

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
SECRETARIAT INC.**

GENERAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY

**“SHAPING STRATEGIES FOR OUR
FUTURE GENERATIONS”**



**CERTIFIED COPIES
OF
ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

**October 17, 18 & 19, 2023
RBC Convention Centre
Meeting Room 5, Main Level, North Building
375 York Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba**

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS

General Chiefs Assembly

RBC Convention Centre

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October 17, 18 & 19, 2023

CERTIFIED RESOLUTIONS

OCT-23.01	Amendments to the Election Rules for the Grand Chief of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
OCT-23.02	Amendments to the Election Rules for the Regional Chief of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
OCT-23.03	Call for Increased Regulation of Alcohol Sales in Manitoba
OCT-23.04	Manitoba Hydro Rate or Discount for Elders
OCT-23.05	Development and Enforcement of Elder Protection Codes in First Nations
OCT-23.06	Request for Communal Protection Orders for Violent and Repeat Offenders in First Nations
OCT-23.07	Regional Funding Formula Options for First Nations Early Learning and Child Care
OCT-23.08	Support for the Grow Our Own Specialists Through Education (“GOOSE”) Initiative
OCT-23.09	National Indigenous Residential School Museum of Canada Inc.
OCT-23.10	Amendments to the Constitution of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs – Remote Voting
OCT-23.11	Regional Governance Structure for First Nations Early Learning and Child Care
OCT-23.12	Estate Administration for Vulnerable Adults Living On-Reserve in Manitoba
OCT-23.13	Canada be held Accountable to its Legal Obligation in Honouring the Land Trust it holds and for Manitoba to Cease and Desist from Illegally Interfering in the On-Reserve Economy
OCT-23.14	Manitoba Police Agencies to Waive Fess for Individuals Reclaiming Indigenous Names
OCT-23.15	First Nations Children Apprehended for Medical Treatment or Emergency Medical Referrals in Manitoba
OCT-23.16	First Nations Control of MMIWG Funding

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OCT-23.01
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RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION RULES FOR THE GRAND CHIEF OF THE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS

Moved by:

Chief Betsy Kennedy
War Lake First Nation

WHEREAS, the elections rules of the Grand Chief of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs were last amended and adopted on July 31, 2019; and

Seconded by:

Chief Michael Yellowback
Manto Sipi Cree Nation

WHEREAS, the Chief Electoral Officer's Report of the AMC Election 2021 and 2022 highlighted significant issues and inconsistencies within the election process. The discrepancies between the AMC Constitution and Election Rules have led to confusion and challenges in conducting fair and transparent elections.

CARRIED

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly agree to amend the Election Rules for Grand Chief as follows:

2.0 DUTIES OF CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

2.3 (d) subject to the approval of the Executive Council of Chiefs, modify a provision of these rules to permit their use at a by-election;

(e) subject to the approval of the Executive Council of Chiefs, generally adapt the provisions of these rules to existing circumstances; and exercise such other powers as are prescribed by or under these rules;

8.0 NOMINATIONS

~~8.2 The closing date for nominations shall be ten (10) clear calendar days before the date of an election.~~

~~8.5 Nominations must have been received by The Secretariat office by 4:00 p.m. on the closing date of nomination in the prescribed form.~~

8.2 The closing date for nominations shall be ten (10) full calendar days prior to the election date. The Secretariat office must receive all nominations no later than 4:00 p.m. on this specified deadline, in the officially prescribed format.

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RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION RULES FOR THE GRAND CHIEF OF THE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS (cont'd)

8.3 To qualify as a candidate, a person must have a nominator, seconder and a total of five endorsers. The nominator, seconder, and endorsers must sign the nomination papers in the presence of a witness. If a candidate submits nomination papers with more than five endorsers, only the first five endorsers shall be considered valid.

8.5 Endorsements shall not rescinded forty-eight (48) hours prior to the close of nominations.

8.6 The Chief Electoral Officer shall maintain a record of chiefs who have pledged their support to a candidate. This list, containing the names of the committed chiefs, will be made available to potential candidates but the identities of the candidates these Chiefs have endorsed will not be disclosed.

10. WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDACY

10.1 Chief Electoral Officer may withdraw candidacy ~~no later than forty eight (48) hours before the opening of the poll at 1:00 p.m~~ at any time during the electoral process. All withdrawals must be witnessed by the Chief Electoral Officer, a commissioner of oaths, or a notary public.

13. COUNTING THE BALLOTS

13.4 The Chief Electoral Officer shall, after counting the accepted ballots, declare elected the candidate that has votes ~~totaling 50% plus one of the accepted votes east~~ totaling a simple majority of registered chiefs, who have cast accepted votes, excluding the rejected votes.

13.6 The candidate with the lowest number of accepted votes shall not be eligible for the next ballot. Any candidate who does not attain 20% of the total accepted votes excluding the rejected votes cast shall not be eligible

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RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION RULES FOR THE GRAND CHIEF OF THE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS (cont'd)

to be a candidate for the next ballot. If no candidate meets the 20% threshold, the Chief Electoral Officer will proceed with (an) additional round(s) of voting.

15. BY-ELECTION

15.2 The Secretariat is responsible for preparing a condensed version of the election timeline. This summary timeline must then be submitted for approval to the Executive Council of Chiefs.

CERTIFIED COPY
of a Resolution Adopted
on October 17, 18, 19, 2023
Winnipeg, MB


Grand Chief Cathy Merrick

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
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**RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION RULES FOR THE REGIONAL
CHIEF OF THE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS**

Moved by:

Chief Betsy Kennedy
War Lake First Nation

WHEREAS, the elections rules of the Regional Chief of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs were last amended and adopted on July 31, 2019; and

Seconded by:

Chief Michael Yellowback
Manto Sipi Cree Nation

WHEREAS, the Chief Electoral Officer's Report of the AMC Election 2021 and 2022 highlighted significant issues and inconsistencies within the election process. The discrepancies between the AMC Constitution and Election Rules have led to confusion and challenges in conducting fair and transparent elections.

