



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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BCAFN SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
Nicola Valley Institute of Technology, Merritt, BC
March 7 & 8, 2019

Resolution 07(b)/2019

SUBJECT: SUPPORT TO ESTABLISH A TRIPARTITE LABOUR MARKET SKILLS STEERING COMMITTEE FOR FIRST NATIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION:

WHEREAS:

- A. Since 1992 First Nations organizations in British Columbia have participated in national labour market development programs, and are currently participating in the Aboriginal Skills Employment and Training Strategy (ASETS) to improve employment opportunities for First Nations citizens with Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC);
- B. the ASETS program is currently moving into a new ten-year agreement called Indigenous Skills Employment and Training Strategy set to begin April 1, 2019;
- C. the BC Aboriginal Training Employment Advisory Members (BCATEAM) Committee, composed of all of the First Nations ASETS holders in BC, have been working together to share best practices, advance training and improve employment outcomes for First Nations;
- D. the BCATEAM is seeking further collaboration with the federal and provincial governments to reduce duplication of services, reduce the skills gap, and improve socioeconomic conditions for First Nations;
- E. the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which the Governments of British Columbia and Canada have adopted without qualification and have committed to implement, affirms;

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 8th day of March, 2019, at NVIT, Merritt, BC

A blue ink signature of Terry Teegee, the BC Regional Chief.

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

Article 21: (1) Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their social and economic conditions, including inter alia, in the areas of education, employment and vocational training, and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security.

(2) States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvements 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 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 programs affecting them, and as far as possible, to administer such programs through their own institutions.

- F. the BCATEAM acknowledges the participation of both the federal and provincial government representatives to share information and ideas regarding employment opportunities for First Nations. The BCATEAM also realizes that a formalized approach is required to ensure issues of key concerns and importance are effectively addressed with both the federal and provincial governments; and
- G. the federal and provincial governments have expressed interest in forming a Tripartite Steering Committee on Labour Market Skills to better align First Nations skills training and economic development, and to support a wholistic approach to labour market development.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly directs the Regional Chief, working with the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the First Nations Summit as the First Nations Leadership Council, along with the BC Aboriginal Training Employment Advisory Members (BCATEAM), to support the establishment of a Tripartite Steering Committee on Labour Market Development with Canada and BC; and
2. the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly directs the Regional Chief to notify the federal and provincial governments of BCAFN's support of the Tripartite Steering Committee on Labour Market Development.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief