FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL – BRITISH COLUMBIA TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) – British Columbia Technical Working Group on Climate Change (Technical Working Group) is a collaborative forum for the FNLC and the Province of BC to work together to address climate change issues of mutual interest.

The Technical Working Group exchanges information and develops recommendations on Provincial climate change laws and regulations, clean energy policies and programs, climate preparedness, and relevant actions undertaken by First Nations and the Province.

The Technical Working Group is comprised of staff representatives from:

- BC Assembly of First Nations
- Union of BC Indian Chiefs
- First Nations Summit
- Province of BC

The goals are:

- To provide a technical venue for the parties to engage in regular, constructive dialogue regarding climate change issues of mutual concern; and
- To provide strategic advice and review progress related to climate change initiatives to ensure that First Nations perspectives and feedback are included.

The Technical Working Group acknowledges the need for meaningful engagement between the Province and First Nations on matters that address the impacts of climate change and the potential impacts on First Nations' rights that may arise from BC's responses to climate change. This includes the need for early, robust and meaningful engagement with appropriate timelines during the ongoing implementation of CleanBC, the Provincial Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Plan, and other plans, strategies, programs and legislation related to climate change.

The Technical Working Group is not a consultative body related to the Crown's legal obligations and fiduciary responsibility to First Nations governments. The work carried out in the Technical Working Group does not exempt the government's responsibility to consult and engage Title and Rights holders on policy reform and climate initiatives. The First Nations Leadership Council has climate-specific mandates from resolutions passed by their respective organizations, including implementing the BC First Nations Climate Strategy and Action Plan, supporting Title and Rights holders' climate leadership, and demanding "that any climate change plan developed for projects by British Columbia must be done in conjunction with Indigenous peoples and must recognize and uphold First Nations inherent and constitutionally protected Indigenous Title, Rights and Treaty Rights and be consistent with the historic Supreme Court of Canada's Tsilhqot'in Nation judgment and United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples."

The Province of British Columbia is committed to advancing true and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, including through the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act), the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, and relevant case law.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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First Nations Summit





