

# **Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation**

**2022/23**

## **Annual Service Plan Report**

**August 2023**



For more information on the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation contact:

PO BOX 9100  
STN PROV GOVT  
VICTORIA, BC  
V8W 9B1

1-800-880-1022

Or visit our website at

[www.gov.bc.ca/irr](http://www.gov.bc.ca/irr)

Published by the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

## Minister's Accountability Statement



The *Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation 2022/23 Annual Service Plan Report* compares the Ministry's actual results to the expected results identified in the 2022/23 – 2024/25 Service Plan published in 2022. I am accountable for those results as reported.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Murray Rankin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Honourable Murray Rankin  
Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation  
August 11, 2023

# Table of Contents

Minister's Accountability Statement .....	3
Letter from the Minister .....	5
Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report .....	7
Purpose of the Ministry.....	7
Strategic Direction.....	7
Operating Environment.....	8
Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, and Results .....	10
Financial Report.....	16
Appendix A: Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Tribunals.....	18
Appendix B: Progress on Mandate Letter Priorities.....	19

## Letter from the Minister

The B.C. Government operates on the territories of more than 200 First Nations, and each First Nation has its own distinct traditions and relationships to territories and knowledge systems. I want to respectfully acknowledge this. I also want to acknowledge the Inuit and Métis Peoples in B.C. As Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation and Declaration Act Secretariat, I am deeply committed to improving government's relationships with First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples.

We are working together to ensure Indigenous' leadership, governance and self-determination are recognized and respected. Since 2017, there have been transformational changes to B.C.'s laws, structures and policies. Indigenous rights are now embedded into B.C. law. We are committed to implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration).

The independent Declaration Act Secretariat (DAS) is bringing laws into alignment with the UN Declaration and ensuring legislation is developed in consultation and co-operation with Indigenous Peoples. In October 2022, the Secretariat released a world-leading guidance, the [Interim Approach](#), that provides every B.C. Government ministry and sector with processes for how they are to work together with Indigenous Peoples.

In November 2022, the seventh B.C. Cabinet and First Nations Leaders' Gathering took place, marking the first in-person gathering since the COVID-19 pandemic began. That month the Ministry also released a discussion paper on co-development of a New Fiscal Framework and forestry revenue-sharing model.

This past fiscal year, the Ministry advanced several historic agreements with First Nations including signing agreements on a new approach to land and resource development with Fort Nelson, Sauteau, Halfway River and Doig River First Nations, and a historic agreement with the Blueberry River First Nations that ensures Blueberry River members can meaningfully exercise their Treaty 8 rights. In the North of BC, the province has signed the first section 7 of the Declaration Act shared decision-making agreement with the Tahltan Nation. The Ministry also completed the purchase of three ranches to return historically significant land to Canim Lake Indian Band and Stswecem'c Xget'tem First Nation, marking major milestones in the Northern Secwepemc te Qelmucw Treaty negotiations.

In March 2023, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was enshrined in B.C. law to honour the strength and resilience of residential school survivors and remember the children who never came home. This annual statutory day (Sept. 30) will provide a day for people to come together for local commemoration and collective learning through educational events about shared history.

The Province is committed to tangible reconciliation through the implementation of the UN Declaration, by prioritizing opportunities for Indigenous Peoples to be full partners in this province. This annual service plan report recognizes this year's successes, with the understanding there is so much more to be done. The work we do now will impact generations to come.



Honourable Murray Rankin  
Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation  
August 11, 2023

## Purpose of the Annual Service Plan Report

This annual service plan report has been developed to meet the requirements of the Budget Transparency and Accountability Act (BTAA), which sets out the legislative framework for planning, reporting and accountability for Government organizations. Under the BTAA, the Minister is required to report on the actual results of the Ministry's performance related to the forecasted targets stated in the service plan for the reported year.

## Strategic Direction

The strategic direction set by Government in 2020 and Minister Murray Rankin's 2020 [Mandate Letter](#) the goals, objectives, performance measures and financial plan outlined in the [Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation 2022/23 – 2024/25 Service Plan](#) and the actual results reported on in this annual report.

