



# Ministers Wildlife Advisory Council

“Wildlife and their habitats thrive, are resilient, and support and enrich the lives of all British Columbians”

Minister Nathan Cullen, Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

Minister Bruce Ralston, Forests

December 13, 2022

Dear Ministers Cullen and Ralston,

Congratulations on your Cabinet appointments! The Ministers Wildlife Advisory Council is pleased to be working with you and providing advice on the implementation of the Together for Wildlife (T4W) Strategy. Your mandate letters indicate that Minister Cullen will lead the T4W Strategy, however responsibility for the implementation of this Strategy is shared between your two ministries. We hope you will both continue to seek advice from your Council.

Council members are already focused on critical parts of your mandates. Advancing the Declaration Act is central to this work, and we focus on modelling reconciliation and advancing shared decision making/co-management of wildlife. Our partnership with First Nations–B.C. Wildlife and Habitat Conservation Forum (Forum) demonstrates this approach: together we are providing critical advice on Regional Wildlife Advisory Bodies and on ways to advance shared decision making.

On the shift to a more conservation focused economy, we hope our advice on the legislative and governance foundations will move us closer to success. Council’s focus on an “ecosystems first” approach in land use decisions supports the implementation of the Old Growth Strategy recommendations and the proposed biodiversity declaration.

Why Together for Wildlife? Thriving wildlife and habitats are integral to the culture and sustainability of Indigenous communities, a foundation for economic prosperity throughout the province, and a source of enjoyment for British Columbians. Over the past two years we have demonstrated our value as an essential link on key strategic issues among Ministers, First Nations, and wildlife stakeholders. Initiatives that we look forward to discussing with you include the establishment of Regional Wildlife Advisory Bodies, updates to legislation, the biodiversity declaration, and the conservation financing mechanism.

Council is ready and dedicated to working with you to deliver your mandates. We look forward to the opportunity to meet with you in the near future. We are delighted to be working with you!

Simoogit Hleek (Chief Harry Nyce Sr.) and Nancy Wilkin  
Co-Chairs, Ministers Wildlife Advisory Council

CC: Lori Halls, Deputy Minister, Water, Lands and Resource Stewardship  
Rick Manwaring, Deputy Minister, Forests  
Minister's Wildlife Advisory Council  
First Nations – BC Wildlife and Habitat Conservation Forum  
Provincial Hunting and Trapping Advisory Team  
David Muter, ADM, WLRS  
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