

# OUR LAND IS OUR FUTURE

UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA INDIAN CHIEFS

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## NEWS RELEASE

June 11, 2012

### UBCIC Calls on First Nations to Support "Our Dreams Matter Too" Campaign

Today, on the fourth anniversary of the Prime Minister's residential schools apology, the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society (FNCFCS) is launching an important campaign called "Our Dreams Matter Too." The campaign focuses on giving First Nations children the same chance as non-First Nations children to grow up safely at home, get a good education and be healthy and proud of their cultures. The campaign encourages individuals and organizations to send letters to the Prime Minister supporting culturally based equity for First Nations children.

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) stated "The UBCIC calls on all First Nations leadership and community members to take action in support of the campaign by sharing information, organizing community walks and encouraging letters from as many individuals as possible."

Last week, the UBCIC Chiefs Council met with Dr. Cindy Blackstock, Executive Director of the FNCFCS, who spoke eloquently about the great efforts of thousands of school children who understand reconciliation means not saying sorry twice. By Resolution 2012-23, the UBCIC Chiefs Council proudly joins the FNCFCS to call for a community-based walk to the mailbox with letters of support for the campaign and cause.

"Non-discrimination and respect for cultures and languages are shared principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination," said Grand Chief Phillip. "The 'Our Dreams Matter Too' campaign is an opportunity for all First Nations to actively be involved in ensuring that these important international instruments are upheld."

Please join with us today and take a moment to send a letter to Prime Minister Harper supporting culturally based equity for First Nations children. A template letter is attached for your use.

Media inquires:  
Grand Chief Stewart Phillip  
Phone: (250) 490-5314

# OUR DREAMS MATTER TOO

June 11, 2012

## **The Dreams of First Nations Children Matter Too!**

**First Nations children should not have to fight for services all other Canadians enjoy.**

Give First Nations children the same chance to grow up safely at home, get a good education, be healthy, and proud of their cultures.

Signed,



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