

FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 14, 2016

First Nations Summit saddened by the death of Jim Prentice

Coast Salish Territory/Vancouver – First Nations Summit (FNS) leaders were shocked and saddened to hear of the tragic death of former Alberta Premier and Federal Minister of Indian Affairs, Jim Prentice, P.C. Q.C., as a result of a plane crash just north of Kelowna, BC last night.

Mr. Prentice served this country very well and, on a day like this, we set aside politics and perspectives and we remember the opportunities we had to engage with him in the many roles he served in his public life. The First Nations Summit engaged with Minister Prentice on many occasions during his career including his time as a Law Commissioner of the Indian Claims Commission of Canada; Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, where he was instrumental in setting up a new Specific Claims Commission and Specific Claims Tribunal; Minister of Environment, and Premier of Alberta.

He will be especially remembered by BC First Nations for having the courage in November 2010, as the Minister of Environment, to heed the recommendations of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and say no to the proposed Prosperity Gold-Copper Mine at Teztan Biny (Fish Lake) in Tsilhqot'in territory, just west of Williams Lake, BC.

The First Nations Summit extends our deepest condolences to his wife Karen and to his entire family.

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The First Nations Summit speaks on behalf of First Nations involved in treaty negotiations in British Columbia. The Summit is also a NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Further background information on the Summit may be found at www.fns.bc.ca.

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