

# Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

## 2025/26 – 2027/28 Service Plan

March 2025



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## Minister's Accountability Statement



The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation 2025/26 – 2027/28 Service Plan was prepared under my direction in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C Boyle".

Honourable Christine Boyle  
Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation  
February 14, 2025

# Table of Contents

Minister's Accountability Statement .....	3
Strategic Direction.....	5
Purpose of the Ministry .....	5
Operating Environment.....	6
Performance Planning.....	8
Financial Summary.....	16
Appendix A: Declaration Act Secretariat.....	17
Appendix B: Public Sector Organizations .....	19
Appendix C: Minister Mandate Letter .....	20

## Strategic Direction

In 2025/26, the Government of British Columbia will continue to prioritize delivering the services and infrastructure needed for people to build good lives in strong communities.

To support this objective, Government will focus on growing the economy, responding to the threat of tariffs, creating good paying jobs, improving affordability, strengthening health care and education, and making communities safer.

Government will also continue deepening relationships with Indigenous Peoples while advancing implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan.

This 2025/26 service plan outlines how the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation will support the government's priorities and selected action items identified in the Minister's January 2025 [Mandate Letter](#).

## Purpose of the Ministry

The [Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation](#) (the Ministry or MIRR) guides and helps coordinate the Province of British Columbia's efforts to achieve true and lasting reconciliation with [Indigenous Peoples](#)<sup>1</sup> by working in respectful partnerships that recognize inherent rights.

Reconciliation is important to everyone as we work together to address historic wrongs through the path laid out by the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission \(TRC\) of Canada: Calls to Action](#). These efforts create a better province for all.

As the first province in Canada to recognize and uphold Indigenous Peoples' human rights in law through the [Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#) (Declaration Act), British Columbia is implementing the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) (UN Declaration) as our shared framework for reconciliation.

The Declaration Act supports the B.C. government to deepen relationships with Indigenous Peoples through an [action plan](#) that outlines measures to advance the objectives of the UN Declaration. The alignment of provincial laws with the UN Declaration enables government to enter into shared decision-making agreements with a broad range of Indigenous governments.

The Ministry furthers [reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples](#) by collaboratively developing policy and practices, and negotiating and implementing proactive, enduring [agreements, partnerships, and treaties based on recognition of rights](#). The Ministry's focus is to build

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<sup>1</sup> The term "Indigenous" used throughout this document is inclusive of all peoples of Indigenous ancestry, including First Nations (status and non-status), Métis and Inuit.

lasting relationships with Indigenous Peoples through flexible agreements that can evolve over time and collaborative approaches to policy making.

The Ministry engages with First Nations governments, communities, organizations, as well as treaty, federal, and municipal partners, stakeholders, and the public. While reconciliation is a whole-of-government responsibility, the Ministry provides guidance and leadership to other areas of government on establishing and enhancing relationships with Indigenous Peoples.

[Reconciliation commitments](#) are achieved by prioritizing collaboration and engagement with Indigenous Peoples through anti-racist, trauma-informed and culturally safe practices. [Strengthening relationships with Indigenous communities](#)<sup>2</sup> and leveraging Indigenous knowledge and perspectives improves social and economic outcomes for Indigenous Peoples and all British Columbians.

The Ministry is also responsible for the [Minister's Advisory Council on Indigenous Women](#), which provides advice to the B.C. government on how to improve the quality of life for Indigenous women in B.C., and the [First Peoples' Cultural Council](#) (FPCC), a provincial Crown corporation formed by the Government of British Columbia in 1990 to administer the First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Program.

## Operating Environment

Reconciliation is a provincial imperative in B.C., embedded in law, that represents a shared commitment to ensure that the province is a place where the rights of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples are recognized. In this work, MIRR is guided by the UN Declaration, the TRC of Canada's 94 Calls to Action, the [Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples](#), the British Columbia Treaty Commission Act and the First Nations Treaty process, Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+) and relevant case law.

