



# FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

RESOLUTION #0304.29

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR NATIVE BROTHERHOOD OF BC TAXATION TASK GROUP**

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## WHEREAS

- A. First Nations in British Columbia have never surrendered their Aboriginal title or rights, including their inherent right of self-government, in any way.
- B. One of the fundamental powers of a government is the power to impose and collect forms of taxation.
- C. Our ancestors, in their dealings with government, were explicit in stating that they did not agree to submit to any form of taxation by other governments.
- D. Taxation is an issue being negotiated in treaty negotiations in British Columbia.
- E. The Canada Revenue Agency is conducting a campaign against Aboriginal people to eliminate the taxation exemption, despite ongoing treaty negotiations in British Columbia.
- F. The Native Brotherhood of BC (NBBC) established the NBBC Taxation Task Group to develop a position on Canada's taxation of Aboriginal people and to obtain support from Aboriginal organizations before presenting the position to the Prime Minister and Parliament.
- G. By resolution #1103.19, the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly supported the NBBC Taxation Task Group in its efforts to address the hardships of Aboriginal peoples in BC in Revenue Canada's interpretation and application of section 87 of the *Indian Act*.

## THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- 1. That the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly direct the Task Group to work with the Native Brotherhood of British Columbia (NBBC), in cooperation with the First Nations Summit members and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, to seek a remission order from the Canada Revenue Agency as an interim arrangement for relief to Aboriginal people, pending treaties.
- 2. That the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly direct the Task Group to work with the NBBC in initiating a national political campaign to amend taxation legislation and policy, as necessary, to relieve the poverty economic hardship and oppression created by that legislation and policy in its application to Aboriginal people in Canada.

PAGE TWO

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MOVED BY: John Ward, Taku River Tlingit First Nation

SECONDED BY: Robert Hill, Tsimshian Tribal Council

DATED: March 12, 2004

Passed by consensus.

ENDORSED BY:

Lydia Hwitsum

Edward John

Herb George (Satsan)