CARRIED

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly agree to amend the Election Rules for Regional Chief as follows:

2.0 DUTIES OF CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

2.3 (d) subject to the approval of the Executive Council of Chiefs, modify a provision of these rules to permit their use at a by-election;

(e) subject to the approval of the Executive Council of Chiefs, generally adapt the provisions of these rules to existing circumstances; and exercise such other powers as are prescribed by or under these rules;

8.0 NOMINATIONS

~~8.2 The closing date for nominations shall be ten (10) clear calendar days before the date of an election.~~

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**RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION RULES FOR THE REGIONAL
CHIEF OF THE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS (cont'd)**

- 8.2** The closing date for nominations shall be ten (10) full calendar days prior to the election date. The Secretariat office must receive all nominations no later than 4:00 p.m. on this specified deadline, in the officially prescribed format.
- 8.3** To qualify as a candidate, a person must have a nominator, seconder and a total of five endorsers. The nominator, seconder, and endorsers must sign the nomination papers in the presence of a witness. If a candidate submits nomination papers with more than five endorsers, only the first five endorsers shall be considered valid.
- 8.5** Endorsements shall not rescinded forty-eight (48) hours prior to the close of nominations.
- 8.6** The Chief Electoral Officer shall maintain a record of chiefs who have pledged their support to a candidate. This list, containing the names of the committed chiefs, will be made available to potential candidates but the identities of the candidates these Chiefs have endorsed will not be disclosed.
- 10. WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDACY**
- 10.1** Chief Electoral Officer may withdraw candidacy ~~no later than forty-eight (48) hours before the opening of the poll at 1:00 p.m~~ at any time during the electoral process. All withdrawals must be witnessed by the Chief Electoral Officer, a commissioner of oaths, or a notary public.
- 13. COUNTING THE BALLOTS**
- 13.4** The Chief Electoral Officer shall, after counting the accepted ballots, declare elected the candidate that has votes totaling ~~50% plus one of the~~

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**RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE ELECTION RULES FOR THE REGIONAL
CHIEF OF THE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS**

accepted votes cast totaling a simple majority of registered chiefs, who have cast accepted votes, excluding the rejected votes.

- 13.6 The candidate with the lowest number of accepted votes shall not be eligible for the next ballot. Any candidate who does not attain 20% of the total accepted votes excluding the rejected votes cast shall not be eligible to be a candidate for the next ballot. If no candidate meets the 20% threshold, the Chief Electoral Officer will proceed with (an) additional round(s) of voting.

15. BY-ELECTION

- 15.2 The Secretariat is responsible for preparing a condensed version of the election timeline. This summary timeline must then be submitted for approval to the Executive Council of Chiefs.

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**RE: CALL FOR INCREASED REGULATION OF ALCOHOL SALES IN
MANITOBA**

Moved by:

Chief Angela Levasseur
Nisichawayasihk Cree
Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Shirley Ducharme
O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree
Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Corporation (“MBLL”) is charged with the administration of the general control, management, and supervision of all liquor stores within the province of Manitoba, which includes but is not limited to purchasing, importing, sales, control, store locations, purchase and sale permit oversight, regulating homemade alcohol, delivery, consumption conditions, and setting prices; and

WHEREAS, section 54 of The Liquor Control Act (“the Act”) directs that a person must not purchase liquor from a person who is unauthorized under the Act to sell liquor; and section 55 directs that a person must not deliver or transport liquor to a place where liquor may not lawfully be kept or possessed; and

WHEREAS, MBLL collects markup from the sale of liquor for the provincial Government’s profit; and

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Liquor Control Commission, predecessor to MBLL, in its 2001 strategic planning, recognized the negative impacts of the illegal resale of alcohol in First Nations; and

WHEREAS, AMC’s Resolution OCT-22.04 suggests that any federal legislation designed to prevent contraband from entering First Nations should also provide First Nations police forces with the same powers as their federal, provincial, and municipal counterparts; and

WHEREAS, AMC’s Resolution Mar-01.24 resolves to enter discussions with Manitoba’s Department of Justice, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, and the Manitoba Liquor Control Commission to establish a strategy aimed at addressing the illegal resale of alcohol amongst First Nations in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS, AMC’s Resolutions NOV-00.14 and NOV-89.25 resolve to support all First Nations in the fight against drug and alcohol abuse, including advocating for effective policing and law enforcement against bootlegging.

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**RE: CALL FOR INCREASED REGULATION OF ALCOHOL SALES IN
MANITOBA (cont'd)**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly resolves to enter discussions with MBLL to advocate for stricter alcohol sale limits on individuals.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Secretariat to explore strategies and actions to address the harmful and excessive use of alcohol and thereby prevent the ensuing social and health impacts in First Nations.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly call upon the provincial and federal governments to support First Nations in funding, recognizing, and enforcing First Nations laws to resolve the illegal sale of alcohol amongst First Nations.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly call upon the provincial and federal governments to impose and uphold strict penalties for perpetrators of illegal resale of alcohol.