Global pressures, including a shifting economic forecast and ongoing climate-related emergencies, affect every British Columbian. These external challenges are compounded by the possibility of tariffs from our southern neighbours that could harm both Canadians and Americans, and a rapidly changing geopolitical landscape marked by instability, rising hate, and global unrest. In this environment, it is more critical than ever to work in partnership to advance reconciliation and strengthen government-to-government relationships with First Nations and other Indigenous peoples in B.C., so that we can face these challenges together. Despite significant challenges that disproportionately impact Indigenous Peoples and the ongoing trauma of revelations from former residential school sites, First Nations and other Indigenous peoples in B.C. continue to work collaboratively with the Ministry towards our shared reconciliation goals. They have contributed their time and resources to ensure Indigenous knowledge and expertise are brought into this work, benefiting all British Columbians.

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<sup>2</sup> The term "communities" means the diversity of Indigenous communities as defined by Indigenous Peoples and includes descriptions such as urban, rural, metropolitan, remote, land-based and reserve.

The Ministry and the provincial government remain committed to a distinctions-based approach, recognizing and respecting the unique rights, interests, priorities, and concerns of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples. This approach requires that our relationships and engagement with each group may involve different methods and produce varied outcomes, depending on their distinct needs and contexts.

In alignment with the government's broader mandate to combat racism and promote equity, the Ministry is implementing recommendations from an internal anti-racism and equity review. Additionally, the Ministry will explore collaborating with the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives to address and combat anti-Indigenous racism.

## Performance Planning

### Goal 1: Advance equitable social and economic outcomes of Indigenous Peoples

The Ministry is committed to advancing social and economic outcomes in Indigenous communities in comprehensive and holistic ways that are determined by and organized around each community's priorities. These efforts include sharing the benefits of economic development with First Nations and increasing opportunities for the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the economy.

#### Objective 1.1: Partner on shared initiatives that improve the quality of life of Indigenous Peoples

The Ministry works with Indigenous, provincial, and federal agencies and partners to advance opportunities that improve the health and wellness of Indigenous communities through community-focused initiatives.

##### Key Strategies

- Continue to partner with First Nations, in collaboration with other Ministries, to strengthen community health, well-being and self-determination.
- Work with the [Minister's Advisory Council on Indigenous Women](#) and the [First Peoples' Cultural Council](#) to advance solutions that support their respective mandates.
- Promote the work of urban Indigenous organizations including Aboriginal Friendship Centres and urban Indigenous coalitions to deliver Indigenous-centered services that support cultural connections, and create spaces that encourage dialogue reflective of urban Indigenous reconciliation priorities.
- Support the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs in their work with First Nations to address the housing shortage throughout the province and enhance alignment of housing programs on and off reserve.
- Support Indigenous language revitalization through sustainable funding.

##### Discussion

The Ministry continues to work in close consultation and cooperation with First Nations and other Indigenous peoples in B.C. to ensure that communities' health, wellbeing, and sociocultural priorities throughout the province are actionable. These partnerships invest in economic development, cultural revitalization, human resource capacity building, education, justice, health and family services, and institutional and infrastructure development.

The Ministry provides annual operational funding to the First Peoples' Cultural Council to revitalize languages, heritage, cultures and arts. The Ministry also continues to engage with the Minister's Advisory Council on Indigenous Women to identify and action priorities that



improve the quality of life of Indigenous women across B.C. The Ministry supports reconciliation priorities identified by urban Indigenous Peoples through the implementation of [Actions 4.21- 4.24](#) in the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan.

Work is underway to further develop indicators that report on reconciliation outcomes associated with implementation of the Declaration Act Action Plan. As this work continues to evolve, the Ministry is developing an outcomes framework, in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples, tied to the Declaration Action Plan, to highlight opportunities for alignment. The Ministry will seek opportunities to introduce performance measures in future service plans to support reporting on this objective.

## **Objective 1.2: Support First Nation communities in advancing self determination and governance building**

The Ministry works with First Nations to advance self-determination and governance building, supporting economic, social, and cultural initiatives aligned with the priorities of individual communities and transitioning delivery of public services to First Nations governments.

### **Key Strategies**

- Continue engagement on the new distinctions-based fiscal framework, co-developed with First Nations in partnership with the Ministry of Finance, that supports the operation of First Nations' governments.
- Continue to advance work with other ministries and First Nations partners to co-develop and implement new policy frameworks for resource revenue-sharing and other fiscal mechanisms with First Nations.
- Collaborate, align and leverage opportunities with the federal government to support First Nations self-governance, culture, language and heritage.
- Prioritize comprehensive, tri-partite reconciliation and self-determination through treaty implementation and ratification processes.
- In partnership with the Haida Nation, implement the [Gaayhllxid • Gíihlagalgang "Rising Tide" Haida Title Lands Agreement](#).

