LAND CLAIMS **AGREEMENTS COALITION**

Carcross/Tagish First Nation
Champagne and Aishihik First Nations
Council of Yukon First Nations
Gwich'in Tribal Council
Huu-ay-aht First Nations
Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations
Kwanlin Dun First Nation
Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation
Maa-nulth First Nations
Makivvik Corporation
Naskapi Nation of
Kawawachikamach
Nisga'a Nation
Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
The Sahtu Secretariat Inc.
Tla'amin Nation
Teslin Tlingit Council
Tłı̨chǫ Government
Toquaht Nation
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in
Tsawwassen First Nation
Uchucklesaht Tribe Government
Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation
Yuułu?ił?ath Government

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Along with LCAC members noted above, the MT/SG group includes the shíshálh Nation (Sechelt), Sioux Valley Dakota Nation, Westbank First Nation and the Whitecap Dakota Nation

Modern Treaty and Self-Governing First Nations Bring a Plan for Shared Prosperity to First Ministers

Historic meeting highlights Indigenous leadership, economic opportunity and a shared vision for Canada's future

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ottawa, Ontario | October 26, 2026 – Modern treaty and self-governing First Nations (MT/SGs) brought economic leadership, practical solutions and a vision for a stronger, more prosperous and resilient Canada to today's First Nations and First Ministers Meeting (FNFMM) in Ottawa.

MT/SG lands and territories encompass approximately 40 per cent of Canada's land base and well over two-thirds of its coastline, including adjacent marine shipping routes vital to Canada's economy. Nearly **60% of the projects and transformative strategies being assessed by Canada's Major Projects Office intersect with MT/SG lands and territories.** Their governments are already advancing significant nation-building initiatives, including the Nisga'a Nation's Ksi Lisims LNG project, the Tłı̨chǫ Government's work on the Arctic Economic and Security Corridor, and Whitecap Dakota Nation's Virtual Health Hub.

These initiatives demonstrate the contributions MT/SGs are making as governments, developers, community builders, investors and economic partners, as well as the opportunities for further collaboration.

Participating as a distinct group, reflective of their unique status as governments within Canada's Federation with established rights, jurisdictions and responsibilities their message was clear: **Canada's nation-building priorities and those of First Nations can advance together, creating lasting opportunities for communities, regional economies and all Canadians.**

> "Modern treaty and self-governing First Nations are already helping build Canada's future. We bring governments, lands, resources, expertise and a proven ability to turn partnerships into results," said

Eva Clayton, President of the Nisga'a Nation and Co-Chair of the Land Claims Agreements Coalition (LCAC). "Today's meeting is an opportunity to build on that experience, strengthen our partnerships and create lasting prosperity together."

At today's meeting, MT/SG leaders outlined a practical path to strengthen partnerships, advance shared priorities and turn opportunities for collaboration into meaningful results. MT/SG leaders welcomed Prime Minister Carney's commitment to work with MT/SGs to develop a Path Forward Agreement and establish a collaborative process to advance shared priorities. MT/SGs anticipate the agreement will focus on early participation in major projects, access to capital and ownership opportunities, workforce development, community investment and long-term economic partnerships and creating a foundation for lasting collaboration and shared prosperity.

MT/SG Leaders also advanced concrete proposals to strengthen whole-of-government treaty implementation, address barriers to exercising Indigenous jurisdiction, and invest in infrastructure, language revitalization, and lands and resource management through their existing joint fiscal processes. They called for renewed direct engagement with the Prime Minister through an Intergovernmental Leaders' Forum in early 2027 and annually thereafter.

Leaders emphasized that **strong economies and thriving communities go hand in hand.** Investments in health and wellbeing, housing, infrastructure and public safety help create the foundations for healthy families, resilient communities and sustained economic development. Strengthening these foundations ensures that the benefits of nation-building translate into meaningful improvements in the lives of First Nations citizens.

MT/SGs historic participation at this meeting marks an important step in recognizing the contributions of these governments to Canada's future. With established partnerships, economic opportunities and practical solutions already on the table, MT/SGs are ready to work alongside First Ministers to translate today's discussions into lasting results.

Canada's future is being built now, and modern treaty and self-governing First Nations are helping to lead the way.

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Who we are: MT/SGs are Indigenous governments with constitutionally protected rights and jurisdictions, our own institutions and have enduring government-to-government relationships with the Crown. **Modern treaties are constitutionally protected agreements** defining the ongoing relationship between Indigenous Nations and the Crown, including rights, lands, resources and jurisdiction. **Self-government agreements recognize our authority to govern ourselves**, make and administer laws, and deliver programs and services to our citizens.

The Land Claims Agreement Coalition (LCAC) is a national coalition of Modern Treaty Nations that works collectively to advance the full and effective implementation of modern treaties and strengthen the relationships between Modern Treaty governments and the Crown. For additional information please refer to https://landclaimscoalition.ca/