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OCT-23.04
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RE: MANITOBA HYDRO RATE OR DISCOUNT FOR ELDERS

Moved by:

Chief Angela Levasseur
Nisichawayasihk Cree
Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Shirley Ducharme
O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree
Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, Manitoba Hydro is a provincial Crown Corporation monopoly that has been unlawfully operating on and destroying First Nations Treaty and ancestral lands and waters for decades. While these efforts have benefited Manitobans, they have been detrimental to First Nations, and have resulted in unique barriers for First Nations residing on-reserve for public utility infrastructure and development; and

WHEREAS, these barriers have adverse impacts on our most vulnerable citizens, Elders, who continue to suffer a disproportionate energy burden bearing the brunt of the environmental effects of Manitoba Hydro's generating facilities; and

WHEREAS, Article 21 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) states that indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security. 2. States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children, and persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, First Nations Elders in Manitoba:

- are among the most impoverished citizens;
- have fixed incomes where they live on Old Age Security of up to \$707.68 per month if they are aged 65 to 74 and up to \$778.45 for those age 75 and over;
- receive monthly bills from Manitoba Hydro that are anywhere from \$500 to \$700 or upwards of \$1,000 per month;
- live in abject poverty due to their low income and outrageously high Hydro bills that are compounded by fourth-world housing conditions;

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RE: MANITOBA HYDRO RATE OR DISCOUNT FOR ELDERS (cont'd)

- live in “Hydro homes” that are nothing more than prefabricated summer cottages that were provided to First Nations by Manitoba Hydro to replace homes of much higher quality; and
- are from Northern Flood Agreement (NFA) and Churchill River Diversion (CRD) communities that have had their traditional economies and lands destroyed by Manitoba Hydro.

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) participated in Manitoba Hydro’s 2017/18 and 2018/19 General Rate Application as an Intervenor. As a result of AMC’s intervention, the Public Utilities Board issued Order 59/18 which directed Manitoba Hydro to create a “First Nations On-Reserve Residential Customer Class” with lower rates than the general residential customer class. Manitoba Hydro subsequently appealed this decision to the Manitoba Court of Appeal, who overturned Order 59/18. Manitoba Hydro migrated First Nations on-reserve residential customers back into the residential customer class, resulting in substantially increased hydro-electric rates for First Nations residential customers living on-reserve starting September 1, 2020, amidst a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the AMC appealed the Manitoba Court of Appeal’s decision to the Supreme Court of Canada, however, in March 2021, the Supreme Court of Canada dismissed AMC’s application for leave to appeal.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to work with the Premier of Manitoba to develop and implement a First Nation-led plan to provide Manitoba Hydro discounts or rebates for First Nations Elders residing in Manitoba Hydro-affected communities.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to work with the Premier of Manitoba to develop and implement a bill affordability plan to alleviate energy poverty issues in Manitoba, including targeted programs to alleviate energy poverty faced by First Nations customers.

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RE: MANITOBA HYDRO RATE OR DISCOUNT FOR ELDERS (cont'd)

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly call on the Province of Manitoba and the Crown Corporation of Manitoba Hydro to honour the agreements and treaties that it entered with First Nation sovereign nations immediately to implement the articles and attached schedules to eradicate mass poverty and eradicate mass unemployment.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly assert that this resolution will not abrogate or derogate any First Nations rights and entitlement to monies made under their specific agreements such as the Northern Flood Agreement, etc.

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OCT-23.05
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**RE: DEVELOPMENT AND ENFORCEMENT OF ELDER PROTECTION
CODES IN FIRST NATIONS**

Moved by:

Chief Angela Levasseur
Nisichawayasihk Cree
Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Shirley Ducharme
O-Pipon-Na-Prwin Cree
Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, through the Chiefs-in-Assembly, is mandated to protect First Nations' inherent right to self-determination and to promote, preserve, and protect inherent, Aboriginal and Treaty rights for First Nations in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS, Article 5 of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provides that Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining their right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State; and

WHEREAS, Article 21 of UNDRIP states Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the area of health and social security; and States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions; and

WHEREAS, Article 22 of UNDRIP states that particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of Indigenous Elders, women, youth, children, and persons with disabilities in the implementation of this Declaration; and

WHEREAS, "Untuwe Pi Kin He Who We Are Treaty Elders Teachings Volume 1," by Doris Pratt, Harry Bone, and the Treaty and Dakota Elders of Manitoba, (Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba and Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs 2014), describes Elders as the foundation of traditional education, custodians of Traditional Knowledge, and experts in metaphor and allegory who are accorded the proper and fitting consideration for their expertise as carriers of the oral history and Oral Tradition; and

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**RE: DEVELOPMENT AND ENFORCEMENT OF ELDER PROTECTION
CODES IN FIRST NATIONS (cont'd)**

WHEREAS, the AMC Council of Elders possesses a profound and unparalleled reservoir of cultural, historical, and Traditional Knowledge, which is essential in the preservation of First Nations governance systems, making them invaluable sources of wisdom and guidance. First Nations Elders are among the most sacred and revered persons in First Nations societies; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 federal budget announced \$50 million over five years to design and deliver interventions that promote safe relationships, including Elder abuse prevention; and

WHEREAS, Elders in AMC member First Nations are frequently the victims of financial, physical, mental, and emotional abuse and lack access to meaningful and effective legal recourse; and

WHEREAS, provincial and federal governments claim to lack the jurisdiction to enforce First Nations Elder protection codes; and

WHEREAS, First Nations have the inherent authority to restore and implement First Nations traditional governance systems that are specifically designed to safeguard and protect Elders.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly call upon all levels of government to work with First Nations in Manitoba in enforcing their existing laws, traditional law, and Indian Act bylaws related to the protection of Elders.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC Secretariat to engage with the AMC Council of Elders to provide oversight and guidance towards the development of First Nations Elder protection codes.

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**RE: DEVELOPMENT AND ENFORCEMENT OF ELDER PROTECTION
CODES IN FIRST NATIONS (cont'd)**

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly call on the federal government and the Federal Department of Justice Indigenous Justice Program to fund the development of First Nations Elders protection codes through the AMC's Justice Reform and Legal Systems Restoration Project.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to work in collaboration with Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc., Southern Chiefs Organization, the federal government, and Public Prosecutions Service of Canada to ensure the enforcement of First Nations Customary Laws, Indian Act Bylaws or First Nation laws under the First Nations Land Management Act for First Nations in Manitoba.

