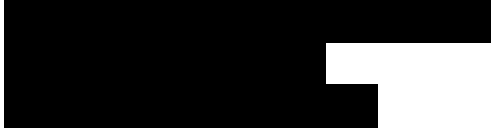
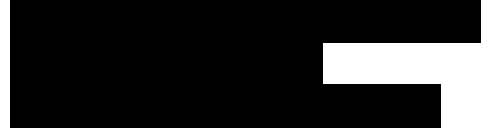


June 15, 2026

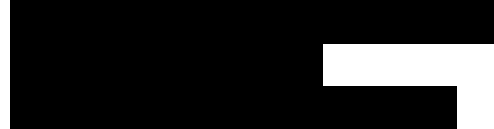
The Honourable David Eby, K.C.
Premier of British Columbia



The Honourable Niki Sharma, K.C.,
Attorney General and Deputy Premier



The Honourable Tamara Davidson
Minister of Environment and Parks



Dear Premier Eby, Attorney General Sharma, and Minister Davidson:

Re: *Rescind the Excessive and Discriminatory Closures of Joffre Lakes Park*

Many British Columbians have expressed their concerns about your government's decision to exclude the public from Joffre Lakes Park, described recently as follows:

As in previous years, Pipi7iyekw/Joffre Lakes Park will temporarily close to recreational visitors this season to continue the practice of providing time and space for members of the Lil'wat Nation and N'Quatqua to reconnect with the land in a meaningful way.

The park will be closed to the public:

- June 20 until 27, 2026, for National Indigenous Peoples Day and summer solstice celebrations
- Sept. 8 until 30, 2026, for fall harvesting celebrations and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation¹

Joffre Lakes Park however, exists "for the inspiration, use and enjoyment of the public."² Excluding the public from Joffre Lakes disregards this statutory obligation.

¹ [BC Environment and Parks release, May 7, 2026.](#)

² [Park Act](#), R.S.B.C. 1996 c. 344, section 5(3).



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The stated basis for the exclusion of the public is so 2,693 British Columbians³—less than .05% of the population—can have exclusive use of this Provincial treasure for 31 days because of their race and ethnic origin.

This exclusion of people from Joffre Lakes infringes the *Charter's* protection of British Columbians' freedom of movement⁴ and their right to equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination based on race and ethnic origin.⁵

These *Charter* infringements are not justified.

There is no evidence that fair, race-neutral use allocations cannot achieve conservation goals while allowing for the inspiration, use and enjoyment of the public.

Further, there is no evidence that the accommodation of particular groups' indigenous practices requires the closure of any, let alone all, of Joffre Lakes Park for more than four weeks during peak season this year. The demands of particular groups do not dictate the rights of the public.

I urge you to respect the rights of all British Columbians and immediately rescind the excessive and race-based closures of Joffre Lakes Park.

Failure to do so may result in legal process without further notice.

Sincerely yours,



Marty Moore, JD

³ This number is combined total populations of the [Lil'wat Nation](#) (2,299) and the [N'Quatqua](#) (394).

⁴ See *Taylor v. Newfoundland and Labrador*, [2026 SCC 5](#) ("*Taylor*") at paras 26 and 29; see also *Evely v. Nova Scotia (Minister of Natural Resources)*, [2026 NSSC 118](#) at paras 40 and 56.

⁵ *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Part I of the Constitution Act, 1982, being Schedule B to the Canada Act 1982 (UK), 1982, c 11*, section 15(1).