

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS CHIEFS ASSEMBLY ON HEALTH



**CERTIFIED COPIES
OF
ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

**Best Western Plus Airport Hotel
1715 Wellington Avenue, Winnipeg, MB
June 6 & 7, 2018**

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
Chiefs Assembly on Health
Best Western Plus Airport Hotel
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CERTIFIED RESOLUTIONS

JUN-18.01	Universal Health Accord
JUN-18.02	Manitoba Region Residential School Cultural Support Program
JUN-18.03	Support for the Creation of a Manitoba First Nations Housing Network
JUN-18.04	Support for FHSSM as a Permanent Entity
JUN-18.05	Amalgamation of Health Canada and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
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RE: UNIVERSAL HEALTH ACCORD

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood was created in 1967 to coordinate political action and technical work on common issues which led to Wahbung: Our Tomorrows (1971); and

WHEREAS, Manitoba First Nations have the Treaty Right to health, and the AMC Constitution states:

Article 2; We accept that First Nations in Manitoba, as independent Nations, signed international covenants known as Treaties and accordingly these Treaty rights must be upheld and maintained. First Nations recognize that collective power and action is necessary for the preservation and integrity of these Treaty rights.

...

We state that any collective action by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs shall never derogate or deny our inherent aboriginal or Treaty rights.

...

Article 3; Promote, preserve, and protect Aboriginal and Treaty Rights for First Nations people in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS, First Nations have been discussing “formal” dismantling of federal authorities since 1994 and the Framework Agreement Initiative; and

WHEREAS, these discussions ceased in 2007 through Resolution Jan-07.16 until such time Canada could demonstrate political will and commitment to a new approach; and

WHEREAS, in July 2011, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly passed resolution Jul-11.04, A Shared Vision for a Unified Health System in Manitoba that supported a Political Unity Accord on Health and initiated discussions for a tripartite agreement; and

WHEREAS, in July of 2013, resolution July-13.08 created a separate legal entity – the First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba that included members of the AMC Chiefs Task Force on Health; and

WHEREAS, in August of 2017, Prime Minister Trudeau reaffirmed commitment for a renewed nation-to-nation relationship with First Nations, and there are ongoing Treaty table discussions with a number of Manitoba First Nations; and

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RE: UNIVERSAL HEALTH ACCORD (cont'd)

WHEREAS, in October 2017 – the AMC, the SCO, the MKO Grand Chiefs and AFN Regional Chief reaffirmed support for the Political Unity Accord and Political Unity Accord on Health through the resigning of both Accords; and

WHEREAS, Manitoba First Nations discussions on health and specific social program, policy and jurisdictional priorities are required to scope the negotiations for a new fiscal relationship with Canada.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly re-establish the AMC Chiefs Task Force on Health to direct and oversee discussions on stated priorities that will ultimately scope the jurisdictional and program authorities to be framed in the proposed Universal Health Accord between Manitoba First Nations and Canada, and that will include as follows:

- Supports renewed nation-to-nation relationships; and
- Supports self-determination through a continuum of financial options; and
- Empowers First Nations governance as a means to achieve results; and
- Leads to institutional capacity development; and
- Creates incentives for transformation and moving beyond the Indian Act; and
- Forms the foundation for positive change in the daily lives of First Nations; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs-in-Assembly will ensure that the Universal Health Accord will not:

- Design community or regional service delivery models; and
- Determine operational mandates of existing First Nation health/social/Treaty entities; and
- Develop models, including funding models, for funding to First Nations and/or Treaty entities; and/or
- Create any other First Nation entity that will prevent funding to flow directly to First Nations.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the AMC fully supports the ongoing Treaty Table discussions, and that representatives from those Treaty Tables will be invited to participate in discussions on a Universal Health Accord; and

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RE: UNIVERSAL HEALTH ACCORD (cont'd)

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC Grand Chief and the AMC Secretariat to include and involve the MKO, the SCO, the First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba, and the tribal council and independent First Nations Health Directors in the process; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the AMC Chiefs Task Force on Health report regularly to the AMC Executive Council of Chiefs and the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly on the progress and development of a future Universal Health Accord between Manitoba First Nations and Canada.

