

Ref. 52992

July 11, 2021

Matthew Pasco Tribal Chair Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council

Dear Chief Matthew Pasco:

This is a follow up to the July 10, 2021, letter from British Columbia and Canada outlining commitments to, and next steps with, Indigenous leadership regarding wildfire recovery and rail safety. As we have discussed and in acknowledgement of the specific impacts of the Lytton fire on the Lytton First Nation, we offer this letter to guide the next steps with the Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council (NNTC) and the Lytton First Nation regarding recovery from the devastating fire.

We agree that our 2017 Political Accord on Advancing Recognition, Reconciliation, and Implementation of Title and Rights provides us with the appropriate framework for the next steps outlined below. As per the 2017 Accord, the foundation of the governmenttogovernment relationship between British Columbia and NNTC is the recognition and implementation of Nlaka'pamux Nation title, rights, laws, and jurisdiction. All relations between British Columbia and NNTC, including the implementation of the actions in this letter, will be based on this foundation.

In addition, as per the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, the standards of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples will be fully implemented in all aspects of the relationship between British Columbia and NNTC including the implementation of the actions outline in this letter.

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Together through this letter we confirm the following:

- 1. British Columbia and NNTC will form a leadership implementation table that will be responsible for overseeing implementation of this letter and ensuring progress is being made for the Lytton First Nation on recovery from the Lytton fire. The table will consist of Chief Matt Pasco, Chief Janet Webster, Minister Farnworth, and Minister Rankin. The table will be established upon confirmation of this letter and will meet on a mutually agreeable frequency.
- 2. British Columbia and NNTC will form an implementation coordination task force consisting of three representatives of the NNTC and three representatives of British Columbia. The task force will be responsible for developing and implementing workplans for each of the commitments in the July 10, 2021 letter and this letter and tracking the completion of immediate, near, medium, and longterm deliverables. The task force will begin work by July 13, 2021 and will provide regular updates to the leadership implementation table.
- 3. British Columbia will provide NNTC initial funding \$100,000 to begin implementation of the actions in this letter. British Columbia acknowledges that substantially more funding will be needed to "build back better" the damage NNTC communities, and in particular the Lytton First Nation. British Columbia and NNTC will coordinate with Canada regarding funding of these needs.
- 4. British Columbia and NNTC recognize that enhanced health supports, including mental health supports, are amongst the urgent needs for those members of NNTC affected by the fires. British Columbia and the NNTC will work with the First Nations Health Authority to develop a plan, including funding, that builds on the current and ongoing supports. The parties will develop the plan by July 20, 2021.
- 5. British Columbia and NNTC recommit to the full implementation of their Political Accord, and specifically all the commitments in section 6. The Parties mutually appoint Dr. Roshan Danesh, QC to facilitate the full implementation of section 6, including making recommendations to the leadership implementation table by September 30, 2021 on recommendations that include clear structures and processes between the parties for dealing with future emergencies.
- 6. British Columbia and NNTC recognize that addressing the emergency situation that has occurred will require structures, processes, actions, investments, and forms of co-operation that have not previously been in place between them, and

that they will work together in new ways to address all disputes and disagreements that may arise in the implementation of this letter.

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7. British Columbia and NNTC will coordinate with Canada in the implementation of this letter.

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In addition to the commitments of the July 10, 2021 letter, we confirm our mutual understandings of the actions outlined above by signing below.

Chief Douglas McIntyre Skuppah First Nation Chief Mike Campbell Boothroyd First Nation

Chief Janet Webster

Lytton First Nation

Chief Matthew Pasco Nlaka'pamux Nation Tribal Council Chair

Murray Rankin, QC Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

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- Mike Farnworth Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- CC: The Honourable Carolyn Bennett Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations

The Honourable Marc Miller Minister of Indigenous Services .../3

Doug Caul, Deputy Minister Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

Rick Manwaring, Deputy Minister Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

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Christine Massey, Deputy Minister Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions

Tara Richards, Deputy Minister Emergency Management BC Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General/4