### **Discussion**

The Ministry, in partnership with the Ministry of Finance, continues engagement on the new fiscal framework with First Nations. As the New Fiscal Framework is co-developed, the ministry will re-evaluate performance measures and targets to ensure consistency with new revenue sharing and other fiscal mechanisms. As described in the discussion section underneath Objective 1.1, the Ministry will review opportunities for alignment of Action Plan indicators as they become available to support reporting under this objective in future service plans.

## Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2019/20 Baseline	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target
[1a] Cumulative number of community well-being initiatives <sup>1</sup>	16	32	36	40	44

Data source: Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

<sup>1</sup> The term community is inclusive of all First Nations, Métis, and urban Indigenous communities.

## Discussion

Community well-being initiatives are reconciliation processes where communities and the B.C. government work in partnership to identify and implement socio-cultural priorities. These partnerships invest in economic development, cultural revitalization, human resource capacity building, education, justice, health and family services, and institutional and infrastructure development. These arrangements involve highly complex, trust-based relationships which take time to nurture, and require significant internal resources from the Ministry and First Nation(s) to develop. The baseline was chosen as it most accurately reflects the formal emergence of these relationship-driven reconciliation initiatives, which are not generally lands-based or negotiations-based.

Performance Measure	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target
[1b] Number of new opportunities <sup>1</sup> for First Nations to participate in revenue sharing	1	2	2	2

Data source: Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

<sup>1</sup>This includes new revenue sharing opportunities negotiated into particular agreements. Targets have been adjusted as renewals of existing revenue sharing agreements are not included. Targets have been adjusted as the First Nations Clean Energy Program has been transferred to the Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions.

## Discussion

Sharing revenue with First Nations communities is an important reconciliation tool that supports implementation of the UN Declaration and the self-determined pursuit of economic, social, and community development. Like all governments, First Nations require sources of revenue to support capacity and service delivery. Ensuring First Nations share in the wealth generated by economic opportunities helps support economic growth in First Nations communities and for all British Columbians. The Province has committed to co-developing and implementing new distinctions-based policy frameworks for resource revenue-sharing. The Province expects the target for this performance measure (i.e., two opportunities per year) to continue until this work is completed and new models for revenue sharing are available. The Declaration Act Action Plan contemplates a five-year timeline for this work.

## Goal 2: Work in partnership to achieve true and lasting reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples

True and lasting reconciliation is a cross-government priority requiring collaboration with ministry partners and engagement with all British Columbians.

### Objective 2.1: Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action, and Relevant Case Law.

All ministries are accountable for implementing provincial reconciliation commitments. Supporting this, the Ministry works to develop cross-government tools and approaches that achieve the objectives of the UN Declaration through implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, and other relevant legislation and case law.

#### Key Strategies

- Building on the Distinctions-Based Approach Primer, release a companion document to provide guidance to public service employees on the practical application of the Province's Distinctions-Based Approach with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit.
- Continue to prioritize Declaration Act Action Plan implementation, including [Action 1.1](#) to work with First Nations partners to address territorial overlap and boundary resolution, and work towards an updated Declaration Act Action Plan by 2027.
- Support cross-government implementation of the Declaration Act by providing advice to government ministries and agencies to integrate the objectives of the UN Declaration into their policy and operations.
- Deliver a Declaration Act annual report developed in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples to report on progress made to implement the Declaration Act. This includes the alignment of laws, detailed reporting on actions underway, and advancement of modern treaties through the Shared Priorities Framework.
- Continue to work closely with the Ministry of the Attorney General to effectively engage and honour the Directives on Civil Litigation involving Indigenous Peoples.

#### Discussion

The Ministry continues its work to support implementation of government's reconciliation commitments and uphold First Nations rights and title in line with legislation and case law in the context of an evolving legal landscape.

The Declaration Act Secretariat ([Appendix A](#)), which is a central agency within government and distinct from the Ministry, continues to lead and guide the alignment of laws with the UN Declaration. The Ministry continues to advance objectives outlined in the Declaration Action Plan and is working to ensure laws and policies within the scope of its own mandate are aligned with and contribute to implementation of the UN Declaration. The Ministry is responsible for working in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples for many of these actions and is working to support, where indicated in the plan, other ministry partners on shared actions.