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Grand Chief Cathy Merrick

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CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

OCT-23.06
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**RE: REQUEST FOR COMMUNAL PROTECTION ORDERS FOR
VIOLENT AND REPEAT OFFENDERS IN FIRST NATIONS**

Moved by:

Chief Angela Levasseur
Nisichawayasihk Cree
Nation

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, through the Chiefs-in-Assembly, is mandated to protect First Nations' inherent right to self-determination and to promote, preserve, and protect inherent, Aboriginal and Treaty rights for First Nations in Manitoba; and

Seconded by:

Chief Shirley Ducharme
O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree
Nation

WHEREAS, Article 5 of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provides that Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, while retaining their right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, Call to Justice 1.5 of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls calls upon all governments to immediately take all necessary measures to prevent, investigate, punish, and compensate for violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people; and

WHEREAS, Call to Justice 5.9 of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls calls upon all governments to ensure that protection orders are available, accessible, promptly issued, and effectively serviced and resourced to protect the safety of Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA people; and

WHEREAS, Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation and many other AMC member First Nations have Community Protection Laws, by-laws, and other laws where enforcement is a contentious or non-existent issue. Many AMC member First Nations execute Chief and Council Resolutions ("CCRs", formerly known as Band Council Resolutions or BCRs), to banish violent and/or repeat offenders from First Nations only to have them violate said CCRs and repeatedly return to their respective First Nations in violation of the CCR; and

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**RE: REQUEST FOR COMMUNAL PROTECTION ORDERS FOR
VIOLENT AND REPEAT OFFENDERS IN FIRST NATIONS (cont'd)**

WHEREAS, the RCMP are not empowered to enforce trespassing charges with any means other than a fine, and the violent and repeat offenders who are fined for trespassing often disregard the fines; and

WHEREAS, First Nations are communal people, and have recognized the importance of the collective rights of the Nation and the priority of those collective rights over the rights of the individual.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly supports Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation in seeking communal protection orders for violent and repeat offenders, and calls upon all levels of government to work with Manitoba First Nations in strengthening their legal institutions, including the enforcement of laws aimed at protecting their First Nations.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly directs the AMC Secretariat to work with Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation to explore the creation of - or amendment to both federal and provincial legislation to define the scope and criteria for - communal protection orders, as well as ensuring that such orders align with the cultural and legal frameworks of the respective First Nations.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly directs AMC to draft a resolution to the Assembly of First Nations requesting their support and collaboration in advocating for the necessary legislative changes at the national level.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly directs the AMC Grand Chief to collaborate with Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation in engaging with the province of Manitoba, Manitoba Justice, Public Safety Canada, and Indigenous Services Canada to develop a clear process for seeking communal protection orders against violent and repeat offenders that will serve as a precedent and provide a template process for other AMC member First Nations.

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**RE: REQUEST FOR COMMUNAL PROTECTION ORDERS FOR
VIOLENT AND REPEAT OFFENDERS IN FIRST NATIONS (cont'd)**

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of a Resolution Adopted
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Winnipeg, MB



Grand Chief Cathy Merrick

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CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

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**RE: REGIONAL FUNDING FORMULA OPTIONS FOR FIRST NATIONS
EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE**

Moved by:

Chief David Crate
Fisher River Cree Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Betsy Kennedy
War Lake First Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, in 2018, First Nations established a fiscal arrangement with the Government of Canada called the Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (IELCC) Framework. This fiscal arrangement commits \$1.7 billion over ten (10) years (2018-2029) to strengthen Early Learning Child Care (ELCC) programs and services for Indigenous children and families across Canada. First Nations are allocated \$1.02 Billion of the IELCC fund; and

WHEREAS, since 2018, the National Expert Working Group (NEWG) on IELCC was mandated by Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Resolution 39/2016 to oversee the national engagement process that informed the IELCC Framework, and to lead the work on a First Nations specific ELCC (FNELCC) approach at the national level; and

WHEREAS, the NEWG recommended an interim funding formula to leadership to allocate FNELCC funding to the regions using a Modified Berger Formula, as was provisionally recommended by the FNELCC Working Group, which is a per-capita approach using the Indian Registration System of on-reserve and off-reserve children aged 0-6, that considers remoteness. The AFN has supported and reaffirmed this interim funding model through resolutions in 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021, while also mandating a sub-working FNELCC group to examine and propose options for a new funding model; and

WHEREAS, since March 2019, the dispersal of Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) funds to First Nations in Manitoba has been administered by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC), and the partnerships and governance funding has been overseen by Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre (MFNERC); and

WHEREAS, in December 2021, the AMC Chiefs Committee on Education (CCOE) resolved that the AMC continue to be the body responsible for all regional management of ELCC, including dispersing funding to First Nations and providing funds to other First Nations organizations and third-party service providers identified by First Nations; and

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**RE: REGIONAL FUNDING FORMULA OPTIONS FOR FIRST NATIONS
EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE (cont'd)**

WHEREAS, the funding options vary according to region and reflect other considerations representing demographic and contextual considerations, including:

- Population on-reserve (aged 0-6);
- Population off-reserve (aged 0-6);
- Remoteness/geography;
- Income-based poverty;
- Poor educational attainment; and

WHEREAS, the Modified Berger Formula is currently the funding option that yields the highest funding for First Nations in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS, while several other funding options also include contextual factors such as poverty and educational attainment, these other options are based on census data. The reliance on census data is concerning, given the limited census survey participation by First Nations families living on-reserve in Manitoba.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly affirm to the AFN and the First Nations FNELCC Advisory Committee that the current Modified Berger Formula continues to be the region's preferred funding formula.

