

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS CHIEFS ASSEMBLY



**CERTIFIED COPIES
OF
ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

Keeshkeemaquah Conference Centre
Long Plain First Nation
March 21 & 22, 2018

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
Chiefs Assembly on Education
Keeshkeemaquah Conference Centre
Long Plain First Nation
Portage La Prairie, Manitoba
March 21& 22, 2018

CERTIFIED RESOLUTIONS

MAR-18.01	Call for an Inquiry into the Death of Tina Fontaine
MAR-18.02	Action on 60s' Scoop
MAR-18.03	Support for the Strategic Plan, Workplan & Declaration on Families and Children
MAR-18.04	Review of Senior Management at the Department of Indigenous Services Canada
MAR-18.05	A Renewed Approach to Reassert First Nations Jurisdiction in Education
MAR-18.06	Tendering Policy of the Department of Indigenous Services Canada (DISC)
MAR-18.07	Direct second level education services funding to Manitoba First Nations
MAR-18.08	Ongoing support for the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre

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CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAR-18.01
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RE: CALL FOR AN INQUIRY INTO THE DEATH OF TINA FONTAINE

WHEREAS, Sagkeeng First Nation citizen Tina Fontaine was in the care of Manitoba Child and Family Services (CFS) and staying at a Winnipeg hotel when she was reported missing to Winnipeg Police Service on July 31, 2014; and

WHEREAS, during her six weeks in Winnipeg, Tina Fontaine came in contact with Winnipeg police officers, security officers, hospital staff and Child and Family Services staff; and

WHEREAS, it was during this time that Tina Fontaine came into contact with Raymond Cormier, and was later found murdered; and

WHEREAS, Raymond Cormier was subsequently charged with second degree murder of Tina Fontaine; and

WHEREAS, it was found that there was insufficient evidence to convict Raymond Cormier due to lack of DNA and on February 22, 2018 a jury found Raymond Cormier was acquitted of the death of Tina Fontaine; and

WHEREAS, there was a lack of protocol followed by the Winnipeg Police, CFS and hospital staff in letting a 15 year old girl continue to roam the streets of Winnipeg uncared for and unprotected; and

WHEREAS, the Sagkeeng First Nation supports the family of Tina Fontaine to call for an inquiry into her death.

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MAR-18.01
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RE: CALL FOR AN INQUIRY INTO THE DEATH OF TINA FONTAINE

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-In-Assembly supports the call for an independent inquiry into the death of Tina Fontaine that will:

1. Be established under the authority of First Nations jurisdiction;
2. Examine the actions and inactions of the Winnipeg Police, CFS and hospital staff that were involved with Tina Fontaine prior to her death;
3. Be funded by the province and/or federal government;
4. Consist of First Nation Commissioners; and
5. Report to the AMC Chiefs-In-Assembly, Province of Manitoba and the Government of Canada.

CERTIFIED COPY

*of a resolution adopted
on March 21 & 22, 2018
Long Plain First Nation, Manitoba*



Grand Chief Arlen Dumas

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
Chiefs Assembly on Education
Keeshkeemaquah Conference Centre
Long Plain First Nation
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MAR-18.02

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RE: ACTION ON 60'S SCOOP

WHEREAS, between 1951 and 1991, Indian and Inuit children were taken into care and placed with non-Indigenous parents where they were not raised in accordance with their cultural traditions nor taught their traditional languages (the "60's Scoop"); and

WHEREAS, thousands of Manitoba First Nations children were taken from their families and First Nation communities as a result of the 60's Scoop; and

WHEREAS, various class proceedings were commenced against Canada in provincial superior courts and the Federal Court in connection with the 60's Scoop; and

WHEREAS, AMC Chiefs in Assembly resolution Sept-16.09 resolved for ongoing support for 60's Scoop survivors and a repatriation program in spirit of TRC Recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada and 4 law firms representing plaintiffs in multiple class-action lawsuits without the voice of survivors of the 60's Scoop; and

WHEREAS, the proposed compensation level is inadequate in the event an influx of qualified applicants are eligible for compensation and reduce the compensation from the set amount of 750 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, the 9-seat governance structure of the proposed Healing Fund sets aside 6 seats for lawyers and government representatives and 3 for 60's Scoop Survivors; and

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada has not issued an apology to the 60's Scoop Survivors for their experiences, the loss of culture or for any physical, emotional and mental abuses they survived; nor apologized to the mothers and fathers for the loss of their children; nor apologized to Manitoba First Nations for the loss of their citizens.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly calls on the Government of Canada to make financial resources available so that Manitoba First Nation 60's Scoop survivors living on and off reserve are engaged in order to explain why there is a need for a more fair and equitable agreement process; and

