



FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

NEWS RELEASE

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First Nations Summit congratulates Yale First Nation

Coast Salish Territory/ Vancouver, BC – The First Nations Summit congratulates the Yale First Nation leaders, negotiators and community members for reaching their final treaty agreement and the introduction of the Yale First Nations Treaty Settlement legislation in the BC Legislature.

“The Yale First Nation should be commended for their significant efforts to reach a final agreement that is appropriate for and supported by their people”, said Dan Smith, a member of the First Nations Summit political executive. “This agreement represents a new beginning for the citizens of the Yale First Nation in moving forward as a self-governing and self-sustaining community.”

“Today is a significant day for the leaders, elders, youth and peoples of the Yale First Nation. We wish them well as the legislative process unfolds and they move towards implementation of their agreement”, said Chief Doug White, of the First Nations Summit political executive. “It will now be critical for the governments to provide the resourcing and commitments necessary to ensure meaningful implementation of the Yale agreement”.

“However, while the Yale agreement is a positive sign, it represents the ‘tip of the iceberg’ as dozens of other BC First Nations remain at the negotiations table. We call on the governments of Canada and British Columbia to continue to adjust their negotiating mandates as necessary to work with other BC First Nations to find just, equitable and unique treaties for each of them”, added Chief White.

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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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