

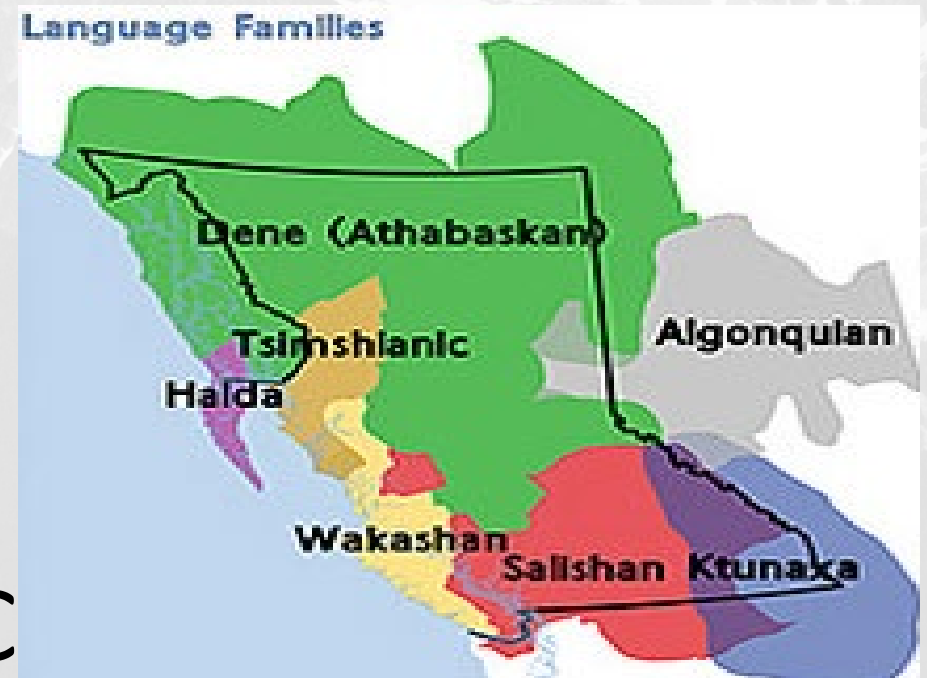
LOCAL GOVERNMENT – INDIGENOUS RECONCILIATION

2021 Regional District
Chair/CAO Forum, April 13

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN BC

More than 270,000 people in BC identify as Indigenous - includes First Nations, Métis, Inuit

Total of 203 First Nations in BC (of 600 in Canada)



DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ACT

The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (Declaration Act) implements the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration), which the Truth and Reconciliation Commission confirms as the framework for reconciliation.

Brought into force November 28, 2019, the Declaration Act enables legislative, regulatory, policy and operational changes to be made over time to support implementation.

UN DECLARATION

- The articles of the UN Declaration may be organized by high-level themes:
 - Ending racism and discrimination
 - Recognition, promotion, implementation, and protection of rights and freedoms
 - Self-determination and sovereignty
 - Land and territory
 - Economy and fiscal relations
 - Culture and language
 - Children and family well-being
- These themes may provide a helpful conceptual framework for early conversations with Indigenous peoples.

DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ACT

It requires government, in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples to:

- Ensure new and existing laws are consistent with the UN Declaration
- Develop and implement an action plan to achieve the objectives of the UN Declaration
- Monitor progress through public annual reporting

It enables new decision-making agreements between B.C. and Indigenous governing bodies on decisions that directly affect Indigenous peoples.

THE DECLARATION ACT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Factsheet

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act

THE LEGISLATION

The Government of British Columbia has passed legislation that confirms the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration) as the framework for reconciliation in B.C.

Implementing the UN Declaration through the new *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Declaration Act) will establish a path forward that respects and upholds the human rights of Indigenous peoples while introducing additional transparency and predictability in the work the B.C. government and Indigenous peoples do together.

With the legislation, the Province, Indigenous peoples, businesses and local governments will have additional tools to build effective relationships, clear processes and a robust and sustainable economy together.

The Declaration Act supports transparent, co-operative, staged approaches through which the B.C. government will work collaboratively with Indigenous peoples, and engage with business and local governments, on programs, policies, legislation and decisions affecting Indigenous peoples and their rights. It will help all parties work together to invest in building a stronger B.C., including creating economic opportunities for Indigenous peoples, businesses, communities and families throughout the province.

The Province also recognizes that many companies and local governments in British Columbia have already embraced the principles of the UN Declaration and have built solid relationships with Indigenous peoples.

The B.C. government is committed to collaboration and transparency as it moves forward with implementing this new legislation – this includes ensuring our laws are consistent with the UN Declaration, developing an action plan, and reporting annually on our progress.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Province is committed to true, lasting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples through the implementation of the UN Declaration. This work will foster increased and lasting certainty and supports local governments and Indigenous nations working together to continue to strengthen relationships and to collaborate on matters of mutual interest - which will help promote job creation and sustainable economic growth throughout B.C.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MAH) supports local governments, Indigenous governments, not-for-profit organizations and residents to build vibrant and healthy communities that are well governed, liveable, safe, economically resilient, and socially and environmentally responsible. MAH also aims to help British Columbians to access more affordable, safe and appropriate housing through its policies and programs, technical codes and standards, and services for landlords and tenants.

