





# POLITICAL UNITY ACCORD ON FIRST NATIONS HEALTH

# This Accord signed the $23^{\rm rd}$ day of November, 2011

### **BETWEEN**

The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs ("AMC")

-AND-

The Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak ("MKO")

-AND-

The Southern Chiefs Organization ("SCO")

In the spirit of mutual respect and continued cooperation AMC, MKO and SCO agree as follows:

# 1.0 Purpose of Accord

- 1.1 The Purpose of this Accord is to:
  - a) formalize a cooperative working relationship between the Parties to develop a renewed health strategy for the benefit of First Nations and First Nation persons in Manitoba;
  - b) formalize a commitment between the parties to advance the renewed health strategy on behalf of First Nations in negotiations with the provincial and federal governments;
  - c) develop a protocol agreement to implement the renewed health strategy; and
  - d) identify and focus on a range of issues and initiatives that are of common interest or concern among First Nations in Manitoba.

#### 2.0 MUTUAL UNDERSTANDINGS

- 2.1 The Parties agree that the implementation of this Accord will be guided by the following:
  - a) the Parties recognize and respect each other's respective mandate and political authority;
  - b) the Parties recognize the need for quality Health for First Nation persons that reside both on and off reserve;
  - c) the Parties recognize the potential economic opportunities in the provision of Health and associated services to First Nations and shall support and endorse First Nation solutions that create financial benefit for First Nations and First Nation persons; and
  - d) the Parties recognize the need for a First Nations initiated statutory framework that will provide mandatory health services and funding to First Nations and First Nation persons.

## 3.0 Ongoing Process

- 3.1 The Parties undertake to engage in an ongoing process of dialogue through regular meetings to achieve the purpose of this Accord as stated in Paragraph 1 above, and, where possible, develop common understandings, strategies and positions on identified issues of mutual concern or priority.
- 3.2 Each Party agrees to take individual responsibility for decisions made at the meetings and required follow-up.
- The Parties may establish joint working groups on identified issues of mutual concern or priority to assist the Parties in advancing the issues politically.
- 3.4 For greater certainty, each Party shall decide who represents that Party at meetings.
- 3.5 The representatives assigned pursuant to Paragraph 3.4 above shall equitably share any resources received to further the purpose of the Accord.

### 4.0 General

- 4.1 This Accord shall not abrogate or derogate from any rights of any First Nation or First Nation person.
- 4.2 This Accord shall not limit or affect the mandate or the ability of any Party to pursue its political mandate.
- 4.3 For greater certainty, this Accord shall not affect any existing agreement between First Nations and the government, particularly, the 1964 Agreement between Health Canada and the Province of Manitoba.
- The Parties may develop mechanisms of evaluation and redress procedures to determine the effectiveness of the Accord and to ensure that the purpose (as outlined in Paragraph 1 above) is being achieved.
- 4.5 For greater certainty, the respective Executive Councils of AMC, MKO and SCO shall endorse strategies, actions and structures that are arrived at pursuant to this agreement.

4.6 This agreement shall take effect upon ratification by each of the Parties.

Solemnized by Sacred Pipe Ceremony and signed in Treaty Three Territory, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2011.

Re-signed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2017.

On behalf of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs:

On behalf of the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak:

On behalf of the Southern Chiefs Organization:

Grand Chief Arlen Dumas

Grand Chief Sheila North-Wilson

Grand Chief Jerry Daniels

Elder

First Nation

Chief

First Nation

Kevin Hart, Regional Chief

Cerin T. Hart

Assembly of First Nations

Chief

First Nation

Elder

First Nation

Chief

First Nation

Elder

First Nation

Chief

First Nation

Chief

First Nation

Witness Signature

Name: