in the lands or territories of indigenous peoples, unless justified by a relevant public interest or otherwise freely agreed with or requested by the indigenous peoples concerned.
2. States shall undertake effective consultations with the indigenous peoples concerned, through appropriate procedures and in particular through their representative institutions, prior to using their lands or territories for military activities.

Article 31

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of their sciences, technologies and cultures, including human and genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts. They also have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions.

2. In conjunction with indigenous peoples, States shall take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of these rights.

Article 32

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources.
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 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.
3. States shall provide effective mechanisms for just and fair redress for any such activities, and appropriate measures shall be taken to mitigate adverse environmental, economic, social, cultural or spiritual impact.

Article 33

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine their own identity or membership in accordance with their customs and traditions. This does not impair the right of indigenous individuals to obtain citizenship of the States in which they live.
2. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine the structures and to select the membership of their institutions in accordance with their own procedures.

Article 34

Indigenous peoples have the right to promote, develop and maintain their institutional structures and their distinctive customs, spirituality, traditions, procedures, practices and, in the cases where they exist, juridical systems or customs, in accordance with international human rights standards.

Article 35

Indigenous peoples have the right to determine the responsibilities of individuals to their communities.

Article 36

1. Indigenous peoples, in particular those divided by international borders, have the right to maintain and develop contacts, relations and cooperation, including activities for spiritual, cultural, political, economic and social purposes, with their own members as well as other peoples across borders.
2. States, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, shall take effective measures to facilitate the exercise and ensure the implementation of this right.

Article 37

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the recognition, observance and enforcement of treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements concluded with States or their successors and to have States honour and respect such treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements.
2. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as diminishing or eliminating the rights of indigenous peoples contained in treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements.

Article 38

States, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, shall take the appropriate measures, including legislative measures, to achieve the ends of this Declaration.

Article 39

Indigenous peoples have the right to have access to financial and technical assistance from States and through international cooperation, for the enjoyment of the rights contained in this Declaration.

Article 40

Indigenous peoples have the right to access to and prompt decision through just and fair procedures for the resolution of conflicts and disputes with States or other parties, as well as to effective remedies for all infringements of their individual and collective rights. Such a decision shall give due consideration to the customs, traditions, rules and legal systems of the indigenous peoples concerned and international human rights.

Article 41

The organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations shall contribute to the full realization of the provisions of this Declaration through the mobilization, inter alia, of financial cooperation and technical assistance. Ways and means of ensuring participation of indigenous peoples on issues affecting them shall be established.

Article 42

The United Nations, its bodies, including the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and specialized agencies, including at the country level, and States shall promote respect for and full application of the provisions of this Declaration and follow up the effectiveness of this Declaration.

Article 43

The rights recognized herein constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world.

Article 44

All the rights and freedoms recognized herein are equally guaranteed to male and female indigenous individuals.

Article 45

Nothing in this Declaration may be construed as diminishing or extinguishing the rights indigenous peoples have now or may acquire in the future.

Article 46

1. Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, people, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act contrary to the Charter of the United Nations or construed as authorizing or encouraging any action which would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States.
2. In the exercise of the rights enunciated in the present Declaration, human rights and fundamental freedoms of all shall be respected. The exercise of the rights set forth in this Declaration shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law

and in accordance with international human rights obligations. Any such limitations shall be non-discriminatory and strictly necessary solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and for meeting the just and most compelling requirements of a democratic society.

3. The provisions set forth in this Declaration shall be interpreted in accordance with the principles of justice, democracy, respect for human rights, equality, non-discrimination, good governance and good faith.