

WHEREAS The chief and Council of Fort Nelson First Nation (FNFN) have met on the 8th day of December, 2014; and

WHEREAS First Nations are diverse communities with aboriginal and treaty rights and other rights and freedoms that are recognized and affirmed in the Constitution of Canada; and

WHEREAS First Nations have a profound relationship with the land that is rooted in respect for the spiritual value of the Earth and the gifts of the Creator and have a deep desire to preserve their relationship with the land; and

WHEREAS First Nations should have a choice of withdrawing their lands from the land administration provisions of the Indian Act in order to exercise control over their lands and resources for the use and benefit of their members; and

WHEREAS First Nations developed the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management (Framework Agreement) with Canada in order to exercise community control over reserve lands and resources; and

WHEREAS under the Framework Agreement community control over reserve lands and resources;

- Will protect these lands for future generations by preventing any surrender and sale or any provincial or federal expropriation; and
- Will facilitate economic development to generate revenues for jobs and for the community; and

WHEREAS Canada will continue to be liable for any acts and omissions in respect of existing rights and interests in land which may have occurred before the community assumed control over reserve lands and resources; and

WHEREAS nothing in the Framework Agreement shall be interpreted in a way that abrogates or derogates from any aboriginal or other rights and freedoms that pertain to the signatory First Nations or any treaty rights of the signatory First Nations without the consent of the signatory First Nation expressly obtained; and

WHEREAS developmental funding is to be made available to First Nations who are part of the Framework Agreement to develop a land code; and

WHEREAS the Chief and Council of the Fort Nelson First Nation have discussed the purpose of the Framework Agreement and support the principles and process;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Chief and Council of the Fort Nelson First Nation do hereby confirm by resolution their desire to be a signatory to the Framework Agreement and to be part of the land management initiative.