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RE: ACTION ON 60'S SCOOP

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly support a renegotiated 60's Scoop Settlement between the Government of Canada and survivors of the 60's Scoop in the spirit of reconciliation that:

1. Establishes and provides a base line of compensation for qualified 60's Scoop Survivors;
2. Restructures the 9-seat governance structure of the proposed Healing Fund for 5 60's Scoop Survivors, and the remaining 4 seats for lawyers and government representatives; and
3. Includes an apology from the Government of Canada to the 60's Scoop Survivors for their experiences, the loss of culture or for any physical, emotional and mental abuses they survived.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs in Assembly direct the AMC Grand Chief to inform the Government of Canada that for any apology it provides regarding the 60's Scoop, it should also issue an apology to the mothers and fathers and families for the loss of their children and an apology to Manitoba First Nations for the loss of their citizens.

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of a Resolution Adopted
on March 21 & 22, 2018
Long Plain First Nation, Manitoba



Grand Chief Arlen Dumas

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
Chiefs Assembly on Education
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March 21 & 22, 2018

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAR-18.03

**RE: SUPPORT FOR STRATEGIC PLAN, WORKPLAN, AND DECLARATION ON
FAMILIES AND CHILDREN**

WHEREAS, First Nations have inherent jurisdiction of their children and families; and

WHEREAS, in November 2017 AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly moved resolution NOV-17.02, *Re: Memorandum of Understanding Between the AMC and Canada on Child Welfare* that seeks to have a nation to nation relationship to reestablish First Nation jurisdiction for Child Welfare and reform of the First Nations Child and Family Services Program; and

WHEREAS, on March 19 and 20, 2018 the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs held a two day emergency meeting on Child and Family Services in response to the province of Manitoba's unilateral reform initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the AMC Women's Council presented an update at the emergency meeting on CFS and presented a draft strategic plan titled *Setting the Foundation for Change: A Strategy Towards First Nations' Jurisdiction of Child Welfare in Manitoba* and a draft Workplan for the AMC-Canada MOU for Families and Children; and

WHEREAS, at the emergency meeting on CFS a proposed *Manitoba First Nations Declaration of Principles on Inherent Sovereignty over Our Own Children* was read out (attached).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the strategic plan, workplan and the Manitoba First Nations Declaration of Principles on Inherent Sovereignty over Our Own Children.

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***of a Resolution Adopted
on March 21 & 22, 2018
Long Plain First Nation, Manitoba***



Grand Chief Arlen Dumas



March 21, 2018

Manitoba First Nations Declaration of Principles on Inherent Sovereignty and Responsibility Over Our Own Children

1. Our children are on loan to us just as we are all Creator's children. It is our responsibility to care, love, protect, nurture and teach them to ensure a good, happy and healthy life.
2. Our sovereign Nations, the Anishinaabe, Nehethwuk/Ininiwak Anishiniwak, Dakota Oyate and Denesuline, represented by 62 First Nations in Manitoba assert and maintain our sovereignty, self-determination and inherent jurisdiction over our own children and families in our own territories, wherever they live on or off reserve.
3. *Wahbung: Our Tomorrows* responded to a critical time, and now, the call for unity must again rise to see all Manitoba Chiefs, Chiefs' organizations and First Nation's Agencies and staff work towards a First Nations Child and Family Services system that truly advances First Nations' jurisdiction in the area of children and families.
4. We no longer accept provincial control over our children and families, and we unite to assert our inherent jurisdiction over our children and to remove our children from the imposed provincial child welfare system that is not reflective of the identities of our children, families and communities.
5. We will continue to pressure the Province of Manitoba on the required work of the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry-Child Welfare Initiative so that First Nations reclaim full authority, not only delegated authority, over our child, family and community well-being matters.
6. We support the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and Canada Memorandum of Understanding on Child Welfare that includes joint discussions recognizing and respecting First Nations' inherent jurisdiction over the well-being of our families, leading to the restoration of full jurisdiction of child and family matters and leading to the reform of the federal First Nations Child and Family Services Program accordingly.
7. We will pursue codifying our own laws relating to children and families that reflect the traditions, customs and practices of the five nation/language groups.
8. With our Nation-to-Nation partner the Crown, we will co-develop enabling legislation that recognizes our First Nations' laws and supersedes provincial jurisdiction over our children.
9. We will engage our communities to participate in discussions concerning the current provincial Child and Family Services system and moving forward towards self-determination.
10. We will invite the Province of Manitoba to participate in discussions regarding issues, and at times and on terms as agreed upon by the Parties.
11. In the work done through the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and Canada Memorandum of Understanding on Child Welfare, Manitoba First Nations will create a First Nations system for child welfare that represents our families' and children's best interests based on our customary care practices, which are integral to achieving the good life.

