







Tahltan Central Government – British Columbia Accord on Wildlife Management in Tahltan Territory dated for reference September 8, 2022

<u>This Accord affirms the commitment of the Tahltan Nation ("Tahltan") and the Province of British</u>
<u>Columbia ("Province") to co-operatively develop a world-class wildlife stewardship regime in Tahltan</u>
<u>Territory.</u>

- 1. Our shared vision and commitment to establishing a world-class wildlife stewardship regime in Tahltan Territory builds on years of efforts to collaboratively advance enhanced wildlife stewardship in Tahltan Territory, including regional approaches achieved through the current Collaborative Stewardship Forum. This shared vision and commitment is an integral step along our reconciliation pathway, and parallels our joint efforts to foster a world class mining jurisdiction founded on recognition and respect of Tahltan Aboriginal title and rights, fostering sustainable economic growth, rigorous environmental standards and social responsibility.
- 2. Our efforts to further establish a world-class wildlife stewardship regime in Tahltan Territory will be guided by the following **principles**:
 - a. Recognition and respect for Tahltan Aboriginal title and rights, Tahltan and local knowledge and values, and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.
 - b. Wildlife is a vital resource, that through co-management can provide for the exercise of Tahltan rights, the appropriate respect for culture, and clear opportunities for resident hunting, guide outfitting, and shared benefits.
 - c. Implementing an improved wildlife stewardship regime with success requires the participation of Tahltan hunters and communities, as well as stakeholders and third parties.
 - d. Public and community safety is a shared interest.
 - e. Co-operative establishment of a world-class wildlife stewardship regime will require open and collaborative dialogue that is solutions-oriented and builds on success, including through improvements to existing structures and processes.
- 3. The world-class wildlife stewardship regime in Tahltan Territory will have three **core elements** that the Parties will work towards:

- a. Joint wildlife governance designing and implementing a joint wildlife governance structure and processes in Tahltan Territory that confirms a clear relationship between Provincial and Tahltan laws, and authorities regarding wildlife resources and management in Tahltan territory. The Parties will seek to utilize the opportunities and obligations in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Act) to support achieving this element.
- b. Co-management improve wildlife management in order to enhance protection, stewardship and sustainability of vital ungulate populations, including stabilizing or enhancing key populations and mitigating past number reductions. Co-management efforts will:
 - i. support Tahltan community safety and health, and the need to monitor human and wildlife conflict;
 - ii. respect and implement Tahltan hunting rights, including with respect to wildlife and predator management;
- iii. work to provide certainty of opportunities and access for Tahltan hunters, resident hunters, and guide outfitters that can be enhanced by improved ungulate health and habitat;
- iv. enhance compliance and enforcement;
- v. require sustainable funding over the long term, which the Parties are committed to seeking; and
- vi. utilize existing forums to work together, including to promote compliance, protect natural resources and ensure public safety through the use of education and enforcement strategies.
- c. Joint Information and Data Collection Developing and using trusted data that will support sound, scientifically defensible decisions and outcomes.
- 4. As soon as practicable after the signing of this Accord the Parties will collaboratively develop on an expedited basis the following **immediate measures**:
 - a. an Interim Caribou Monitoring Plan;
 - b. an Interim Moose Monitoring Plan; and
 - c. Acknowledge and support Tahltan predator monitoring and management and cooperate on developing a predator monitoring and management plan.
- 5. Within 45 days after the signing of this Accord, the Parties will develop:
 - a. a wildlife work plan and budget regarding the initiatives under this Accord;
 - b. a comprehensive work plan that prioritizes and describes the milestones, mandating (negotiation and fiscal) requirements of the Parties and measures to coordinate:
 - i. measures under this Accord;
 - ii. initiatives under the Shared Prosperity Agreement; and
 - iii. other existing and expected BC/Tahltan initiatives; and

- c. measures to be achieved before the 2023 hunting season to advance the core elements of this Accord and an engagement plan for Tahltan hunters and communities, stakeholders, and third parties.
- 6. Tahltan and Provincial Executives will review and update the wildlife work plan and the overall, comprehensive work plan for all of the outstanding initiatives on a bi-annual basis to ensure that initiatives are appropriately prioritized and implemented.
- 7. This Accord sets out government-to-government understandings that the Parties intend to seek to implement in good faith through further collaboration, dialogue and negotiations. The Parties acknowledge that implementing the elements and measures in this Accord are subject to each Party obtaining required financial and other mandates and approvals. This Accord does not establish, define, limit, abrogate or derogate any rights of the Tahltan Nation recognized and affirmed under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

Signed	
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Johnin Convay	Dr
Honourable Katrine Conroy	Witness
Minister of Forests	
Honourable Murray Rankin	Witness
Minister of Indigenous Relations and Recor	
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Honourable Bruce Ralston	Witness
Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation	
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Chief Carmen McPhee, Tahltan Band

Chief Marie Quock, Iskut Band

Witness

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Dated: September 8, 2022