



**Nisga'a Lisims
Government**

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IN RESPECT OF COLLABORATION AND
SUPPORT BETWEEN THE NORTH COAST FIRST NATIONS CLIMATE
INITIATIVE AND THE FIRST NATIONS MAJOR PROJECTS COALITION**

AMONG:

**FIRST NATIONS MAJOR PROJECTS COALITION
SOCIETY**

(the “Coalition”)

AND:

**NORTH COAST FIRST NATIONS CLIMATE INITIATIVE,
AS REPRESENTED BY NISGA'A NATION, LAX
KW'ALAAMS, METLAKATLA FIRST NATION AND
HAISLA NATION**

(the “FNCI”)

(collectively the “Parties”, and individually a “Party”)

WHEREAS:

- A. First Nations are uniquely affected by climate change, and are uniquely positioned to address climate change by taking a leadership role in developing and implementing innovative climate change policies;
- B. First Nations are also uniquely positioned to co-develop and own major projects that are developed within our respective territories;
- C. The Nisga'a Nation, Lax Kw'alaams, Metlakatla First Nation, and the Haisla Nation are collaboratively developing a climate change and greenhouse gas emissions policies together as the FNCI;



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- D. The FNCI is working with governments, including other First Nations, and other non-governmental groups to develop climate change policies that simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen First Nations economic self-determination, including the development of net-zero LNG as a transition fuel in the development of a low carbon economy globally and locally;
- E. The Coalition is a community-based business capacity organization with over 60 First Nation members, a majority of which are located in British Columbia;
- F. The mandate of the Coalition includes member First Nations working collaboratively, cooperatively, and cohesively towards the enhancement of their economic well-being, understanding that a strong economy is reliant upon a healthy environment, supported by vibrant cultures, languages and expression of First Nation laws;
- G. The Coalition provides its member First Nations with business capacity services focused on strengthening the economic and environmental participation of First Nations in major projects;
- H. Lax Kw'alaams is a member of the Coalition and the Coalition has invited the other FNCI member Nations to join it;
- I. Both the Coalition and the FNCI share common values including the unity of Nations, advocacy for the economic and other interests of First Nations, and the strengthening and sharing of knowledge required to make informed decisions about sustainable economic development and climate change mitigation;

NOW THEREFORE, the Parties hereby set out below their mutual understanding and commitments in respect of the ongoing collaboration among them within the scope of their respective mandates and visions.

1. **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this MOU is to set out the Parties' commitment to collaborate and support each other within the scope of their respective mandates and visions.
2. **COLLABORATIVE WORK.** The Coalition and the FNCI will establish a working group to support each other in implementing and achieving their respective visions through deliverables that will be mutually agreed to in a work plan, including:
 - (a) further development, promotion, and implementation of the FNCI *Draft Policy Framework*, with a specific focus on First Nation co-development and equity ownership of environmentally responsible infrastructure;



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- (b) development of environmentally responsible economic development that is consistent with the FNCI *Draft Policy Framework* and the Coalition's *Major Project Assessment Standard*;
 - (c) sharing information obtained through engagement with subject matter experts or government agencies as it may be relevant to the development of climate change mitigation policy or economic development or reconciliation; and
 - (d) other matters as may be mutually agreed between the Coalition and the FNCI from time to time.
3. **TERMINATION.** Either Party may terminate this MOU upon providing written notice to the other Party.
4. **CONFIDENTIALITY**
- (a) The FNCI and the Coalition are committed to openness and transparency in their shared vision of gathering information and developing climate change mitigation policy.
 - (b) None of the discussions, communications, documents or other materials exchanged between the Parties in respect of the implementation of this MOU will be considered confidential except where one Party identifies in writing in advance that such discussions, communications, documents or other materials to be confidential, in which case the Parties agree not to disclose such communications to any third party.
5. **RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES.** The Parties Agree that this MOU is not a legally binding agreement and its terms are not legally enforceable as between them.
6. **DISPUTE RESOLUTION.** If a dispute in respect of the implementation of this MOU arises, the Parties will address and attempt to settle such dispute in good faith through mutual collaboration, cooperation, openness, discussion and consultation amongst the Parties.
7. **MEMBERSHIP.** The First Nations who are members of the FNCI, who are not currently members of the Coalition, may consider and are encouraged to join the Coalition.

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