



MEDIA RELEASE

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Oct. 21, 2020

Tsilhqot'in Nation endorses the NDP and Premier John Horgan for re-election

Williams Lake, BC: The Tsilhqot'in National Government announced its endorsement today for Premier John Horgan and the New Democratic Party (NDP) in the upcoming B.C. provincial election.

Over its term in office, the NDP government has taken notable steps to advance Indigenous rights. In November 2019, the provincial government passed legislation to implement the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP), which mandates British Columbia to bring its laws and policies into compliance with the UNDRIP.

The NDP provincial government, along with Government of Canada and the Tsilhqot'in Nation signed the historic *Gwets'en Nilt'i Pathway Agreement* in August 2019. This agreement establishes a framework for transformative change in the lives of the Tsilhqot'in peoples and to the relationship between the Tsilhqot'in Nation, Canada and B.C.

Other key accomplishments included the signing of a *Collaborative Emergency Management Agreement* with the Tsilhqot'in Nation and Canada, the launch of a First Nations Court in Williams Lake, and the sharing of gaming revenues with First Nations across the province.

Nits'il?in (Chief) Joe Alphonse, TNG Tribal Chairman

"As Chiefs of the Tsilhqot'in Nation, we endorse the NDP and Premier John Horgan for re-election. Over the NDP's term in office, we have started to see long overdue progress. The NDP government followed through on its commitment to pass legislation to implement UNDRIP in British Columbia. They made significant commitments to our people in the *Gwets'en Nilt'i Pathway Agreement*. We have not always seen eye-to-eye. And we will continue to advocate for our people without compromise. But the hard work of implementing UNDRIP, fully recognizing Indigenous rights and title, and truly respecting Indigenous peoples of this land is only beginning. We endorse the NDP and Premier Horgan to continue the work that they have started."

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