To support this work, the Declaration Act Secretariat created “The Interim Approach to Implement the Requirements of Section 3 of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.” It provides every ministry and sector of government with clear, transparent processes for how they can work together with Indigenous Peoples in developing provincial laws, policies and practices, as required under the Declaration Act. Also, the Ministry continues to work with First Nations to advance decision-making agreements as outlined in the Declaration Act, to develop effective approaches to legislative amendments to avoid delays in implementing these agreements, and to release annual reports to highlight work and progress on implementation of the Act.

The Ministry provides financial support through the Declaration Act Engagement Fund which supports First Nations’ efforts to work with the Province to implement the Declaration Act Action Plan and align provincial laws with the UN Declaration. This fund supports this critical work by helping offset the costs for First Nations to engage with the Province on Declaration Act implementation. The DAEF is flexible, and can support staffing, training, community-level meetings, and other resources required to enhance government-to-government work.

## **Objective 2.2: Negotiate and implement treaties and other constructive agreements with Indigenous Peoples**

The Ministry works with Indigenous Peoples and other ministry partners to establish treaties and other agreements that affirm self-determination and support new approaches to developing a framework for cooperation and co-existence of First Nations jurisdiction.

### **Key Strategies**

- In partnership with First Nations, implement new approaches to negotiations that result in long-term, enduring agreements that recognize and support reconciliation, self-determination, and economic independence.
- Collaborate with partner ministries to ensure that negotiated agreements are implemented in a timely and effective manner to deliver the intended outcomes and improve the quality of life in Indigenous communities, focusing on building more affordable housing, generating clean energy, creating good jobs, and protecting our environment.
- Continue to advance engagement with First Nations and other Indigenous Governing Bodies throughout the province on the development of decision-making agreements as outlined in the Declaration Act.
- In partnership with the Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations, continue to advance commitments identified in the [Shared Priorities Framework](#) to improve treaty implementation and relations across government.
- Establish processes to ensure local governments are notified and consulted during the negotiation of agreements, as reflected in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Province, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities on the Engagement with UBCM Local Governments on First Nations Negotiations and Other Initiatives with First Nations.

- Work with partner ministries to expand opportunities for engagement that advance the Province’s relationship with Métis People in British Columbia.

**Discussion**

This Ministry continues its work to ensure that the negotiation and implementation of treaties, shared decision-making mechanisms, and other constructive arrangements uphold First Nations rights, including title, and support long-term, flexible agreements that can evolve over time.

As outlined in the Shared Priorities Framework, the Ministry and Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations continue to prioritize appropriate fiscal arrangements to fulfil treaty rights and obligations. This meaningful involvement of modern treaty nations in legislative and policy initiatives, and corresponding comprehensive organizational and policy changes advance a whole-of-government approach to treaty implementation.

The Declaration Act requires the B.C. government to work in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples to align provincial laws with the UN Declaration, develop and implement an action plan to meet the objectives of the UN Declaration, and deliver an annual report that details progress to implement the Declaration Act. Through delivery of its reporting commitment, the Ministry outlines, on an annual basis, measures towards implementing the Action Plan and alignment of laws.

**Performance Measures**

Reconciliation is a complex and enduring effort that is founded in the relationships that exist between governments. Measuring progress should reflect the evolution of these relationships and capture progress accurately, appropriately, and respectfully.

In recent years, the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation has undertaken development of new measures that capture these relationships and reflect nuances within them.

Performance Measure	2023/24 Baseline	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target	2027/28 Target
[2a] First Nations or Indigenous Governing Bodies that have reached <b>major milestones</b> in negotiations.					
Other Constructive Agreement Negotiations (Tripartite) <sup>1</sup>	19	20	20	22	22
Other Constructive Agreement Negotiations (Bilateral) <sup>2</sup>	30	25	24	26	28

Data source: Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

<sup>1</sup>Includes tripartite Comprehensive Reconciliation Agreements (CRAs) and other constructive arrangements; excludes revenue sharing agreements as these are captured in the performance measure for Objective 1.2

<sup>2</sup>Includes bilateral Accommodation Tools, Economic Benefit Agreements, Settlement Agreements, G2G Agreements, and other constructive arrangements; excludes revenue sharing agreements as these are captured in the performance measure for Objective 1.2

**Discussion**

Treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements serve as a foundation for government-to-government relationships and are key to advancing reconciliation in the province. Guiding this work are policy and legislative tools designed to implement a transformed approach to negotiations that supports the pursuit of self-determination and the inherent right to self-government.