## 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 British Columbians.

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 government in deepening relationships with Indigenous Peoples through an [Action Plan](#) that outlines actions to advance the objectives of the UN Declaration, through the alignment of provincial laws with the UN Declaration, by enabling government to enter into shared decision-making agreements, and allowing flexibility for the Province to enter into agreements with a broad range of Indigenous governments.

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

---

<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.

The Ministry engages with Indigenous 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 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 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 British Columbia, embedded in law, that represents a shared commitment to ensure that the province is a place where the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples are recognized, and First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples thrive. In this work, MIRR is guided by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 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 BC Treaty process, Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+), and relevant case law.

Despite these continued times of significant challenge and the disproportionate impacts on Indigenous communities, as well as the ongoing trauma of revelations from former residential school sites, Indigenous leaders have worked 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.

Together, we are building a province where Indigenous' excellence, leadership, governance, and self-determination is recognized and respected.

As we approach this work, the Ministry and the Province are committed to a distinctions-based approach, which means working with First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples in a manner that distinguishes and respects the differences between the specific rights, interests, priorities, and concerns of each. This commitment requires that the Province's relationship and engagement

---

<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.



with First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples may include different approaches or actions and result in different outcomes.

In supporting the government's broader mandate priority to fight racism and promote equity, the Ministry has partnered with external experts to undergo an internal equity audit, the first in the BC Public Service, to better understand racism, equity and inclusion in the workplace at MIRR by identifying employee experiences of discrimination, and capturing belonging/thriving, justice and privilege.

# Report on Performance: Goals, Objectives, and Results

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

### 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 addressing social, cultural, and economic factors.

#### Key results

- Provided \$35 million in provincial funding to support and strengthen the reclamation and revitalization of First Nations languages, arts, culture, and heritage across B.C.
- Supported First Nation-led investigations at the sites of former Indian Residential Schools and Indian Hospitals across B.C. through ongoing implementation of the BC Residential School Response Fund and collaboration with federal, provincial, and Indigenous agencies as well as the First Nation Liaison.
- In partnership with Emergency Management BC and the Justice Institute of British Columbia a Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) was developed, which supports programs that strengthen the resilience of communities to prepare for and respond to natural disasters and climate change.
- Signed an agreement with the 3Nations Society, consisting of the Tahltan, Kaska, and Taku River Tlingit, that provides stable funding for ongoing community-driven initiatives, and builds on previous successes.

#### Summary of progress made in 2022/23

As Indigenous Peoples exercise their distinct rights to maintain, control, develop, protect and transmit their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and languages, they must be supported by initiatives that promote connection, development, access and improvement, as well as being full participants in all aspects of B.C.'s economy. This includes particular focus on ensuring the rights of Indigenous women, youth, Elders, children, persons with disabilities and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people are upheld. During the reporting period, work regarding GBA+ within the Ministry included education sessions on topics related to language, gender, and MMIWG. The GBA+ lead for the Ministry has also presented on IGBA+ (Indigenous Gender Based Analysis Plus) across government as well as to organizations outside of government.

Progress in this area also requires advancing important community and holistic priorities as determined by Indigenous communities. In the reporting period, this included new partnerships such as the development of Oomiiqsu Mother Centre (Aboriginal Mother Centre) with the Huu-ay-aht First Nations.

Sustained partnerships are also integral to this work. In collaboration with the federal government, First Peoples’ Cultural Council, and the First Peoples’ Cultural Foundation, the Province has committed to working together over the long term to advance the reclamation, revitalization and maintenance of First Nations languages, heritage and arts in B.C.

**Performance measure(s) and related discussion**

Performance Measure	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Target	2022/23 Actual
1.1 Cumulative number of community, <sup>1</sup> well-being initiatives. <sup>2</sup>	22	24	24

Data source: Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

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

<sup>2</sup> PM [1.1] targets for 2023/24 and 2024/25 were stated in the 2022/23 service plan as 24 and 28, respectively. For forward-looking planning information, including current targets for 2023/24 – 2025/26, please see the latest service plan on the [BC Budget website](#).