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Treaty 1 Territory



Grand Chief Arlen Dumas

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RE: MANITOBA REGION RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL CULTURAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Health Canada, under the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement has a court ordered obligation to provide mental health, emotional and cultural support services for former Indian Residential School (IRS) students; and

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada has provided funding to eleven (11) Indian Residential School Support Programs in Manitoba for the purpose of providing emotional support services before, during and after Independent Assessment Process (IAP) Proceedings to former IRS Survivors and their families; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls (MMIWG) Inquiry will most certainly open up new wounds and serious trauma, akin to the severity that occurred during the IAP and Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) hearing, and most of the MMIWG Survivors and their families are themselves survivors of residential schools; and

WHEREAS, Call to Action #21 of the TRC 94 Calls to Action calls upon the federal government to provide sustainable funding for existing and new Aboriginal healing centre's to address the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual harms caused by residential schools; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Residential Schools Resolution Health Support Program (IRS RHSP) has played a vital role in supporting survivors of residential school and their families since its inception under Health Canada in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the IRS RHSP has been funded by way of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement (IRSSA) since 2007 and has been expected to sunset, as the formal processes associated with the IRSSA wrap up; and

WHEREAS, Health Canada and service providers have noted that demand for the program has not declined, despite the fact that normal IRSSA process is coming to a close; and

WHEREAS, in the new fiscal year 2018-2019 Health Canada, by letter, recently announced the shutdown of Indian Residential School Support Programs in northern Manitoba by end of 2020 for the northern IRS programs and September 2018 for the southern IRS support programs; and

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**RE: MANITOBA REGION RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL CULTURAL SUPPORT
PROGRAM (cont'd)**

WHEREAS, the southern urban contribution agreement holders were advised that they will be receiving funding until September 30, 2018 to provide 'appropriate closure of the program' and if interested in participating in the 'wind-down stage and services transition' they are required to submit a proposal when the call for proposals are announced in May 2018; and

WHEREAS, Manitoba contribution agreement holders are concerned that this approach compromises the health and safety of former IRS students and their families who for generations, have been subjected to institutional systemic abuse by the Government of Canada for which this proposed funding management process by Indigenous Services Canada, Manitoba Region is another example of; and

WHEREAS, at the June 6, 2018 Chiefs-in-Assembly, the Assistant Deputy Minister and Regional Executive Officer (ROE), Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) informed the Chiefs-in-Assembly that the communication that flowed from their office to Manitoba First Nation Residential School Program Coordinators was incorrect, should not have been distributed, and is not in line with what the region wants to do, and that funding for the program is still available for the Manitoba region and that there will be no break in access to funding.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Chiefs-in-Assembly call on the Government of Canada to honour Call to Action #21 of the TRC 94 Calls to Action and that healing support continue for IRS survivors and intergenerational affects including the loss of language; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that since the IRSSA is a legally binding agreement supported by the Court Order to provide mental health, emotional and cultural support services for former IRS students regardless of their residency, Canada should not only provide cultural supports to survivors, but also supports for survivor and intergenerational survivors First Nations' inherent rights, including language, identity, hunting, fishing and gathering; and

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**RE: MANITOBA REGION RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL CULTURAL SUPPORT
PROGRAM (cont'd)**

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to write a letter to Health Canada, Manitoba Region to ensure support services continue to be delivered without delay in the southern urban region and northern regions as committed by the Regional Executive Officer and Assistant Deputy Minister, Indigenous Services Canada at the June 6, 2018 Chiefs-in-Assembly and that funding continue for the support services indefinitely; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC Secretariat to work with the Manitoba First Nations Residential School Program Coordinators to develop a strategy to inform Manitoba First Nations what the Chiefs want for their citizens and survivors, and direct the AMC Grand Chief to carry out the strategy and inform the Manitoba Region.