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Grand Chief Cathy Merrick

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**RE: SUPPORT FOR THE GROW OUR OWN SPECIALISTS THROUGH
EDUCATION (“GOOSE”) INITIATIVE**

Moved by:

Proxy Councilor Edwin Jebb
Opaskwayak Cree Nation

Seconded by:

Chief David Monias
Pimicikamak Cree Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, there is a critical lack of rehabilitation services (physical, occupational, respiratory, and speech-language therapists), mental health services (school psychologists), and no speech language pathology education program in Manitoba, particularly in the north and central regions of the province. First Nations in Manitoba have access to very few First Nations therapists and First Nations school psychologists to support First Nations children in a culturally appropriate manner; and

WHEREAS, to address the lack of clinicians and to support diverse student needs, the Opaskwayak Cree Nation developed the Grow Our Own Specialists through Education (“GOOSE”) Initiative through discussions with the University of Manitoba beginning in February 2023; and

WHEREAS, as part of the GOOSE initiative, the Schools of Psychology and Rehabilitation Sciences at the University of Manitoba are recommending that admittance criteria be changed to allow for more Indigenous students to be accepted into these programs through the Indigenous Students Cohort, starting in the summer of 2024. The purpose of Indigenous Students Cohort is to allow First Nations students to attend courses in person and remotely; and

WHEREAS, the Chiefs Committee on Education provided support to the GOOSE initiative by motion on July 24, 2023.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the GOOSE initiative and request that the University of Manitoba begin Indigenous Students Cohorts as soon as is practical.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the University of Manitoba in the development of a Speech and Language Pathology program to meet the needs of First Nations citizens and request that the Minister of Education assist in the development of this program.

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**RE: SUPPORT FOR THE GROW OUR OWN SPECIALISTS THROUGH
EDUCATION (“GOOSE”) INITIATIVE (cont’d)**

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**RE: NATIONAL INDIGENOUS RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL MUSEUM OF
CANADA INC.**

Moved by:

Chief Kyra Wilson
Long Plain First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Gordon Bluesky
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Indigenous-owned and operated National Indigenous Residential School Museum is located in the former Portage la Prairie Industrial Residential School, now the Rufus Prince Building, which is located on the Keeshkeemaquah lands of Long Plain First Nation; and

WHEREAS, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly passed Resolution MAR-01.29, which supports Long Plain First Nation to establish an Indian Residential School Museum, and Resolution JUN-16.04, which reaffirmed AMC's support for an Indian Residential School Museum and, specifically, Long Plain First Nation's pursuit of the initiative; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly of First Nations passed Resolution NO. 23(B)-2001, which designates the former Portage la Prairie Industrial Residential School in Treaty 1 Territory as the site of a national memorial to cultural genocide; and

WHEREAS, between 1915 and 1975, Indigenous children from Manitoba and beyond attended the residential school, where they were forcibly separated from their families and Nations, prohibited from speaking their languages and practicing their cultures, and experienced neglect and abuse; and

WHEREAS, the building received provincial heritage status in 2005 and was designated a National Historic Site in 2020; and

WHEREAS, after engagement with community members and residential school survivors, Long Plain First Nation has developed a five-year strategic plan which includes converting the former residential school building from "a place of hurting to a place of healing". This strategic plan has support from the Indigenous Tourism Association of Manitoba, Travel Manitoba, Parks Canada, and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation; and

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**RE: NATIONAL INDIGENOUS RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL MUSEUM OF
CANADA INC. (cont'd)**

WHEREAS, the necessary building upgrades and expansions require that the museum plans align with the funding standards of other esteemed museums and historic sites in Canada.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AMC's Chiefs-in-Assembly recognize the National Indigenous Residential School Museum of Canada Inc. as an essential institution for truth, healing, and inspiration.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, AMC's Chiefs-in-Assembly call on the federal and provincial governments to support and fund the upgrades and expansions required.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly call on the federal and provincial governments to commit to the long-term financial support as is allocated to comparable museums and historic sites in Canada.

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**RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF
MANITOBA CHIEFS - REMOTE VOTING**

Moved by:

Chief Betsy Kennedy
War Lake First Nation

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs was last amended and adopted on July 31, 2019; and

Seconded by:

Chief Michael Yellowback
Manto Sipi Cree Nation

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly wish to allow for attendance at Assemblies or Special Assemblies by remote means, if determined by the Executive Council of Chiefs.

CARRIED

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly agree to amend the Constitution of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs as follows:

DEFINITIONS

REMOTE MEANS A method of electronic communication that enables all participants attending an Assembly or Special Assembly to simultaneously and instantaneously hear, see, and communicate with each other, including computer network based or internet-based platforms.

ARTICLE 9

9.4 **At the sole discretion of the Executive Council, an Assembly or Special Assembly may be held entirely by Remote Means or a combination of in-person attendance and attendance by Remote Means. If the Executive Council determines that an Assembly or Special Assembly will be held entirely by Remote Means or a combination of in-person attendance and attendance by Remote Means, then a person:**

a) entitled to attend the Assembly or Special Assembly may attend by Remote Means.

b) entitled to participate and vote at the Assembly or Special Assembly may participate and vote by Remote Means.

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**RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF
MANITOBA CHIEFS - REMOTE VOTING (cont'd)**

c) attending an Assembly or Special Assembly by Remote Means is deemed for all purposes under this Constitution to be present at the Assembly or Special Assembly.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly agree to amend Appendix A “Chiefs-in-Assembly Rules and Procedures” to the Constitution of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs as follows:

2.1 All delegates must be registered daily for the Chiefs-in-Assembly. For in-person delegates, the registration desk will be open each morning at 8:00 a.m. Delegates attending through Remote Means, if applicable, will receive notice containing instructions on how to register pursuant to Section 6.1.

6. Remote Means

6.1 If the Executive Council determines that an Assembly or Special Assembly will be held entirely by Remote Means or a combination of in-person attendance and attendance by Remote Means then they must provide written notice to Chiefs of the member First Nations and include instructions for registration, participation, and voting by Remote Means.