The Ministry accomplished its target for the reporting period. This work established two additional community well-being initiatives, bringing the cumulative total to the reporting year’s target of twenty-four. These partnerships invest in economic development, cultural revitalization, human capacity building, education, justice, health and family services, and institutional infrastructure development.

**Objective 1.2: Support Indigenous communities in advancing self-determination and governance building**

**Key results**

- As part of implementing the UN Declaration, the Province and Indigenous partners collaborated on important engagement to co-develop a new distinctions-based fiscal framework that supports the operation of Indigenous governments.
- Delivered over \$900,000 in capacity and equity funding to 21 Indigenous communities during the fiscal year through the First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund to advance clean energy projects and a low carbon future for the province.
- In partnership with First Nations Leadership Council, hosted the 2022 B.C Cabinet and First Nations’ Leadership Gathering, marking the first in-person gathering since the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020 and the atmospheric river of 2021. The 2022 Gathering was the largest gathering to date with more than 1,000 delegates and 800 one-on-one meetings between First Nations and Provincial leadership, to advance individual community priorities.

## Summary of progress made in 2022/23

Advancement in this objective saw significant engagement with Indigenous leadership in the reporting period over several priority areas.

In November 2022, the Ministry initiated an important engagement process on the vision and purpose of co-developing the new fiscal framework that recognizes, respects and supports Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination. The Province then began an intensive co-development process with First Nations, focussed on government-to-government engagement to support co-development of principles for the new fiscal framework and options for a new forestry revenue sharing model. The development will take place over the next two years.

The Province is using sections 6 and 7 of the Declaration Act to complete and implement government-to-government agreements that recognize Indigenous self-government and self-determination. In the reporting period, Stz'uminus First Nation and the B.C. government signed a reconciliation agreement which establishes commitments to work together on community priorities and future land transfers, provides support for economic development, and establishes funding for future environmental remediation activities in Ladysmith Harbour. The Province also developed a Memorandum of Understanding (AHP-CII-UK ) with the Ahousaht First Nation which will address the profound impact of colonization on their hahouthee by strengthening Ahousaht governance and building B.C. and Ahousaht's government-to-government relationship.

Substantive progress was made on the Clean Energy Business Fund with pre-retrofit EnerGuide evaluations being done and home assessments that will inform retrofit approaches to each home. Once this analysis is complete, these measures will help achieve their comprehensive community plan targets for reducing in greenhouse gas emissions and finding green alternatives.

## Performance measure(s) and related discussion

Performance Measure	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Target	2022/23 Actual
1.2 Number of new opportunities <sup>1</sup> for First Nations to participate in revenue sharing: <sup>2</sup>	1	4	16

Data source: Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

<sup>1</sup>This includes new revenue-sharing opportunities negotiated into particular agreements.

<sup>2</sup>PM [1.2] targets for 2023/24 and 2024/25 were stated in the 2022/23 service plan as 4 and 4, respectively. For forward-looking planning information, including current targets for 2023/24 – 2025/26, please see the latest service plan on the [BC Budget website](#).

The Ministry exceeded its target for the reporting period due to significant changes in policy that concluded by fiscal year end. This includes eligibility for modern Treaty nations to participate in Forest Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreements, as an interim step towards the co-development of a new fiscal relationship, which resulted in five new agreements. The recent decision regarding [Blueberry River First Nations](#) also resulted in seven new economic benefit agreements with [Treaty 8 First Nations](#).

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

### **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 the Tsilhqot'in Supreme Court decision.**

All ministries carry responsibility for implementation of provincial reconciliation commitments. Supporting this, the Ministry works to develop cross-government tools and approaches that achieve the objectives of the UN Declaration and implementation of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.

