MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
and
THE UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES
on
LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION IN THE NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH FIRST NATIONS IN BC

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) replaces a previously signed MOU and two supporting Protocol Agreements which dealt with local government participation in treaty negotiations. This new MOU incorporates the spirit and intent of those earlier commitments and extends them to include the negotiation and implementation of the full range of agreements encompassed by the Province's New Relationship with First Nations in B.C.

THE PARTIES:
The parties to this MOU are:
- The Province of British Columbia (the Province) as represented by the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR); and
- The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) representing all municipalities and regional districts of British Columbia.

WHEREAS:
The Parties agree that recent court decisions have resulted in changes to the way the Crown consults with First Nations with respect to decisions made by the Crown that have the potential to impact Aboriginal rights and title.
The Parties acknowledge that the Province and B.C. First Nations' organizations are working together to develop a new government-to-government relationship to improve the process of decision making as it relates to land, resources and economic development.

The Parties recognize that local government jurisdictions may be affected by the negotiation of land, resource and economic development agreements with First Nations.
The Parties accept that local government constitutes a unique and special interest in the negotiation of a range of agreements with First Nations including modern day treaties and non-treaty land, resource and economic development arrangements.
The Parties acknowledge that local governments are developing working relationships with their First Nations neighbours and that this MOU encourages local governments and First Nations to communicate and inform each other about matters of mutual interest.

THEREFORE:
This MOU reflects the development of the relationship between the Parties in response to the evolution of the treaty process and progress made since the New Relationship vision document was developed in 2005. It defines a renewed commitment by the Parties to:

- continue a process for local government participation in the negotiation and implementation of treaties;
- consult and exchange information with local governments on other agreements outside the B.C. treaty process; and
- consult on matters of mutual interest including those matters that will have a significant impact on local government jurisdiction.

The Hon. Michael de Jong
Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

Terry Raymond, Chair
First Nations Relations Committee, UBCM

Susan Gimsie, President
Union of BC Municipalities

Date