



# TSESHAHT FIRST NATION

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**For immediate release**

**Re: Tseshahat First Nation Mourns the Passing of BC's Former Premier, John Horgan**

Earlier today, Tseshahat First Nation was informed of the passing of BC's Former Premier and former leader of the BC New Democratic Party (NDP), John Horgan. On behalf of our ḥawiiḥ, Elected Chief and Council, Elders and all 1,300+ Tseshahat members we send our thoughts, prayers, condolences and loving energy to his wife, Ellie, two sons as well as his extended family, friends, and colleagues.

John's work directly impacted Tseshahat in several ways while he was Premier of BC, helping push for the Declaration and Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, supporting the sharing of BC Gaming Revenues to BC First Nations and our successes at the BC-Tseshahat negotiating table, leading to two agreements totaling over \$21 million.

A statement issued by current BC Premier, David Eby, states, "John loved this province and its people. He sought to address injustice wherever he saw it – using his time in office to help build a better, stronger British Columbia for everyone. Eby went on to say, "His many accomplishments as Premier will be felt for years and generations to come. His achievements are too numerous to mention, but he was a consequential Premier at a critical time in our history. He encouraged all of us to strive to be our better selves." Read Eby's statement in whole, here: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2024PREM0064-001585>

"British Columbia is a better place thanks to the late John Horgan. First Nations and Provincial Government relations have improved significantly, seeing BC and Tseshahat walk hand-in-hand charting new paths of collaboration, cooperation and creating steps towards economic reconciliation with BC thanks to John Horgan." stated Wahmeesh (Ken Watts), Elected Chief Councillor of the Tseshahat First Nation. He went on to say, "We as Tseshahat and First Nations in BC will forever remember John for being a down-to-earth leader who wanted to see First Nations Aboriginal Title and Rights being respected, recognized and reconciled for future generations."