#### **Key results**

- Released the 2021-2022 Declaration Act Annual Report which highlights progress made in implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration) and advancing reconciliation in B.C.
- Achieved the first agreements under Section 7 of the Declaration Act to share statutory decision making such as the consent-based decision-making agreement with Tahltan Central Government and the joint decision-making agreement with Shíshálh Nation under the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.
- Launched the Declaration Act Secretariat as a dedicated body to support government's reconciliation efforts to ensure laws, policies and practices are consistent with the Declaration Act.
- In partnership with T̓silhqot'in Nation and Canada, continued to advance actions under the Gwets'en Nilt'i Pathway Agreement to further reconciliation and T̓silhqot'in self-determination.
- Engaged with Indigenous partners to determine a path forward for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, which has now been established as a statutory holiday to advance reconciliation by providing a day for local commemoration, education events and finding meaningful ways to learn more about shared history.

#### **Summary of progress made in 2022/23**

The implementation of the United Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples continues to fundamentally shift how the Province develops and implements provincial laws, policies and practices in consultation and co-operation with Indigenous Peoples. This includes working with Indigenous Peoples to identify suitable tools, indicators and measures for monitoring, assessing and reporting progress on implementation of the Declaration Act.

In consultation and co-operation with Indigenous Peoples, MIRR continues to work in coordination with other ministries to advance the historic Declaration Act Action Plan released

in March 2022 listing goals, objectives and 89 priority actions to achieve the objectives of the UN Declaration in B.C.

As cited in the Action Plan, under Action # 4.21, MIRR is bringing together key Indigenous urban leaders to create a provincial urban Indigenous advisory table to develop and implement a five-year plan to address the priorities of urban Indigenous Peoples, including a focus on Elders, youth, children, women, men, 2SLGBTQQIA+ and persons with disabilities. This advisory table will inform the key priorities and interests of urban Indigenous partners in B.C. including ways to expand government’s supports for urban Indigenous organizations.

**Performance measure(s) and related discussion**

Performance Measure	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Target	2022/23 Actual
2.1 Delivery of reporting obligations related to the Declaration Act. <sup>1</sup>	1	1	1

Data source: Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

<sup>1</sup>PM [2.1] targets for 2023/24 and 2024/25 were stated in the 2022/23 service plan as 1 and 1, respectively. For forward-looking planning information, including current targets for 2023/24 – 2025/26, please see the latest service plan on the [BC Budget website](#).

The Ministry continues to meet its reporting obligations as identified in the Declaration Act through the release of the [2021/22 Annual Report](#), outlining actions taken across Government to implement section 3 (alignment of laws) and section 4 (Action Plan) of the Declaration Act.

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

**Key results**

- Hosted a Premiers Forum with the Alliance of BC Modern Treaty Nations (Alliance) to build on relationships and hold each other to account on treaty-related topics and the Shared Priorities Framework.
- Achieved ground-breaking agreements with Treaty 8 First Nations – the Blueberry River First Nations Agreement and the Consensus Document – that codify a new way for the Nations, industry, and government to work together in the Peace region and address the cumulative impacts of industrial development on the meaningful exercise of Treaty 8 rights.
- Further advanced negotiations between Canada, the Province and Te’mexw Treaty Association to develop five separate treaties which encourage investment, create jobs, expand economic development, and support social well-being.
- In partnership with First Nations around the province continued to implement advanced constructive agreements that lay a path for reconciliation in B.C., including the Lake Babine Foundation Implementation Agreement and Gwets’en Nilt’i Pathway Agreement.

### **Summary of progress made in 2022/23**

In September 2022, the Province and treaty partners celebrated the 30th anniversary of the signing of the BC Treaty Commission Agreement which set the tone for renewed relationships between First Nations, Canada, and British Columbia.

Modern treaties provide a framework for the three parties – Canada, B.C., and First Nations – to work toward the common goal of reconciliation, and build a new relationship through constitutionally protected government-to-government-to-government agreements.

