

# **Memorandum of Understanding**

**between:**

**Province of British Columbia  
Represented by the British Columbia Public Service Agency and  
the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation**

**AND**

**First Nations Summit Society**

**AND**

**First Nations Public Service Secretariat**

We, the undersigned parties, seek to work together within the mandates of our respective organizations to improve capacity building for the British Columbia First Nations' Public Service and the British Columbia Public Service.

We therefore agree as follows:

## **Purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding**

1. This Memorandum of Understanding describes the working relationship between the British Columbia Public Service Agency, the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation and the First Nations Public Service Secretariat regarding training and capacity building for British Columbia First Nations, British Columbia First Nations organizations and British Columbia public service employees.

## **General Agreement**

2. We support British Columbia First Nations in strengthening and enhancing the professional capacity of the British Columbia First Nations' Public Service to deliver services for First Nations communities and organizations. We also support the British Columbia Public Service in building its capacity to work effectively with First Nations, improve Aboriginal relations and its understanding of Aboriginal issues.
3. This will be accomplished through collaborative work to identify needs and to develop and implement strategies to strengthen and enhance the capacity of First Nations and Provincial public service employees. Our intent is to

work collaboratively towards this goal within the mandates of our respective organizations.

4. We agree to bring in other partners as appropriate where all parties agree.

### **Roles of the Parties**

5. The British Columbia Public Service Agency, as the central human resources organization of the British Columbia Public Service, is well positioned to offer practical support for capacity building in three main areas:
  - as a professional human resources organization working in a public sector context;
  - as a provider of corporate learning and development to public service employees; and,
  - as the central recruitment and deployment service provider to provincial ministries and organizations.
6. The Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation, as the British Columbia government's lead ministry in the ongoing development and implementation of the government's New Relationship with First Nations and Aboriginal peoples, is well positioned to offer practical support towards:
  - working with First Nations to create opportunities to increase community and economic development capacity;
  - strengthening the Province's capacity to engage effectively with Aboriginal peoples; and,
  - closing the social and economic gaps between Aboriginal peoples and other British Columbians by working across government, and in partnership with First Nations, to implement the Transformative Change Accord.
7. The First Nations Public Service Secretariat, which is an initiative of the First Nations Summit and First Nations Summit Society, is a provincial-level organization that provides First Nations in British Columbia with support and innovative programming as First Nations pursue excellence in capacity-building and human resource development. The First Nations Public Service Secretariat, as the provincial-level organization working to strengthen and enhance capacity in First Nations communities and organizations, is well positioned to implement the actions within its "Courage to Excel Strategy" to provide First Nations communities and organizations opportunities to build their public service competencies and capacity.

## Work plans

8. The parties will work collaboratively on annual work plans regarding capacity building opportunities, drawing on existing in-kind resources and programs.

## Review and Amendments


9. This Memorandum of Understanding will be reviewed annually or more frequently if the parties so determine.
10. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by agreement in writing.

## Duration

11. This Memorandum of Understanding shall continue in effect until either party indicates in writing that it wishes to terminate the relationship.


## Nature of Memorandum of Understanding

12. This Memorandum of Understanding is not a legally binding agreement.



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Grand Chief Edward John  
First Nation Summit Society




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Christa Williams  
First Nations Public  
Service Secretariat



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Minister Kevin Falcon  
Ministry of Finance



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Minister Mary Polak  
Ministry of Aboriginal  
Relations and Reconciliation