



Bringing the Salmon Home: The Columbia River Salmon Reintroduction Initiative Transition Agreement

Effective April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2027

Bringing the Salmon Home: The Columbia River Salmon Reintroduction Initiative (CRSRI) is the precedent-setting Indigenous-led collaboration of five governments. This Initiative is guided by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), Canada’s United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and British Columbia’s Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA).

2019-22 Letter of Agreement (LOA)

On July 29, 2019, the Syilx Okanagan Nation as represented by the Okanagan Nation Alliance, the Secwépemc Nation as represented by the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council Society, the Ktunaxa Nation as represented by the Ktunaxa Nation Council Society, and the governments of Canada and British Columbia, signed the Letter of Agreement that commits the five Parties to work together “on the reintroduction of salmon into the Upper Columbia.”

2022-25 LOA Extension Addendum

The five governments further signed an Extension Addendum for **Bringing the Salmon Home: The Columbia River Salmon Reintroduction Initiative** effective July 29, 2022 to March 31, 2025. Significant government grants for important technical and cultural engagement projects are underway, including under the British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF), jointly funded by the Government of Canada and the Government of BC. The BCSRIF funding extends beyond the Extension Addendum end date of March 31, 2025, to March 31, 2026, and requires continuing organizational and management support.

2025-2027 Transition Agreement

This two-year **Transition Agreement** is informed by and supports the Bringing the Salmon Home Initiative Strategic Road Map. It aims to continue advancing the development of long-term funding and Indigenous governance, management, communications, and administrative structure capacity necessary so that all parties can respond dynamically and adaptively to address the many political, legal, social, environmental and cultural complexities of bringing salmon back to the upper Columbia River region. Years 2019–2022 set in motion this innovative partnership amongst the five governments, 2022–2025 has proved the validity and soundness of the Initiative, and now we must begin the transition to a permanent Indigenous governance structure to complete the mission of bringing the salmon home.

This Transition Agreement, effective April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2027:

- **Represents** the commitment by the Syilx Okanagan Nation, the Ktunaxa Nation, the Secwépemc Nation, Canada and British Columbia (‘the five Parties’) to support the transition phase to fully Indigenous governance for **Bringing the Salmon Home: The Columbia River Salmon Reintroduction Initiative**, effective April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2027.
- **Affirms** that this Initiative stands as a high priority for the five government partners. It represents a unique Indigenous-led collaboration that strengthens our collective knowledge sharing, cultural renewal, funding, local resource development, transboundary relationship-building, and specialized capacity developments and innovations to bring the salmon home for the benefit of all.
- **Recognizes** that since its inception, this Initiative has grown substantially and proven its value as a model for collaborative Indigenous-led ecosystem stewardship. The Indigenous knowledge and western science research, technical, communications and engagement, and structural needs are consistent with the goals to bring salmon back to the upper Columbia River system.

- **Commits** the Government of British Columbia and the Government of Canada to both explore their respective funding sources to continue to contribute through to March 31, 2027, the annual financial contribution of \$250,000 each has provided in the first six years of this Initiative.
- **Upholds** the commitment by the Parties to take effective action during this Transition period that supports establishing an enduring Indigenous-led initiative to continue this vital generational work beyond March 31, 2027.

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Transition Agreement effective April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2027**

Signatures



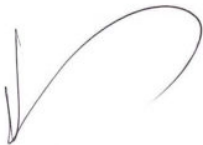
Date: 2026-Feb-10

Syilx Okanagan Nation *as represented by* the Okanagan Nation Alliance

AND Kathryn Teneese
Kathryn Teneese (Jan 27, 2026 09:48:19 MST)

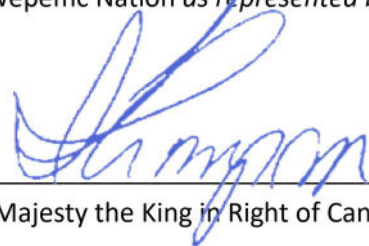
Date: 01/27/2026

Ktunaxa Nation *as represented by* the Ktunaxa Nation Council Society



AND Date: 14 Feb. 2026

Secwépemc Nation *as represented by* the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council Society

AND 

Date: Jan. 19, 2026

HIS Majesty the King in Right of Canada *as represented by* the Minister of Fisheries

AND 

Date: March 2, 2026

HIS Majesty the King in Right of the Province of British Columbia *as represented by* the Minister of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship



The Columbia River Salmon Reintroduction Initiative

BRINGING *the* SALMON HOME
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