For Immediate Release August 14, 2007

FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT OPTIMISTIC WITH APPOINTMENT OF HON. CHUCK STRAHL AS MINISTER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Coast Salish Territory/Vancouver – The First Nations Summit is welcoming the appointment of Chuck Strahl as the new federal Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

The First Nations Summit is pleased the responsibility for this critical portfolio has been given to the senior Minister for British Columbia.

"We are looking forward to a positive and constructive dialogue with Minister Strahl in our efforts to address the needs of First Nations people in BC said Grand Chief Edward John, a member of the First Nations Summit political executive.

"We look forward to working with Minister Strahl to address the unanswered land question in BC and working together to close the serious social and economic gaps faced by First Nations people in BC and across Canada".

The First Nations Summit will be calling for a meeting as soon as possible to brief the Minister on key concerns and issues faced by First Nations in BC.

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The First Nations Summit speaks on behalf of First Nations involved in treaty negotiations in British Columbia. Further background information on the Summit may be found at www.fns.bc.ca.

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