6.2 A delegate who is registered and attends an Assembly or Special Assembly by Remote Means pursuant to Section 6.1 shall count toward the quorum requirements under Sections 3.1 and 3.2.

6.3 For greater certainty, a delegate who attempts to attend an Assembly or Special Assembly by any form of communication, including telephonic or audio-only communication, in which they are not visible to the other delegates at all times shall not count toward the quorum requirements under Sections 3.1 and 3.2.

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**RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF
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**RE: REGIONAL GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE FOR FIRST NATIONS
EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE**

Moved by:

Chief Vera Mitchell
Poplar River First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief David Monias
Pimicikamak Cree Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, Canada has identified priority funding for First Nations education and the transfer of control to First Nations, and includes Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC). The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs has always been consistent: that AMC First Nations must be in control of funding for their citizens. Indigenous Services Canada has a strategic priority to transfer control of First Nations services to First Nations; and

WHEREAS, AMC Resolution JUL-19.09 *Manitoba First Nations Early Child Care Framework Strategy* recognized the ongoing work of the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre (MNFERC) to assist in the development of a Regional Coordinating Structure for ELCC and for the AMC Secretariat to flow ELCC funding allocations to AMC member First Nations; and

WHEREAS, in August 2019, leadership appointed nine members, representing the five language groups, from the First Nations ELCC community to form an Advisory Committee for First Nations Early Learning and Child Care (FNELCC). The FNELCC Advisory Committee initiated ELCC planning through a two-year community consultation process with hundreds of representatives of the FNELCC community, including representation from leadership, education and health.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly agree to create a Regional Management Organization for First Nations Early Learning and Child Care that will disperse funding to First Nations, and provide guidance, accountability, and resource/program support, coordination, training, capacity building, and regional strategic planning.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly approve the recommended establishment of a First Nations Early Learning and Child Care Regional Management Organization, and appoint the FNELCC Advisory Committee as the interim Board of Directors of the newly established Regional Management Organization, and that the Board report to the newly established Chiefs Committee on Early Learning and Child Care.

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**RE: REGIONAL GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE FOR FIRST NATIONS
EARLY LEARNING AND CHILD CARE (con't)**

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**RE: ESTATE ADMINISTRATION FOR VULNERABLE ADULTS LIVING
ON-RESERVE IN MANITOBA**

Moved by:

Chief Angela Levasseur
Nisichawayasihk Cree First
Nation

Seconded by:

Chief David Monias
Pimicikamak Cree Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the AMC ECC passed motion #3 on February 23, 2023 to support the Secretariat's application to deal with wills and estates and mandates the Chiefs Committee on Citizenship to provide oversight, guidance, and direction on regional activities on wills and estates, and on issues related to the Manitoba Public Guardian and Trustee; and

WHEREAS, since May 2021, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) through the First Nations Family Advocate Office (FNFAO) have been supporting citizens of Keeseekoowenin Ojibway Nation and Ebb and Flow First Nation who were seeking to be named as the administrators of the estate of their vulnerable daughter/granddaughter who was involved in a car crash as a child that left them permanently disabled and intellectually impaired; and

WHEREAS, in December 2022, the family, with support from FNFAO and FNFAO Legal Services entered into negotiations with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to resolve this issue; and

WHEREAS, in September 2023, a solution to the issue was reached, where ISC assumed jurisdiction for the matter from the Provincial Office of the Commissioner for Adults Living with an Intellectual Disability (CALIDO), and appointed the family as Administrators of the Estate; and

WHEREAS, research undertaken by FNFAO and FNFAO Legal Services in the context of this file uncovered an over-representation of First Nations persons in the care of Manitoba's Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT), and an agency of the Government of Manitoba is making decisions on behalf of a disproportionately large number of vulnerable First Nation citizens; and

WHEREAS, the denial of families being able to manage the affairs of their loved ones as a result of provincial policies is a discriminatory infringement of First Nations' inherent jurisdiction over children and families and may be vulnerable to class action proceedings; and

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**RE: ESTATE ADMINISTRATION FOR VULNERABLE ADULTS LIVING
ON-RESERVE IN MANITOBA (cont'd)**

WHEREAS, in September of 2023, ISC agreed to assert its jurisdiction to assist families in similar situations to be appointed as the administrators of the estates of their vulnerable loved ones, and FNFAO Legal Services is currently assisting two other families who find themselves in similar circumstances.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly directs the First Nations Family Advocate Office to further explore the potential to bring a class action lawsuit on behalf of vulnerable First Nations persons, and their families, including identifying next steps, barriers, opportunities, and potential partners.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, the First Nations Family Advocate Office to report back to the AMC Women's Council with the results of this research for further direction.

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**RE: CANADA BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE TO ITS LEGAL OBLIGATION
IN HONOURING THE LAND TRUST IT HOLDS AND FOR
MANITOBA TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM ILLEGALLY
INTERFERING IN THE ON-RESERVE ECONOMY**

Moved by:

Chief John Thunder
Buffalo Point First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Betsy Kennedy
War Lake First Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) passed resolution MAR-16.07 *Abolishment of the Indian Act*, which among others, supports the motion to repeal Section 91.24 of the Canadian Constitution and reverting to First Nations sovereignty status and ensuring fiscal capacity for First Nations and that Canada to provide an accounting of Indian Moneys Trust fund; and

WHEREAS, the AMC sent a letter to former Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs on March 17, 2016, re Accounting for Moneys Held in Trust for First Nations (Treaty Audits) and a follow-up letter on April 22, 2016, re Trust Monies Saved for First Nations. The AMC received a response for Minister of ISC acknowledging the letters but not providing a clear response to the request of Trust Monies; and