This measure is designed to report on incremental progress made by achieving milestones in specific treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements between the Province and First Nations or other Indigenous Governing Bodies. In the past, agreement reporting was based on completed agreements. In many cases, however, the agreements can take several years to negotiate. In the case of treaties, it is decades. Major milestones have been selected as a measure as they better demonstrate progress in negotiations. Milestones can vary between different types of agreements and may include receiving a negotiation mandate from Treasury Board, bringing a formal offer of lands and/or cash to a negotiation, formal acceptance of an offer by a First Nation, concluding an incremental agreement or concluding a full agreement. The intention is that the milestones are an indicator of substantial progress in a negotiation or implementation of key objectives of an existing agreement.

These performance measure targets are based on emerging trends from the current fiscal year forecast to the 2025/26 year forecast. The target remains relatively flat as the measure counts agreement negotiation milestones at a point in time. For example, new agreements will be counted when they are mandated, again when they are recommended to the principals<sup>3</sup>, again when they are signed, but then removed from the count the following year. These numbers will be non-cumulative, but the targets are intended to reflect that we are maintaining the current pace of negotiations.

Generating out-year targets is difficult due to the nature of negotiations and uncertain funding under the Negotiation Plan contingency fund. Out-year targets are based on shorter term trends and reflect conservative progress.

<b>Performance Measure</b>	<b>2024/25 Forecast</b>	<b>2025/26 Target</b>	<b>2026/27 Target</b>	<b>2027/28 Target</b>
[2b] First Nations within British Columbia exercising self-governance. <sup>1</sup>	10	11	14	16

<sup>1</sup>This measure specifies the number of First Nations within British Columbia exercising self-government, either through a treaty or other negotiated agreement addressing governance, that enables the self-determined pursuit of cultural, social, economic, and other priorities of First Nations.

**Discussion**

Self-government is a substantial reconciliation outcome of treaties and other negotiated agreements that establish jurisdictional authority on matters of significance to each First

<sup>3</sup> 'principals' refers to the parties who can act on behalf of the Nation(s) to sign an agreement.

Nation and enhance government-to-government relationships in accordance with the UN Declaration.

This measure specifies the number of First Nations within British Columbia exercising self-governance either through a treaty or other negotiated agreement addressing governance, that enables the self-determined pursuit of cultural, social, economic, and other priorities of First Nations. Targets show a moderate growth trend, as this measure is a cumulative count anticipated to increase slowly year-to-year and reflect moderate growth year-to-year as new agreements are signed and implemented.

## Financial Summary

(\$000s)	2024/25	2025/26 Estimates	2026/27 Plan	2027/28 Plan
	Restated Estimates <sup>1</sup>			
<b>Operating Expenses</b>				
Negotiations and Regional Operations Division	17,897	18,236	18,236	18,236
Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives Division	24,763	40,444	40,444	40,444
Reconciliation Transformation and Strategies Division	3,558	3,619	3,619	3,619
Executive and Support Services	12,784	12,835	12,835	12,835
Treaty and Other Agreements Funding	94,704	105,204	106,732	118,694
Declaration Act Secretariat	4,567	4,574	4,574	4,574
First Citizens Fund Special Account	1,823	2,046	2,209	2,209
<b>Total</b>	<b>160,096</b>	<b>186,958</b>	<b>188,649</b>	<b>200,611</b>
<b>Capital Expenditures</b>				
Executive and Support Services	3	3	3	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Other Financing Transactions</b>				
British Columbia First Nations Gaming Revenue Sharing Limited Partnership				
Disbursements	100,000	96,000	100,000	103,000
Receipts	(100,000)	(96,000)	(100,000)	(103,000)
Net Cash Requirements (Source)	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
Land Transfers				
Disbursements	43,867	30,000	30,000	30,000
Receipts	(0,000)	(0,000)	(0,000)	(0,000)
Net Cash Requirements (Source)	43,867	30,000	30,000	30,000
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>143,867</b>	<b>126,000</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>133,000</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>(100,000)</b>	<b>(96,000)</b>	<b>(100,000)</b>	<b>(103,000)</b>
<b>Total Net Cash Requirements (Source)</b>	<b>43,867</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>30,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> For comparative purposes, amounts shown for 2024/25 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2025/26 *Estimates*. \* Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the [Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates](#).



