

# COMMUNITY ACCORD

**Reaffirming** our faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, and in the equal rights of men and women

**Desiring** to promote realization of the principles contained in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination, and in particular, without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, or mental or physical disability. The Community of Vanderhoof in order to create a welcoming and inclusive community desires to support the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms to the fullest degree.

**Believing** that promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to different ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic communities contributes to the political and social stability of the Vanderhoof community.

**Emphasizing** that promotion and realization of the rights of culturally and linguistically diverse peoples is integral to the development of our society and strengthens friendship and cooperation among the Vanderhoof community.

**Recognizing** the need for all community members to recognize and respect effective implementation of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedom with regard to the rights of persons belonging to different ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic communities within Vanderhoof.

## **We Proclaim this Community Accord**

**In recognition of Vanderhoof as a vibrant, diverse and progressive community in which all people live, work, play and prosper together we the undersigned representatives of Vanderhoof's varied communities undertake to:**

- **Promote** respect for diversity across our community
- **Seek** opportunities to work together to reaffirm our similarities as human beings and the fundamental principles that unite us as community members
  - **Advocate** for the elimination of racial and religious intolerance
- **Reject** all forms of racial and religious denigration, violence, harassment and unlawful discrimination

**In endorsing this declaration, I, Stuart Sinclair, President, Vanderhoof District Chamber of Commerce, along with other signatories representing the District of Vanderhoof, Saik'uz First Nation, College of New Caledonia, School District No. 91 (Nechako Lakes) and the Vanderhoof Rotary Club accept responsibility to comply with these principles.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stuart Sinclair  
President, Vanderhoof Chamber of Commerce  
Vanderhoof, BC

Dated this December 2, 2008