WHEREAS, Canada's Department of Indian Affairs (then Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada and now Indigenous Services Canada) has prioritized social welfare programming which has created a dependency for First Nations; and

WHEREAS, Canada owns lands in trust for the use and benefit of First Nations and as such Canada has a legally enforceable fiduciary duty to First Nations; and

WHEREAS, First Nations reserves do not have fair access to taxation and the natural resources revenues that the province of Manitoba has. This gives Manitoba's crown corporations an unfair advantage and First Nations businesses a distinct disadvantage. Manitoba crown corporations are in direct competition with First Nations businesses and the province of Manitoba acts in a conflict of interest when it imposes its jurisdiction on-reserve; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous Services Canada's (ISC) economic development programs have always been set up to fail, with a very small percentage of its budget allocated, managed, and dispersed to support economic development for First Nations; and

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**RE: CANADA BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE TO ITS LEGAL OBLIGATION
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MANITOBA TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM ILLEGALLY
INTERFERING IN THE ON-RESERVE ECONOMY (cont'd)**

WHEREAS, ISC's funding and programming to support First Nations economies does not guarantee a return or protection of investments intended for an on-reserve economy; and

WHEREAS, the *First Nations Financial Transparency Act* requires that First Nations businesses make their audited consolidated financial statements available to the public, a requirement that places a higher standard of disclosure than required of any other entity or recipient of federal funds; and

WHEREAS, ISC collects, receives, and holds Trust monies for the use and benefit of First Nations and their citizens and continues to act in a colonial and racist manner by withholding First Nations access to its Trust monies. Canada is not accountable, transparent, and is not working toward reconciliation by failing to return Trust monies and to address historical injustices.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct that Canada be held accountable and adhere to its legal obligations in honouring the land Trust that it holds.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, Chiefs-in-Assembly calls on Manitoba to cease and desist from illegally interfering in the on-reserve economies that they and Canada destroyed due to bad faith and failure to act honourably.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the accumulated effects of economic deprivation that has held the reserves hostage be properly and fairly represented in a honest court of law.

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**RE: MANITOBA POLICE AGENCIES TO WAIVE FEES FOR
INDIVIDUALS RECLAIMING INDIGENOUS NAMES**

Moved by:

Chief EJ Fontaine
Sagkeeng First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief David A. Ledoux
Gambler First Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People Article 8 states “1. Indigenous peoples and individuals have the right not to be subjected to forced assimilation or destruction of their culture. 2. States shall provide effective mechanisms for prevention of, and redress for: (a) Any action which has the aim or effect of depriving them of their integrity as distinct peoples, or of their cultural values or ethnic identities”: and

WHEREAS, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada Calls to Action No.17 states “We call upon all levels of government to enable residential school Survivors and their families to reclaim names changed by the residential school system by waiving administrative costs for a period of five years for the name-change process and the revision of official identity documents, such as birth certificates, passports, driver’s licenses, health cards, status cards, and social insurance numbers”; and

WHEREAS, Manitoba Vital Statistics branch has indefinitely waived the fees associated with legal name changes for survivors of Indian Residential Schools and the Sixties Scoop to reclaim their Indigenous names as an approach to reconciliation, specifically responding to the TRC Calls to Action No.17; and

WHEREAS, First Nations survivors of Indian Residential School and the Sixties Scoop are facing continued difficulty in obtaining legal name changes in the province of Manitoba, a process that requires documentation from Police agencies that continue to charge fees for fingerprinting and criminal record checks.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chiefs-in-Assembly call upon Police agencies in Manitoba, as an approach to reconciliation, to waive the fees associated with legal name changes for First Nations survivors of the Indian Residential Schools and Sixties Scoop reclaiming their Indigenous names in Manitoba.

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**RE: MANITOBA POLICE AGENCIES TO WAIVE FEES FOR
INDIVIDUALS RECLAIMING INDIGENOUS NAMES (cont'd)**

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**RE: FIRST NATIONS CHILDREN APPREHENDED FOR MEDICAL
TREATMENT OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL REFERRALS IN
MANITOBA**

Moved by:

Chief Betsy Kennedy
War Lake First Nation

WHEREAS, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly passed resolution FEB-15.04 Support the Collaborative Action Agreement: Deconstructing the Child Welfare “Industry of Apprehension”; and

Seconded by:

Chief Angela Levasseur
Nisichawayasihk Cree
Nation

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly continue to express concerns regarding apprehensions specifically in the medical field when First Nations children and families are seeking and receiving medical treatment in hospitals in Manitoba; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly identified concerns that First Nations children do not consistently receive adequate medical treatment in hospitals, families are not consistently treated with dignity and respect, parents feel they have no voice or say in the quality of treatment provided to their children; and

WHEREAS, First Nations parents are often served and forced to sign medical apprehension documents to release their child(ren) to continue receiving medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Child and Family Services (CFS) Act has policies and standards in place that protect the right of medical professionals and social workers to respond with apprehension when a parent is deemed to be neglectful and not providing proper medical care; and

WHEREAS, under the CFS Act, illustrations of child in need 17(2) without restricting the generality of subject section (1), a child is in need of protection where the child (iii) who neglects or refuses to provide or obtain proper medical or other remedial care or treatment necessary for the health or well-being of the child or who refuses to permit such care or treatment to be provided to the child when the care or treatment is recommended by a duly qualified medical practitioner; and

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**RE: FIRST NATIONS CHILDREN APPREHENDED FOR MEDICAL
TREATMENT OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL REFERRALS IN
MANITOBA (cont'd)**

WHEREAS, under the Manitoba CFS Standards Manual 13.6 Apprehension for Medical Treatment, Emergency Medical Referrals, health professionals and facilities must have immediate access to a child and family services agency when a child requires emergency medical attention and a parent or guardian is not available, or neglects or refuses to consent to recommended medical care or treatment; and