## Appendix A: Declaration Act Secretariat

### Purpose of the Organization

The [Declaration Act Secretariat](#) (DAS) is a central agency within the provincial government that works to coordinate and assist the cross-government effort to work in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples to align provincial laws with the UN Declaration as per section 3 of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (Declaration Act):

#### *Measures to align laws with Declaration*

*"In consultation and cooperation with the Indigenous peoples in British Columbia, the government must take all measures necessary to ensure the laws of British Columbia are consistent with the Declaration."*

### Strategic Direction

The Declaration Act was unanimously passed by the Legislative Assembly in 2019. Section 3 of the Declaration Act requires the Province, in consultation and co-operation with Indigenous Peoples, to take "all measures necessary" to ensure consistency between the laws of British Columbia and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.

Since 2019, the Province has taken some measures pursuant to section 3. The most significant measure was the formation of the Declaration Act Secretariat, established in Budget 2022. The mandate of the Secretariat is to ensure legislation is consistent with the UN Declaration and is developed in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples, as required by Section 3 of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.

Reporting directly to the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, but distinct from the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, the Secretariat guides and assists ministries in meeting the alignment of laws obligations, collaborates within government on changes to government's legislative and policy processes, and helps establish government's legislative priorities related to alignment of laws.

The Secretariat's core functions are to:

- provide guidance on consultation and cooperation and consistency of laws;
- develop processes and measures to support alignment of laws;
- inform government's legislative agenda; and
- serve in an interlocutor role.

The Secretariat also provides guidance and advice on how to ensure required consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples takes place. Examples of relevant amendments include the Interpretation Act; Forest and Range Practices Act; FOIPPA; Emergency Program Act; Indigenous Self-Government in Child and Family Services Act; and development of the Anti-Racism Act. Additionally, through internal learning processes since the passage of the

Declaration Act, as well as work with Indigenous partners, the Secretariat co-developed guidance on “Interim Approach: Involving Indigenous Peoples in Policy and Legislation”.

## Appendix B: Public Sector Organizations

As of March 2025, the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation is responsible and accountable for the following:

### **[BC Treaty Commission](#)**<sup>4</sup>

The BC Treaty Commission is an independent body responsible for facilitating treaty negotiations among First Nations and the governments of Canada and British Columbia.

### **[First Peoples' Cultural Council](#)**

The First Peoples' Cultural Council is a First Nation-run Crown corporation that supports the revitalization of Indigenous languages, arts, culture, and heritage in British Columbia.

### **[Haida Gwaii Management Council](#)**<sup>5</sup>

The Haida Gwaii Management Council is a strategic-level joint decision-making body for land and natural resource decisions on Haida Gwaii, as set out in the [Kunst'aa guu – Kunst'aayah Reconciliation Protocol](#).

### **[Minister's Advisory Council on Indigenous Women](#)**

The Minister's Advisory Council on Indigenous Women provides advice to the Government of British Columbia on how to improve the quality of life of Indigenous women across B.C.

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<sup>4</sup> With reference to the BC Treaty Commission, responsibility and accountability is limited and defined through [the Treaty Commission Act](#).

<sup>5</sup> With reference to the Haida Gwaii Management Council, responsibility and accountability is limited and defined through the [Kunst'aa guu – Kunst'aayah Reconciliation Protocol](#).

## Appendix C: Minister Mandate Letter



January 16, 2025

Honourable Christine Boyle  
Minister of Indigenous Relations  
and Reconciliation  
Parliament Buildings  
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Boyle:

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation at a critical time for our province. Serving as a member of the executive council is a privilege and responsibility which I am confident you will fulfill with integrity and a commitment to the people of our province.

British Columbians have trusted us with a mandate to deliver for them in ways that make a tangible difference in their daily lives. They expect us to listen and learn from people of different perspectives – and work together to make things better for everyone.

