



MEDIA RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Tsilhqot'in, B.C. Housing reaffirm commitment in MOU celebration**

**Williams Lake, B.C.:** The Tsilhqot'in National Government and BC Housing reaffirmed their commitment to develop and share best practices in residential asset management today by publicly celebrating their agreement to extend the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two parties. The Honourable Minister of Housing, Ravi Kahlon, joined the Tsilhqot'in Chiefs in Williams Lake as housing and infrastructure within the Nation was celebrated in a public event.

The MOU was originally signed in March 2020. The extension of the MOU is for an additional three years, expiring on March 25, 2026.

The MOU commits BC Housing and the Tsilhqot'in Nation to support each other to address the housing crisis in Tsilhqot'in communities. This includes:

- The development of an asset management framework,
- Capacity-building and training initiatives,
- Capital project business case development,
- Mechanisms for knowledge-sharing and documentation, and
- Support applying for relevant funding.

The Tsilhqot'in National Government is the national governing body for the Tsilhqot'in people. The Tsilhqot'in Nation is comprised of six communities located throughout the Tsilhqot'in (Chilcotin) territory and is the only Nation in Canada with a court declaration of Aboriginal title (*Tsilhqot'in Nation v. British Columbia*).

#### **Quotes:**

#### **Nits'il?in (Chief) Joe Alphonse, O.B.C, LL.D. (hon.). Tribal Chair, Tsilhqot'in National Government –**

“Housing is the number one priority for each one of our Tsilhqot'in communities. Housing improvements are necessary for the health and safety of our people; we put our people first. Housing is not only an investment in housing, but also in our people and our economy. Indigenous peoples have endured deplorable living conditions in this country for far too long and the problem continues to get worse. We are in a housing crisis and the time for BC to work with us strategically to address the crisis is overdue. With the recommitment to the Housing MOU between our Nation and the province we hope to take the vital steps necessary to see transformative change in the lives of our people. The Tsilhqot'in have led the way on many momentous achievements and agreements, and housing is yet another area where we are breaking new ground.”



**Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Housing –**

“Our government is listening to the Tsilhqot'in Nation and Indigenous organizations in B.C., and we are committed to working together to share knowledge and best practices to make housing better for all Tsilhqot'in people. We're honoured to reaffirm our partnership with Tsilhqot'in Nation for an additional three years, in the spirit of collaboration, partnership and family.”

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