



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT WELCOMES NEW CABINET APPOINTMENTS

**Coast Salish Territory/Vancouver** – Today, the Government of British Columbia announced a shuffle in Cabinet appointments, including:

- The Honourable Tom Christensen will be leaving the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation for the Ministry of Children and Families;
- The Honourable Michael de Jong will assume the responsibility for Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation;
- Stan Hagen is the new Minister of Tourism, Sport and the Arts; and
- Olga Illich has been named Minister of Labour and Citizens' Services.

The First Nations Summit has enjoyed a constructive working relationship with the Honourable Tom Christensen, and supports his new posting to the Ministry of Children and Family Development. "Children and family issues of fundamental importance to First Nations communities," said Grand Chief Edward John of the First Nations Summit Task Group, "and we expect to continue to work closely with Minister Christensen on the implementation of Aboriginal authority over children and families."

The First Nations Summit also welcomes the appointment of the Honourable Michael de Jong as Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation. "We have a full agenda under the New Relationship and Transformative Change Accord and we look forward to continued progress in partnership with Minister de Jong," added Chief John.

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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](http://www.fns.bc.ca).

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