



Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
EMPOWERING OUR NATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 30, 2020

AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly unanimously pass Resolutions in support of Social Development reforms

Treaty One Territory, Long Plain First Nation - The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, including Grand Chief Dumas and the AMC Chiefs, convened on the Long Plain First Nation this week to discuss and deliberate all aspects regarding Social Development.

A key area of deliberation during the two-day Assembly included the realities and consequences of outdated Income Assistance (IA) rates and their underpinning federal government policies and regulations. The Chiefs were firm on the need for a First Nations-led approach on regional policy changes, structures and entities developed for, and by, First Nations, and unanimously passed several resolutions with a focus on Social Development reform.

Grand Chief Arlen Dumas stated, "Over the last two days, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly have resolved to move forward on a First Nations-led approach to Social Development policy reform, including extensive reforms to the On-Reserve Income Assistance Program. Chiefs identified the necessary policies and legislative authorities, including a new funding and fiscal relationship to allow First Nations in Manitoba to control their own social development programs and services that meet their needs. "We have heard presentations from Chiefs representing all regions in Manitoba on the way forward for an updated Social Development program that fits the needs and socioeconomic realities of Manitoba First Nations."

"Chiefs were unequivocal in their deliberations and decisions to mandate the AMC to begin to put plans and strategies together and to implement these important resolutions that will have far reaching implications. Grand Chief Dumas concluded, "Our reform measures will reduce the need for IA for our citizens and, in conjunction with extensive reforms and initiatives in economic development, will facilitate moving our people into increased opportunities for employment and education."

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For more information, please contact:

Teena Legris
Communications & Social Media Coordinator
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
Email: tlegris@manitobachiefs.com
Phone: (204) 391-5830



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About the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

The AMC was formed in 1988 by the Chiefs in Manitoba to advocate on issues that commonly affect First Nations in Manitoba. AMC is an authorized representative of 62 of the 63 First Nations in Manitoba with a total of more than 151,000 First Nation citizens in the province, accounting for approximately 12 percent of the provincial population. AMC represents a diversity of Anishinaabe (Ojibway), Nehetho / Inineu (Cree), Anishininew (Ojibwe-Cree), Denesuline (Dene) and Dakota Oyate (Dakota) people.