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Grand Chief Arlen Dumas

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RE: SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION OF A MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS HOUSING NETWORK

WHEREAS, in November of 1999, Resolution Nov-99.03 mandated that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC Secretariat to establish a working group of representative housing and infrastructure technicians which has been dormant for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, Manitoba is the only region in Canada that does not have a First Nation housing network or a regular forum for Housing Managers or Directors to meet to discuss and advise on First Nations housing in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada funds housing networks for First Nations in every province and territory in the country except for Manitoba; and

WHEREAS, the lack of a network or forum on First Nations housing has resulted in a lack of support to local service delivery of housing in Manitoba First Nations; and

WHEREAS, at the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Housing Manager Meeting hosted for Independent First Nation and Tribal Council Housing Managers on March 27, 2018 it was recommended that a Housing Forum be coordinated; and

WHEREAS, only an organization mandated by the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly has the jurisdiction to develop a Manitoba regional approach to a National Indigenous Housing Strategy; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) has indicated that funding may be available for the creation of a housing network in the Manitoba region, and has begun meeting with Chiefs at the tribal council level and most have indicated that a First Nation housing network is needed in Manitoba.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the creation of an interim Manitoba First Nations Housing Network that supports the development and progress of housing at the community level as well as a regional approach to a national housing strategy; and

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RE: SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION OF A MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS HOUSING NETWORK (cont'd)

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the interim Manitoba First Nation Housing Network must be developed by First Nations for First Nations to be funded by ISC; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the Manitoba Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC Secretariat to draft a terms of reference, work plan and budget for an interim Manitoba First Nations Housing Network to be reviewed and evaluated by the Chiefs-in-Assembly in one year.

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RE: SUPPORT FOR FNHSSM AS A PERMANENT ENTITY

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly passed resolution July-13.08 to establish an “*interim* Manitoba First Nations Health incorporated entity to pursue tripartite collaboration for a unified health system”. It resolved to have the Chiefs-in-Assembly establish as the Membership, the Chiefs Task Force on Health (CTFoH) as the Board of Directors of the First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba (FNHSSM); and

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly never dissolved the CTFoH; and

WHEREAS, further to Resolution July-13.08 a subsequent resolution, namely: resolution Mar-14.10, *Immediate Establishment of an Interim First Nations Health and Social Secretariat of Manitoba Board of Directors*, continued to characterize the FNHSSM as an interim entity; and

WHEREAS, the FNHSSM was duly incorporated on January 22, 2014 with full capacity to enter into agreements, contracts, and to manage its own affairs; and

WHEREAS, certain government officials and others have referred and continue to refer to the FNHSSM as an interim entity, minimizing the existence, function, funding and role of the FNHSSM.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly recognize that the FNHSSM has existed for over four years and continues to support and acknowledge its good work over the years, and that any officials or others referencing to it as an “interim” entity undermines the Chiefs in Assembly decision to create the FNHSSM;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly fully supports and endorses the recognition of the FNHSSM as a permanent entity; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly fully support the Chiefs on the FNHSSM Board of Directors, and that they be invited to also be members on the AMC CTFoH; and

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RE: SUPPORT FOR FNHSSM AS A PERMANENT ENTITY (cont'd)

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct AMC Grand Chief to notify Health Canada and other government entities that the FNHSSM was duly incorporated on January 22, 2014 with full capacity to enter into agreements, contracts, and to manage its own affairs, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly have recognized it as a permanent entity, and to cease referring to the FNHSSM as an interim entity.

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JUN-18.05

RE: AMALGAMATION OF HEALTH CANADA AND INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA

WHEREAS, the *Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development Act* R.S.C., 1985, c. I-6 is an Act that established the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development over which the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development is responsible, and this legislation has never been amended; and

WHEREAS, the *Department of Health Act* (S.C. 1996, c. 8) established the Department of Health over which the Minister of Health is responsible, including the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch; and

WHEREAS, on August 28, 2017 Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the split of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada into two separate departments: the Department of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs and the Department of Indigenous Services Canada that will include the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Director General and the Regional Executive Officer, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Manitoba Region presented at the June 7, 2018 Chiefs-in-Assembly regarding the creation of Indigenous Services Canada.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly call on Canada to ensure that it involves Manitoba First Nations in the amalgamation of the Regional Office of the First Nations Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada and the Regional Office of the Department of Indigenous Affairs; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Grand Chief be directed to write a letter to inform the Prime Minister to action the nation-to- nation relationship and inform Canada of the position the Chiefs-in-Assembly and meet with the responsible Minister to get their assurance and support for First Nations' full participation in further meetings and discussions amongst the relevant regional staff dealing with the amalgamation, and ensure that all regional funding goes directly to Manitoba First Nations and not to off-load to the province of Manitoba.

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