



NEWS RELEASE

First Nations Summit Elects New Executive

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Grand Chief Edward John (Akile Ch'oh), Dave Porter and Chief Judith Sayers (Kekinusuqs), have been elected to the First Nations Summit Task Group by leaders representing First Nations currently engaged in treaty negotiations in BC.

The First Nations Summit Task Group is the political executive of the First Nations Summit, which speaks on behalf of those First Nations involved in the treaty negotiation process in British Columbia.

Chief John, a hereditary Grand Chief of the Tl'azt'en Nation, will be serving his seventh term as a member of the Summit's Political Executive. Chief John was a member of the tripartite British Columbia Claims Task Force in the early 1990's which recommended the establishment of the independent BC Treaty Commission to facilitate treaty negotiations.

Dave Porter has been elected to his second term on the Summit Task Group, is from the Kaska Nation. He is currently the Chairperson and Chief Negotiator of the Kaska Dena Council. In the mid 1980's Mr. Porter served as Deputy Premier of the Yukon. He also served as Yukon Minister of Renewable Resources, Tourism, Heritage and Culture, and Minister Responsible for Constitutional Devolution. In the 1990's Mr. Porter served as Assistant Deputy Minister of Aboriginal Affairs for the British Columbia Government.

Chief Judith Sayers is the elected Chief of the Hupacasath First Nation, one of fourteen member nations of the Nuuchah-Nulth Nation. Chief Sayers has served the past 11 years as Chief of the Hupacasath. She will be serving her first term as a member of the Summit Task Group.

Daniel Watts of the Hupacasath First Nation and Chief Leah George-Wilson of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation were also re-elected as Co-Chairs of the First Nations Summit. The Co-Chairs are responsible for chairing First Nations Summit meetings as well as the Summit's administration and day-to-day operations.

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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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