Work continued with the Alliance of Modern BC Treaty Nations on the Shared Priorities Framework, advancing Treaty implementation in the province. This framework aims to increase trust between government and Treaty Nations with three shared priorities: establish fiscal arrangements to fulfil Treaty Rights and obligations, establish meaningful participation of Modern Treaty Nations in B.C.'s legislative and policy initiatives, and establish organizational and policy changes in the BC Public Service to advance a whole-of-government approach to Treaty implementation.

Other progress over the reporting period included the Province and Wei Wai Kum First Nations signing an Incremental Treaty Agreement that will transfer territorial lands back to Wei Wai Kum and help boost the Nation's economic activities, as treaty negotiations advance. Progress also continued in treaty negotiations with K'ómoks First Nation, Pacheedaht First Nation, and Kitselas and Kitsumkalum First Nations.

### **Performance measure(s) and related discussion**

The performance measure underneath this objective has been removed from the 2023/24 Service Plan and will no longer be used for reporting underneath this objective. Methodology used for a new performance measure is being finalized and will be reported out in the upcoming 2024/25 Service Plan.

# Financial Report

## Financial Summary

	Estimated (\$000)	Other Authoriz- ations <sup>1</sup> (\$000)	Total Estimated (\$000)	Actual (\$000)	Variance (\$000)
<b>Operating Expenses</b>					
Negotiations and Regional Operations Division	15,341	67,896	83,237	84,675	1,437
Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives Division	18,439	23,399	41,838	42,372	534
Reconciliation, Transformation and Strategies Division	3,260	3,000	6,260	6,085	(175)
Executive and Support Services	12,775	199	12,974	11,178	(1,796)
Treaty and Other Agreements Funding	115,629	306,858	422,487	422,487	0
Declaration Act Secretariat	3,213	198,688	201,901	201,901	0
First Citizens Fund	1,686	-	1,686	1,686	0
First Nations Clean Energy Business Fund	7,576	-	7,576	6,831	(745)
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>177,919</b>	<b>600,040</b>	<b>777,959</b>	<b>777,215</b>	<b>(745)</b>
Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual <sup>2</sup>	0	0	0	(452)	(452)
<b>Total</b>	<b>177,919</b>	<b>600,040</b>	<b>777,959</b>	<b>776,763</b>	<b>(1,197)</b>
<b>Ministry Capital Expenditures</b>					
Executive and Support Services	3	0	3	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Other Financing Transactions</b>					
British Columbia First Nations Gaming Revenue Sharing Limited Partnership Receipts	(101,000)	0	(101,000)	(113,646)	(12,646)
British Columbia First Nations Gaming Revenue Sharing Limited Partnership Disbursements	101,000	0	101,000	113,646	12,646
Land Transfers Disbursements	34,260	0	34,260	21,859	(12,401)
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>(101,000)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(101,000)</b>	<b>(113,646)</b>	<b>(12,646)</b>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>135,260</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>135,260</b>	<b>135,505</b>	<b>245</b>



Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation

---

	Estimated (\$000)	Other Authoriz- ations <sup>1</sup> (\$000)	Total Estimated (\$000)	Actual (\$000)	Variance (\$000)
<b>Total Net Cash Requirements (Source)</b>	<b>34,260</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>34,260</b>	<b>21,859</b>	<b>(12,401)</b>

<sup>1</sup> "Other Authorizations" include Supplementary Estimates, Statutory Appropriations and Contingencies. Amounts in this column are not related to the "estimated amount" under sections 5(1) and 6(1) of the Balanced Budget and Ministerial Accountability Act for ministerial accountability for operating expenses under the Act.

<sup>2</sup> The Adjustment of Prior Year Accrual of \$0.452 million is a reversal of accruals in the previous year.

<sup>3</sup> "Variance represents "Actual" minus "Total Estimated". If the Actual is greater than the Total Estimated, the Variance will be displayed as a positive number. "

## Appendix A: Agencies, Boards, Commissions and Tribunals

As of March 31, 2023 the Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation is responsible and accountable for the following:

### [BC Treaty Commission<sup>3</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>4</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.

---

<sup>3</sup> With reference to the BC Treaty Commission, responsibility and accountability is limited and defined through [the Treaty Commission Act](#).