WHEREAS, under the Manitoba CFS Standards Manual 13.6 Apprehension for Medical Treatment, Apprehending for Medical Treatment, A child is in need of protection when the child requires medical care or treatment necessary for the child's health or well-being recommended by a medical practitioner, and a parent or guardian neglects or refuses to consent to such care or treatment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly call for the establishment of First Nations-led advocacy supports and services within the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg to ensure that the rights of First Nations children and families are protected when seeking medical treatment, to ensure a culturally appropriate, preventative and strength-based approach to addressing the concerns of both parents and medical and social services professionals, and to ensure there are preventative steps taken to preserve the family unit rather than responding with apprehension as a first approach.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Secretariat to further investigate these concerns and conduct research on policies and standards that provide healthcare professionals with the mandate to report families to CFS, and to provide an update and recommended solutions at the next AMC Women's Council for further discussion.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Secretariat to conduct legal research on whether a First Nations child medical apprehensions in Manitoba is an option for a First Nations in Manitoba specific class action.

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**RE: FIRST NATIONS CHILDREN APPREHENDED FOR MEDICAL
TREATMENT OR EMERGENCY MEDICAL REFERRALS IN
MANITOBA (cont'd)**

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to work with the Government of Manitoba on examining ongoing challenges and barriers within the health care system that perpetuate the ongoing theft and apprehension of First Nations children.

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RE: FIRST NATIONS CONTROL OF MMIWG FUNDING

Moved by:

Chief Kyra Wilson
Long Plain First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Heidi Cook
Misipawistik Cree Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) has a long history of advocating for missing and murdered First Nations and other Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, Plus (Two-Spirit LGBTQQIA+) individuals, which includes resolutions: Aug.91-08 Aboriginal Justice Inquiry Report & Further Police Investigation); Aug-09.06 Missing and Murdered Women; Oct-11.20 Ongoing support for Missing and Murdered Women; Jun-14.07 AMC to call on the Federation to join with First Nations in a National Inquiry on the systemic violence against Indigenous Women, Girls and Children; and Jul-19.03 recommendations on the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls; and

WHEREAS, on November 12, 2014, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly endorsed Families First for Manitoba Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG), a Report which outlines an approach that puts the families of MMIWG first and develops concrete actions to prevent further harm; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, AMC made closing submissions for the MMIWG National Inquiry on Indigenous Law and perspectives, Government Services, Family and Child Welfare, Sexual Exploitation/Human Trafficking and Resource Extractions, Racism, Colonial Violence and Criminal Justice System; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Chiefs-in-Assembly supported and endorsed *Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*, which includes section 1.0 to 1.11 Calls to Justice, calling upon all levels of government to work diligently in partnership with First Nations to advance the calls for justice and immediately implement the necessary reporting mechanisms to provide the public with an updated and accurate database of MMIWG, stringently advocate against the ongoing human rights violations, and ensure that resources to support families are First Nations-centered and First Nations-led to restore the balance that has been profoundly weakened by colonization; and

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
General Chiefs Assembly
RBC Convention Centre, Meeting Room 5, Main Level, North Building
375 York Avenue, Winnipeg, MB

October 17, 18, 19, 2023

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

OCT-23.16
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RE: FIRST NATIONS CONTROL OF MMIWG FUNDING (cont'd)

WHEREAS, in 2019, Chiefs-in-Assembly called on the federal government to meaningfully support and fund a Manitoba First Nations-specific coordinated 10-year plan to support First Nations governments and self-determination by the AMC; and

WHEREAS, since 2020, the AMC has been advocating for funding to establish a MMIWG Two-Spirit LGBTQQIA+ Advocacy Unit, despite numerous attempts to work with the Federal Government, AMC received funding for the 2023-24 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, in April 2022, Statistics Canada released the *Violent victimization and perceptions of safety among First Nations, Metis, and Inuit women and among women living in remote areas of Canada* report, wherein it states that more than 6 in 10 Indigenous women (63%) experienced either physical or sexual assault in their lifetime (since the age 15). Of 63%, almost two-thirds were First Nations; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 federal budget allocated \$122.1 million in initial funding over several years and \$20.4 million in ongoing support under the *National Action Plan to End the Tragedy of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*; and

WHEREAS, numerous urban Indigenous organizations, including the MMIWG2S+ Urban Working Group in Manitoba, have been established as collective organizations dedicated to addressing the issues and challenges faced by Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit LGBTQQIA+ individuals in urban settings within Manitoba and have been accessing and receiving funding on behalf of First Nations; and

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RE: FIRST NATIONS CONTROL OF MMIWG FUNDING (cont'd)

WHEREAS, through JAN-07.10 *Non-recognition Of Aboriginal Organizations*, AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly have re-affirmed their position that First Nations governments recognize the portability of Treaty and Aboriginal Rights for all First Nations citizens and that First Nations governments have jurisdiction over their respective First Nations citizens regardless of residency and the Chiefs-in-Assembly do not recognize any self-proclaimed or Crown government-created "Aboriginal organizations or organizations" which purport to represent First Nations citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly affirm that the funding intended for addressing the issues and challenges faced by MMIWG and Two-Spirit LGBTQQIA+ First Nations individuals in urban settings within Manitoba should be directed to First Nations organizations, in alignment with the position of the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly that underscores the importance of First Nations jurisdiction over First Nations citizens regardless of residency, and emphasizes the non-recognition of self-proclaimed or Crown government-created "Aboriginal organizations" purporting to represent First Nations citizens.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to work with the Government of Canada to ensure that funding provided under the federal budget and the National Action Plan to End the Tragedy of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls are disbursed in a way which respects First Nations jurisdiction.

CERTIFIED COPY
of a Resolution Adopted
on October 17, 18, 19, 2023
Winnipeg, MB


Grand Chief Cathy Merrick