Specifically, we will tackle the challenges people worry about at the kitchen table:

- **Grow the economy by creating good jobs across British Columbia.** We will collaborate with businesses, workers, and communities to attract investments in both new and traditional sectors as well as emerging sectors of the economy. This approach will bring certainty for business, security for workers, and generate the wealth needed to support the essential services British Columbians rely on.
- **Reduce costs for families** including by helping people access homes they can afford through support for first-time homebuyers, increasing the supply of rental housing stock, and stronger measures to crack down on housing speculation.

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- **Strengthen health care** by expanding access to family doctors and recruiting and training more health professionals, ensuring that every British Columbian can access the care they need, no matter where they live. We will also increase access to addictions treatment and provide help for people whose struggles require intensive supports.
- **Make our neighbourhoods and communities safer** by working with law enforcement and social agencies to address street disorder, crack down on organized crime, and do all we can to ensure repeat offenders stay behind bars.

Our commitment to take action on climate change remains foundational and will be key to a healthy and prosperous BC for future generations.

Underlying all this work is our partnership with Indigenous peoples. Advancing reconciliation, implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and working in partnership with First Nations rights-holders to advance shared interests is the responsibility of every Minister.

Over this mandate I expect you to prioritize making progress on the following:

- In order to protect key services that British Columbians rely on, work with the Minister of Finance to review all existing ministry programs and initiatives to ensure programs remain relevant, are efficient, grow the economy, and deliver an improved quality of life for Indigenous peoples in the province. This is important in the context of current Provincial budget constraints and overall efficiency.
- Build partnerships that advance reconciliation in measurable ways and create tangible benefits for First Nations and all British Columbians, such as building more affordable housing, generating clean energy, creating good jobs, and protecting our environment.
- Ensure that at the end of four years, people living in Indigenous communities in the province have seen an improvement in their quality of life through our government's interventions by prioritizing initiatives that make a meaningful difference in the lives of Indigenous peoples in this province.
- Continue work with First Nations partners, local governments, and agencies to implement treaties and other agreements.
- Given the strains of conflict over boundaries, and the legal costs and uncertainty associated with unclear boundaries, work with First Nations partners to prioritize Action 1.1 of the *Declaration Act Action Plan* relating to overlap and boundary dispute resolution.

- Through the Declaration Act Secretariat, lead work with the Attorney General to ensure alignment of BC's laws with the rights of Indigenous peoples.
- Lead work to review and update the *Declaration Act Action Plan* by 2027, for the next five-year period.
- Work with the Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives on anti-Indigenous racism.
- In cooperation with the Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, continue to develop and implement approaches to accelerate agreed-upon land transfers that enhance First Nation community and economic development.

As you are aware, we have established an accord with the BC Green Caucus that supports our shared commitment to ensuring stable governance focused on delivering progress and tangible outcomes for British Columbians. The commitments in that accord complement the direction in these mandate letters.

As a Cabinet, we will uphold the highest standards of ethics, collaboration, and good conduct in service of the public, and as a Minister of the Crown, you are expected to review, understand, and act according to the *Members' Conflict of Interest Act*. You will establish a collaborative working relationship with your Deputy Minister and the public servants under their direction, who provide the professional, non-partisan advice that is fundamental to delivering on our government's priorities. Your Minister's Office must meet the highest standards for integrity and provide a respectful, rewarding environment for all staff.

The work we have ahead takes place in a profoundly challenging geopolitical environment. Close friends and neighbours to our south are contemplating imposing draconian tariffs on our products that would hurt both Americans and Canadians. Our allies internationally face governmental instability. Hate and racism are on the rise around the world. Artificial intelligence breakthroughs with unclear implications and astonishing potential are announced daily. Global inflation, snarled supply chains, and war are threatening global economic growth and prosperity as well as the transition to a low-carbon economy.

We have an obligation to protect and defend British Columbians, as well as seize opportunities, in these uncertain times.

The good news is that we have everything we need to succeed, and we will succeed. British Columbia's people – our workers, entrepreneurs, business leaders, artists, and innovators – are among the most talented in the world. We are home to world-class educational institutions and public services. Our natural beauty is unmatched, we have internationally envied resources, and we are one of the most diverse places on the planet. Your job is to help us leverage these advantages in perilous times.

Use this mandate letter to guide your work, and do not be afraid to challenge assumptions, or be innovative, bold and aggressive in achieving the goals set out for you and your Ministry by the people of this province.

Thank you for joining me in the work ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Eby", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Eby, KC  
Premier