

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between
The Unified Aboriginal Youth Collective
-AND-
The Provincial Government of British Columbia
As represented by the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

March 12th, 2010

WHEREAS the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) has a mandate to "provide strategic advice across government and identify opportunities to work with Aboriginal peoples to facilitate the removal of barriers and stimulate positive outcomes in the province."

WHEREAS the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child affirms the right of children and youth to express their views freely in all matters affecting them (Article 12).

WHEREAS the members of the Unified Aboriginal Youth Collective (UAYC) have agreed to work together to collectively identify goals and strategies to increase collaboration on mutual interests or initiatives.

We, the undersigned,* acknowledge that Aboriginal youth input is essential to informing effective and responsive provincial policy and program development, and that listening to Aboriginal youth voice is part of the process of building a relationship between the Province and Aboriginal people which is based on respect and reconciliation.

Therefore, we agree to work together within the mandates of our respective organizations, in a relationship based on mutual assistance and respect, to promote Aboriginal youth voice in the British Columbia government and to develop a positive relationship between the Province and Aboriginal youth and communities. We state our support and shared responsibility for the sustainability of our partnership.



Ken Watts, Male Youth Representative
British Columbia Assembly of First Nations



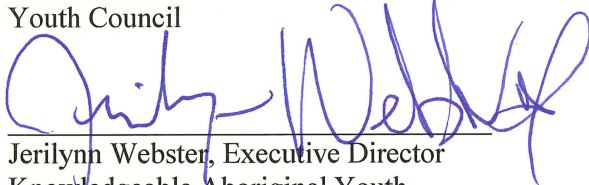
Stephanie Albiston, Minister of Youth
Métis Youth of British Columbia, Métis
Nation British Columbia



Samantha Cardinal, Youth Representative
British Columbia Association of Aboriginal
Friendship Centres, Provincial Aboriginal
Youth Council



Minister George Abbott
Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and
Reconciliation



Jerilynn Webster, Executive Director
Knowledgeable Aboriginal Youth
Association

*This Memorandum of Understanding is inclusive of all future Aboriginal youth organizations that become affiliated with the UAYC.