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To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
Date: 3/30/2022 3:46:26 PM
Subject: [Provincial DRIPA Action Plan - Released Today](#)

Dear Mayor and Council,

Premier John Horgan and Minister Murray Rankin released the first *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) [Action Plan](#).

The five year Action Plan was developed alongside Indigenous Peoples, First Nations and organizations through intensive consultations in 2021.

UBCM provided a [submission](#) emphasizing its strong support for ongoing work towards reconciliation and relationship building, and requesting that the Province engage with local governments as DRIPA is implemented.

This action plan provides a province-wide, whole-of-government and distinctions-based approach to achieve the objectives of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The goals and outcomes are organized by four main themes. In addition to taking steps to ensure that Indigenous Peoples are able to exercise their inherent rights and title, right to self-determination and self-government, the Action Plan dedicates a significant section to addressing racism, and health and social inequities experienced by Indigenous Peoples as a result of historic and current systems of oppression.

A Declaration Secretariat is being stood up to guide and assist government as it strives to ensure all of BC's legislation is consistent with UNDRIP and is developed in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples.

The Action Plan does not delineate local government responsibilities in relation to DRIPA.

Highlighted actions which involve and impact local governments include (but are not limited to):

Cultural Heritage:

- 4.27 Review the principles and processes that guide the naming of municipalities and regional districts, and evolve practices to foster reconciliation in local processes.
- 4.29 Establish an Indigenous-led working group to develop a strategy for the revitalization of Indigenous languages in B.C., including potential legislative supports.
- 4.30 Support Indigenous language revitalization through sustainable funding.

Regional Governance:

- 1.11 Support inclusive regional governance by advancing First Nations participation in regional district boards.

Indigenous Health and Well-being:

- 4.6 Promote culturally relevant sport, physical activity and recreation initiatives and opportunities that increase Indigenous engagement, participation and excellence in both traditional and mainstream sports for individuals in both urban and rural or remote areas.
- 4.8 In alignment with the tripartite health plans and agreements, continue to strengthen and evolve the First Nation health governance structure in B.C. to ensure First Nations are supported to participate as full and equal partners in decision-making and service delivery at local, regional and provincial levels, and engage First Nations and the Government of Canada on the need for legislation as envisioned in the tripartite health plans and agreements.
- 4.12 Address the disproportionate impacts of the overdose public health emergency on Indigenous Peoples by:
 - applying to the Government of Canada to decriminalize simple possession of small amounts of illicit drugs for personal use, and continuing campaigns and other measures to help end the stigma and shame associated with addiction;
 - expanding prescribed safer supply and other harm reduction measures; and
 - ensuring accessibility of recovery beds, and evidence-based, culturally relevant and safe services to meet the needs of Indigenous Peoples, including youth

Urban Indigenous Peoples

- 4.21 Bring together key Indigenous urban leaders to create a provincial urban Indigenous advisory table to

