



FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

NEWS RELEASE

**First Nations Summit Angered over Mistakenly Being Identified
in Recently Released HRDC Audit Summaries:**

***An Open Letter to The Honourable Jane Stewart,
Minister of Human Resources Development Canada***

For Immediate Release:

February 9, 2000

North Vancouver — The First Nations Summit today released the attached letter to the Honourable Jane Stewart, Minister of Human Resources Development Canada. The letter was written to request that Minister Stewart immediately clear up any confusion over recently released HRDC audit summaries which mistakenly named the First Nations Summit as one of 37 projects flagged for review by HRDC auditors.

The Summit has asked Minister Stewart to immediately instruct her staff to remove any reference to the First Nations Summit on the audit summaries and HRDC web site.

The Summit is very disturbed that such a glaring error could have been made by HRDC and wrongfully released to the media for public consumption.

For further information:

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(604) 990-9939

February 9, 2000

The Honourable Jane Stewart
Minister of Human Resources Development
Place du Portage Phase IV
14th Floor 140 Promenade du Portage
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0J9

Dear Minister Stewart:

There have been numerous reports in the media about HRDC funded programs/projects that were part of a recent audit process. In British Columbia eight files have been designated as requiring greater scrutiny.

The First Nations Summit has been wrongly identified as one of the organizations named to be further scrutinized for a project entitled **First Nations Quality Child Care: A National Study**. Our office has been forced to deal with numerous inquiries about our alleged involvement in the HRDC audit process. Our name has wrongly been identified in print and television media stories.

It is our belief that the mistake originated at Human Resources Development Canada. We are seriously disturbed that such a mistake could occur, considering the potential embarrassment to parties who are wrongly identified

As the First Nations Summit IS NOT the sponsoring agency for the aforementioned project we are seeking immediate corrections to be made to the file, including on the HRDC internet site, before further damage is done to our name and reputation. As well, we require a written explanation of how the mistake occurred and how it has been rectified.

We await your earliest response.

Yours truly
FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

Original signed by:

Danny Watts
Co-Chair

cc: Bill Gardner, Regional Director British Columbia and Yukon Region, HRDC
Michele Lanouette, HRDC, Vancouver