

From: [Murray Daly](#)
To: [Stephanie Masun](#)
Subject: FW: BC/Coastal First Nations Accord for Co-Governance, Environmental Stewardship, Economic Renewal and Local Community Well-Being in the Pacific North Coast
Date: August 15, 2024 4:05:13 PM

From: Plank, Sarah IRR:EX <Sarah.Plank@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2024 2:08 PM

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Cc: Carey, Paul IRR:EX <Paul.Carey@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: BC/Coastal First Nations Accord for Co-Governance, Environmental Stewardship, Economic Renewal and Local Community Well-Being in the Pacific North Coast

Some people who received this message don't often get email from sarah.plank@gov.bc.ca. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good afternoon,

As local government representatives in or closely neighbouring the North Coast region, I am reaching out to let you know for awareness that today the provincial government and Coastal First Nations (CFN) entered into a new bilateral agreement, the Accord for Co-Governance, Environmental Stewardship, Economic Renewal and Local Community Well-Being in the Pacific North Coast (the CFN-BC Regional Accord).

CFN signatory Nations to the Accord include Wuikinuxv, Heiltsuk, Kitsoo -Xai'xais, Nuxalk, Gitga'at, Metlakatla, Old Massett, Skidegate, and Council of the Haida Nation. The Accord consolidates and builds on the previous CFN-BC 2009 Reconciliation Protocol and 2020 Memorandum of Understanding between BC and CFN.

The new agreement outlines how the Coastal First Nations and Province will work together in partnership to increase the quality of life throughout the area. This includes resource-based economic activity such as aquaculture like shellfish and harvesting ventures, clean energy, and opportunities in the coastal forestry sector. It also reinforces CFN conservation efforts in the Great Bear Rainforest. In addition, the Accord further promotes CFN-led steps to improve communications and enhance digital services and technology, benefiting the entire North Pacific Coast.

In 2009, B.C. and Coastal First Nations Member Nations entered into the [BC/CFN Reconciliation Protocol](#), which focused on collaborative approaches to land and resource management and economic activities, as a foundation for broader reconciliation over time. The Reconciliation Protocol was amended and renewed several times – most recently in 2016.

In 2020, CFN and B.C. signed a [memorandum of understanding](#) (MOU) to work together on a longer-term vision building on the successes of the Reconciliation Protocol to pursue a conservation-based regional economy through a diverse set of initiatives to promote financial self-reliance.

The new Accord is the culmination of the work set out under the 2020 MOU and will replace the MOU and BC/CFN Reconciliation Protocol with one agreement. The Accord largely continues the good work contained in the 2009 Protocol and the 2020 MOU. It:

- renews and updates the collaborative decision-making framework for land and resource decisions that forms the basis of the 2009 Protocol;
- renews and updates the primary fiscal arrangements in the 2009 Protocol, including the Great Bear Rainforest carbon offsets sharing framework;
- establishes a new set of initiatives to support coastal communities to take advantage of opportunities in clean energy;
- establishes a process for the 2020 MOU commitment to explore potential joint or consent-based decision-making, and identifies aquatic plant harvesting authorizations as the area of interest to explore for a potential future agreement through this process;
- establishes a new set of initiatives to support coastal communities to respond and adapt to climate impacts.
- builds on successful revenue-sharing initiatives under the 2009 Protocol and its extending agreements with new initiatives focused on revitalizing Indigenous and market economies.

More information on the Accord can be found in the news release at

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/31485> and you may also wish to review the Accord itself at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/download/DF8B755FE2834B1F8565F61468FD2E8A>. In particular, the schedules provide more detail on the sector-specific initiatives to be explored and planned under the Accord. Please feel free to forward this email to others in your municipality or regional district who may be interested.

If your municipality or regional district is interested in learning more, we would be pleased to arrange a meeting with representatives from the Province to discuss the agreement, at a time that is convenient for your team. We would also be happy to present at a council/board meeting if that would be more appropriate. Please reach out if that is of interest and I can help set it up.

Warmly,
Sarah.

Sarah Plank

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I acknowledge with respect the territories of First Nations throughout B.C. and the rights, interests, priorities and concerns of all Indigenous peoples and their distinct cultures, histories, rights, laws, and governments.