12. The signatories of this Declaration of Principles attest that the Province of Manitoba's child welfare reform plan is not in the best interest of First Nations, and their unilateral changes to the Child and Family Services Act supported by an invalid consultation process contradict this Declaration of Principles; and therefore, are not supported or endorsed by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.
13. It is critically important that we commit to protect the connection between mother and father, child, family and community. The Creator gave us the right to raise our children. The Creator doesn't give us children that we are not meant to have. It is our utmost responsibility to protect and nurture that connection.
14. As leadership, we are vested with the responsibility of carrying that collective mandate of our Nations forward in respect, truth, courage, humility, wisdom, honesty and love.

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MAR-18.04
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**RE: REVIEW OF SENIOR MANAGEMENT AT THE DEPARTMENT OF
INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA**

WHEREAS, recently the Government of Canada announced the amalgamation of the Department of Indian Affairs Canada (INAC) and the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) into the new Department of Indigenous Services Canada (DISC). While Canada claimed this was done in response to the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples Report, it did so without consulting with Manitoba First Nations; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Manitoba Chiefs have expressed concerns with Manitoba's Regional Executive Officer, FNIHB and the Regional Director General, INAC; and

WHEREAS, Canada continues to commit to a nation-to-nation relationship, with the development of DISC, it is timely that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) be included in ensuring that the same concerns that existed with the FNIHB REO and INAC RGD do not happen again, they are accountable to the First Nations that they provide services to, and the new relationship includes an opportunity for First Nations to provide feedback for performance evaluations; and

WHEREAS, at this Chiefs Assembly, Chiefs expressed their ongoing concern with the FNIHB REO and identified that there is a need for accountability in the Manitoba Region and for a review of the current Regional Executive Officer.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to meet with the DISC Minister Jane Philpott to inform her that the AMC would like to have a shared decision-making process on the review of performance of the Regional Executive Officer, FNIHB and the Regional Director General, INAC as they transition to DISC; and

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**RE: REVIEW OF SENIOR MANAGEMENT AT THE DEPARTMENT OF
INDIGENOUS SERVICES CANADA**

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that a yearly performance review that includes analyzing the degree of services is incorporated into senior management performance evaluations.

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Long Plain First Nation, Manitoba**


Grand Chief Arlen Dumas

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MAR-18.05
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**RE: A RENEWED APPROACH TO REASSERT FIRST NATIONS JURISDICTION
IN EDUCATION**

WHEREAS, Manitoba First Nations continue to possess the inherent jurisdiction in the area of education and the Treaty right to education; and

WHEREAS, in pursuit of First Nations control of First Nations education, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) created the Chiefs Committee on Education, established an Education Directorate at the AMC Secretariat; and decided to provincially incorporate the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre Inc. (MFNERC) to provide support services to 49 First Nations Schools in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS, in 2012 severe federal funding cuts to the AMC caused the elimination of the Education Directorate at the AMC Secretariat and required MFNERC to assist the AMC with regional education activities, including research studies including a Draft Regional Education Funding Model and other costing studies, and work with the Assembly of First Nations on a Memorandum to Cabinet for First Nations Education and Treasury Board Submission; and

WHEREAS, AMC resolution NOV-17.05 “AMC Chiefs Committee on Education” revived the Chiefs Committee on Education to work on, among other things, a Manitoba Regional First Nations Education Agreement; and

WHEREAS, AMC resolution ECC DEC.17-06 “Regional First Nations Education Funding Formula Options” supported continued coordination of research by the MFNERC and directed the Chiefs Committee on Education to oversee and direct the ongoing development of options for a regional draft First Nations Education formula that will involve working closely with the First Nations Education Directors, finance staff and other funding experts, and the MFNERC.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly supports a renewed approach to First Nations education that restores the various responsibilities of the Chiefs Committee on Education, including directing and overseeing regional activities and research on First Nations education that will include ensuring First Nations control their own education and inform Canada and the AFN of the position of Chiefs on Education; and

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MAR-18.05
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**RE: A RENEWED APPROACH TO REASSERT FIRST NATIONS JURISDICTION
IN EDUCATION**

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly agrees to re-establish a Technical Task Force comprised of advisors from existing First Nations education authorities and AMC Secretariat; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly agrees to re-establish an Education Directorate at the AMC Secretariat, and direct the Grand Chief to seek funding for this Directorate from Canada. The responsibilities of the Directorate will include:

- a) supporting individual First Nations pursuing control their own education;
- b) providing regional policy analysis and advocacy; representation: at local, provincial and national tables;
- c) coordinating meetings of the Manitoba First Nations Education Directors; and
- d) facilitate meetings to develop a template First Nation Law on Education that respects the legal traditions of the five Nations and language groups of the Anishinaabeg (Ojibway), Neheto (Cree), Anishininiwak (Oji-Cree), Denesuline and Dakota; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to meet with the Grand Chiefs of the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak and the Southern Chiefs Organization to reestablish an Education Directorate at the AMC Secretariat, and direct the Grand Chief to seek funding for it from Canada; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to meet with the Grand Chiefs of the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak and Southern Chiefs Organization to develop a Political Unity Accord on Education.

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***of a Resolution Adopted
on March 21 & 22, 2018
Long Plain First Nation, Manitoba***



Grand Chief Arlen Dumas

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MAR-18.06

**RE: TENDERING POLICY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INDIGENOUS SERVICES
CANADA**

WHEREAS, resolution SEPT-02.03, *Re: Tendering Policy*, identified issues with the Department of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) Tendering Policy that hindered a community plan and entering into partnership arrangements with certain companies and resolved for INAC to change its Tendering Policy; and

WHEREAS, at this Assembly, the Chiefs heard that the Tendering Policy continues to work against and disadvantage First Nations; and

WHEREAS, Canada has committed to a nation-to-nation relationship based on recognition, rights, respect, co-operation, and partnership as a sure path to economic growth.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs-in-Assembly agree that the Tendering Policy for the new Department of Indigenous Services Canada (DISC) must reflect a new relationship between Canada and Manitoba First Nations and direct the Grand Chief to inform Minister Philpott that AMC will jointly review and amend DISC's Tendering Policy.

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MAR-18.07
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**RE: DIRECT SECOND LEVEL EDUCATION SERVICES FUNDING TO
MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS**

WHEREAS, the Manitoba First Nation Education Resource Centre (MFNERC) holds the regional mandate for the provision of all second level services; and

WHEREAS, at the March 5, 2018 First Nations Education Directors meeting, a number of Education Directors expressed concerns regarding the various funding models presented, and noted that further consultation was required; this included specific concerns identified in the MFNERC Briefing Note regarding the second level services percentage amount; and

WHEREAS, many Manitoba First Nations have significant local capacity that offsets the need for many MFNERC supports; and

WHEREAS, each First Nation has the control to decide what services are needed in their communities as the need varies from community to community.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly push for funding for consultation mechanisms for all First Nations, consolidated and independent, on establishing future funding mechanisms; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that a needs-based funding mechanism be developed in partnership between Canada and Manitoba First Nation communities to determine appropriate contributions for second level services, and that each First Nation be supported in determining the services for their local education systems; and

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**RE: DIRECT SECOND LEVEL EDUCATION SERVICES FUNDING TO
MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS**

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the regional funding allocation for second level services be disbursed in full to the First Nation to allow each First Nation to determine from where it purchases second level services.

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MAR-18.08
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**RE: ONGOING SUPPORT FOR THE MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION
RESOURCE CENTRE**

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) established the Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre (MFNERC) in 1998 as a means of providing shared support services for First Nations schools to better meet the educational needs of First Nations students; and

WHEREAS, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly have given the mandate to the MFNERC to provide enhanced second and third level services in Resolution Jun-12.06; and

WHEREAS, the MFNERC established the Manitoba First Nations School System to manage and operate schools in 10 First Nations communities in Manitoba in 2017; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to provide shared third level services for First Nations including accreditation, certification, curriculum development, training, advocacy and other supports required by First Nations in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS, First Nations Education Directors and staff of the MFNERC have been involved in discussions and regionally-led research which will lead to increased funding levels for First Nations education in Manitoba through the 2018 Memorandum to Cabinet and the Treasury Board Submission; and

WHEREAS, First Nations leaders have long recognized the need to have education systems as articulated by the Indian Association of Manitoba in 1947, the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood in 1971, and more recently, in the mandate provided by the Chiefs-in-Assembly in a Resolution passed in May 2000 and reiterated in Resolution May.06.11.

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**RE: ONGOING SUPPORT FOR THE MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS EDUCATION
RESOURCE CENTRE**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly affirm its ongoing support for the MFNERC as a second and third level service provider as identified by each First Nation; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that services continue to be provided for all other First Nations in Manitoba from the MFNERC.

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