<sup>4</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 B: Progress on Mandate Letter Priorities

The following is a summary of progress made on priorities as stated in Minister Murray Rankin’s 2020 Mandate Letter that influenced the development of the 2022/23 Service Plan.

2020 Mandate Letter Priority	Status as of March 31, 2023
<p>Work with your cabinet colleagues and Indigenous partners to address the needs of Indigenous communities through our government's COVID-19 response and recovery efforts.</p>	<p>Complete</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided pandemic recovery with one time \$74-million grant funding that makes up for the loss of shared-gaming revenue for BC First Nations. First Nations had to put on hold significant projects and initiatives during the pandemic and the funding will help to get projects back on track.</li> </ul>
<p>In collaboration with Indigenous partners, deliver the action plan required under the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act to build strong relationships based on recognition and implementation of the inherent rights of Indigenous peoples protected in Canada’s constitution.</p>	<p>Complete</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action plan was delivered on March 30, 2022. The Province continues to implement the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan.</li> </ul>
<p>Bring forward for cabinet consideration a plan to create a dedicated Secretariat by the end of 2021 to coordinate government’s reconciliation efforts and to ensure new legislation and policies are consistent with the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.</p>	<p>Complete</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established the Declaration Act Secretariat on April 1, 2022 to coordinate a whole-of-government approach to alignment of provincial laws, policies, and practices with the UN Declaration.</li> <li>• The Declaration Act Secretariat has developed the Interim Approach to Implement the Requirements of Section 3 of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act. This new guidance for the B.C. government from the Declaration Act Secretariat provides best practices for working with Indigenous Peoples on the development of provincial laws and policies, which advance Indigenous rights.</li> </ul>

2020 Mandate Letter Priority	Status as of March 31, 2023
<p>Improve our government's relationships with Indigenous peoples by moving from short transactional arrangements to long-term agreements that recognize and support reconciliation, self-determination and economic independence – and do so with your cabinet colleagues.</p>	<p>In progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Province sent a discussion paper to every First Nation setting out the Province’s initial thinking on the vision and purpose of co-developing the new fiscal framework, details on the engagement process, and discussion questions. The Province then began an intensive co-development process with First Nations, focussed on government-to-government engagement to support co-development of principles for the new fiscal framework and options for a new forestry revenue sharing model.</li> <li>Continued progress on this priority is highlighted in <a href="#">Objective 1.1</a>, <a href="#">Objective 1.2</a>, <a href="#">Objective 2.1</a> and <a href="#">Objective 2.2</a>.</li> </ul>
<p>Facilitate partnerships with First Nations around key decisions on regional land and resource use allocation through evolving shared decision making, building on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, to provide a clear, stable and sustainable path for everyone to work together – and do this with your cabinet colleagues.</p>	<p>In progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued progress on this priority is highlighted in <a href="#">Objective 1.1</a>, <a href="#">Objective 1.2</a>, <a href="#">Objective 2.1</a> and <a href="#">Objective 2.2</a>.In progress</li> </ul>
<p>Extend our support for cultural preservation and revitalization by funding key projects designed to preserve and respect Indigenous cultures, including the retention and revitalization of First Nations languages.</p>	<p>In progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Province provided nearly \$35 million in new funding to the First Peoples’ Cultural Council (FPCC) and the First Peoples’ Cultural Foundation (FPCF) to support First Nations languages, arts and cultural heritage revitalization programming and operations. The investment builds on a landmark \$50-million grant provided to FPCC in 2018 to address the language crisis and help revitalize Indigenous languages in B.C.</li> </ul>

2020 Mandate Letter Priority	Status as of March 31, 2023
<p>Expand our government's support for Aboriginal Friendship Centres that serve the needs of local Indigenous communities while playing a vital role in connecting urban Indigenous peoples from across the province to their home communities.</p>	<p>In progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Since 2018/2019, \$2.15 million has been provided annually to help strengthen and improve capacity in Friendship Centres to deliver quality programs and services.</li></ul>

