
Subject:

FW: UBCM seeks member feedback on protocol with First Nations Leadership Council

From: Raelene Adamson <ubcm@ubcm.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 11:20 AM

To: Babicz, Walter <Walter.Babicz@princegeorge.ca>

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UBCM seeks member feedback on protocol with First Nations Leadership Council

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UBCM and the First Nations Leadership Council are working on drafting a Relationship Protocol. In accordance with UBCM's Executive policies, we are inviting UBCM members to vet this initiative by indicating whether they do or do not support this initiative. The Protocol is a nonbinding agreement, and its purpose is to promote dialogue, build relationships between local governments and First Nations, and advance reconciliation and collaboration on specific initiatives.

In September 2023, members of the UBCM Executive met with the First Nations Leadership Council and discussed the opportunity of entering into an MOU together. The First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) is comprised of the political executives of the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN), First Nations Summit (FNS), and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC). Together they represent all First Nations in BC. Establishing a formalized relationship with the FNLC is a natural progression for UBCM as we currently have a Protocol on Cooperation and Communication with FNS, under which we administer the Community to Community Forum program. The proposed Relationship Protocol does not replace UBCM's longstanding relationship and Protocol with FNS, which represent those First Nations in BC who are part of the BC Treaty Process.

Over the last few months, under the direction of the UBCM Indigenous Relations Committee and with support from the UBCM Executive, staff have been working with the First Nations Leadership Council to develop a draft protocol. UBCM members have shown that advancing reconciliation is important to them by passing resolutions supporting action on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, UNDRIP and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls for Justice. Entering into a Protocol with FNLC, provides UBCM with greater opportunities for proactive collaboration with Indigenous leadership as the Province implements UNDRIP.

As prescribed by section 4.1(c) of UBCM's Executive policies, all proposals for new MOU's or agreements must be vetted by the membership. Our intent is to sign the Relationship Protocol on September 16th at the Province-wide Community to Community Forum. Like UBCM, the First Nations Leadership Council is also undertaking their own internal vetting process with their membership.

ASK: UBCM is asking the membership, do you or do you not support this initiative? Please provide one response from your community via your CAO by August 28th. Your response can be emailed to Marlene Wells at UBCM at mwells@ubcm.ca.

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