An important part of this work is helping to foster positive relationships at the local level between local governments and Indigenous nations, to encourage discussion of shared interests and partnerships on social, economic and environmental projects that are important to everyone who lives in the area.

There are many examples of progress being made at the local level towards reconciliation throughout B.C. Every day the list of communication protocol agreements, strategic accords, economic partnerships, shared recreational projects, and education and renaming initiatives continues to grow.

The Province sees great opportunity for advancing reconciliation through these kinds of partnerships. As partners at all levels of government work together on the journey towards true and meaningful reconciliation, it will be a learning process.

The provincial government is committed to finding ways to work together to make life better for people in Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities.



LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND RECONCILIATION

Neighbours having a conversation



Building relationships

Working towards government-to-government reconciliation at the community level

Local governments are leaders

More we can do together

PROVINCE – LOCAL GOVERNMENTS MOU



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
and
**THE UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
MUNICIPALITIES**
on
**ENGAGEMENT WITH UBCM AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS ON TREATY AGREEMENTS, NON-
TREATY AGREEMENTS AND INDIGENOUS
INITIATIVES**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) modernizes the relationship between the Province of British Columbia, the Union of BC Municipalities and local governments with respect to reconciliation, treaty agreements, non-treaty agreements and Indigenous initiatives. It updates and replaces previously signed MOUs on local government participation in treaty negotiations and other activities.

THE PARTIES:

The Parties to this MOU are:

- The Province of British Columbia (the Province) as represented by the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR); and
- The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) representing all municipalities and regional districts of British Columbia, as well as several First Nation members.

The Parties recognize that local government jurisdictions may be affected by the negotiation of land, resource and economic development agreements with First Nations. The Parties accept that local government constitutes a unique and special interest in the negotiation of a range of agreements with First Nations including modern treaties, non-treaty agreements, and other Indigenous initiatives.

The Parties acknowledge that UBCM and individual local governments endeavour to develop positive working relationships with First Nations, fostering relationships built on the principles of honesty and respect, and undertaking reconciliation initiatives at the grass roots level. This MOU encourages local governments to communicate and develop relationships with First Nations and other Indigenous partners.

THEREFORE:

This MOU reflects the continued commitments of the

C2C AND LIBRARY COLLECTION

FIRST NATIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECONCILIATION

Posted by [Bob Joseph](#) on Oct 20, 2015 12:08:57 PM

Sep 23, 2016
Town Form

Fort St. James and Nak'azdli Whut'en Community Forum: keeping community

Both Fort St. James District and Nak'azdli Whut'en got together to help understand each other's roles.

2016 11:00 a.m. / NEWS

ANAGAN INDIAN BAND AND CITY OF VERNON TO PARTICIPATE IN CEDI TO


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LABOR

By 7, 2018



TLA'AMIN NATION - CITY OF POWELL RIVER - qathet REGIONAL DISTRICT

COLLABORATION AND RECONCILIATION







PATHWAY OVERVIEW

Located north of Vancouver, on BC's Sunshine Coast, Tla'amin Nation, the City of Powell River, and qathet Regional District are leading the way in building and sustaining proactive and productive intergovernmental relationships. The three governments have successfully collaborated on a variety of projects over the past 15 plus years, both individually and working as three governments together. Tla'amin is a self-governing Nation with the fourth modern treaty to come into effect in British Columbia.

PATHWAY ACTIVITIES

The collaborative pathway activities undertaken by Tla'amin Nation, City of Powell River, and qathet Regional District include the following.

-  Protocol and Communications Agreements
-  Land Use Planning and Development
-  Joint Economic Development Initiatives
-  Shared Tourism Projects

PROJECT OVERVIEW

In 2002, a dispute arose between the City and Tla'amin Nation. The City did not share their plans to build a sea walk, and construction disturbed, destroyed, and buried significant Tla'amin cultural sites including petroglyphs and shell middens. Acknowledging the mistake, City leaders handed over the \$1.5 million contract to build the sea walk to Tla'amin Nation (then Sliammon First Nation). Through this, Tla'amin was able to protect cultural heritage sites, provide

current hegus (Chief) Clint Williams said that it was written as a framework for reconciliation, "before reconciliation was a buzzword." In 2004, building on the work done developing the Community Accord, the Protocol Agreement for Communication and Cooperation was signed between Tla'amin Nation and the qathet Regional District (then Powell River Regional District).

Guide to Community to Community Forums in British Columbia

September 2019

HOME / RESEARCH TOOLS / JOINT INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES AND RELATIONS

JOINT INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES AND RELATIONS

A collection of resources related to initiatives, agreements, arrangements, partnerships, and the provision of services between Indigenous governments and organizations, and local governments in British Columbia.



Service Partners

WHAT THIS MEANS

We are headed in the right direction

Need to continue working in partnership

Need to share best practices and encourage continuous improvement across all BC local governments and communities



CONTACT INFORMATION

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RESOURCES

[Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#)

[MOU: Engagement with UBCM and Local Governments on Treaty Agreements, Non-Treaty Agreements and Indigenous Initiatives](#)

[BC Treaty Annual Reports](#)

[Contacts for First Nation Consultation Areas](#)

[First Nations A-Z](#)

[Joint Indigenous and Local Government Initiatives and Relations collection](#)

[Pathways to Collaboration](#)

[Community to Community Forum \(C2C\)](#)

[MAH Local Government and First Nations Relations Webpage](#)