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REGIONAL DISTRICT
 OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

"A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN OUR REGION"

March 9, 2021

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

I, Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services for the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako hereby certify that the following is a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako at its Meeting held on February 25, 2021.

Restoration of the Nechako Watershed

WHEREAS the Nechako River is no longer a functional ecosystem;

AND WHEREAS through the construction of the Kenney Dam and the Nechako Reservoir in the early 1950s, the Nechako River has experienced unnatural and non-seasonal water flows, causing lasting, major damage to the populations of salmon, sturgeon, a variety of other species of fish and other aquatic species reliant on natural and functional flows;

AND WHEREAS more naturalized flows in the Nechako River and its affected tributaries are required to restore ecosystem functions in the Nechako Watershed;

AND WHEREAS the continued operation of the Kenney Dam and Nechako Reservoir have caused, and continue to cause, significant infringements on the claim of Aboriginal title and rights on First Nations, and specifically, Nadleh Whut'en, Saik'uz First Nation, and Stelat'en First Nation, together known as the "Nechako First Nations";

AND WHEREAS the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako recognizes the need for a balance between the economic benefits and the environmental and ecosystem impacts as a result of the Nechako Reservoir;

AND WHEREAS the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako considers it desirable to explore a new governance mechanism involving the Nechako First Nations, other impacted First Nations, and Local Governments within the Nechako Watershed so as to collectively represent the Nechako Watershed Region, as an adaptive co-management regime that is part of the decision-making process to ensure the achievement of functional flows, and to respect the constitutionally protected rights of the Nechako First Nations and other impacted First Nations within the Nechako Watershed;

AND WHEREAS the Nechako First Nations have expressed their desire to engage with the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako and other stakeholders in relation to the implementation of a new flow regime to restore the health of the Nechako Watershed;

MUNICIPALITIES:

SMITHERS FORT ST. JAMES
 VANDERHOOF FRASER LAKE
 HOUSTON TELKWA
 BURNS LAKE GRANISLE

ELECTORAL AREAS:

A - SMITHERS RURAL E - FRANCOIS/OOTSA LAKE RURAL
 B - BURNS LAKE RURAL F - VANDERHOOF RURAL
 C - FORT ST. JAMES RURAL G - HOUSTON RURAL
 D - FRASER LAKE RURAL

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AND WHEREAS the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako is committed to advancing reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, including with the Nechako First Nations and, in particular, in respect of the impacts of the continued operation of the Kenney Dam and the Nechako Reservoir on the Nechako Watershed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako urges Canada, the Province of British Columbia, and Rio Tinto to do all things necessary to support the efforts of the Nechako First Nations to restore the ecosystem functioning of the Nechako River and its affected tributaries.

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Cheryl Anderson - Corporate Officer



Date