

EMERGENCY EDUCATION

April 26, 27, 1989

TABLE OF CONTENT

1. Resolution #1/89 - Education and Post Secondary Education is a Treaty Right
2. Resolution #2/89 - Facilities and Resources / Cost Data Base
3. Resolution #3/89 - INAC - Confidential Student Information
4. Resolution #4/89 - First Nation under control of Education
5. Resolution #5/89 - First Nation donate \$1000.00
6. Resolution #6/89 - Course of Action PSEAP
7. Resolution #7/89 - Manitoba Strategy
8. Resolution #8/89 - School Facilities at Tadoule Lake
9. Resolution #9/89 - Student - Support and Action

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT**

311-323 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
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Telephone: 956-0610

**MANITOBA CHIEFS EMERGENCY EDUCATION CONFERENCE
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 1/89

Subject:

MOVED BY:

Chief Ronald Cook
Shoal River Band

WHEREAS the First Nations of Manitoba assert that education is a treaty and aboriginal right;

WHEREAS the First Nations of Manitoba are determined to protect these rights for future generations;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Harry Desjarlais
Sandy Bay Band

WHEREAS while trying to protect these rights, members of First Nations been arrested, charged and incarcerated and harassed by the City Police under the direction of Indian Affairs and the landlord at 275 Portage Avenue;

WHEREAS these charges have been unduly and hastily laid and result in blaming the victim;

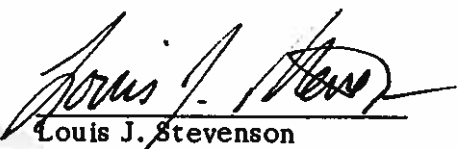
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Indian Affairs recognize that education and post-secondary education is a treaty right;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Regional Director and the Minister of Indian Affairs recommend that these charges be dropped or stayed;

CARRIED

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Regional Director General of Indian Affairs in Manitoba assure the First Nations of Manitoba that the Indian Affairs Office remain a public office, open to all Indian Affairs Office remain a public office, open to all Indian people.

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Resolution adopted on:
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Winnipeg, Manitoba


Louis J. Stevenson
Interim Provincial Leader

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No. 2/89

Subject:

MOVED BY:

Chief Alpheus Brass
Chemawawin Band

WHEREAS the First Nations of Manitoba have neither the facilities, nor the resources to develop a data base on numbers, successes, and costs of Indian education in Manitoba;

WHEREAS the ownership of this information rests with the First Nations of Manitoba;

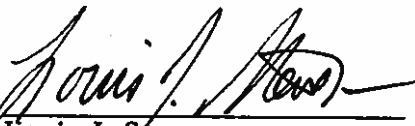
SECONDED BY:

Chief Ronald Cook
Shoal River Band

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Indian Affairs provide resources to set up an ongoing office and necessary personnel for research in this whole area, under the direction of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

CARRIED

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No. 3/89

Subject:

MOVED BY:

Chief Edward Anderson
Fairford Band

WHEREAS the Regional Office of the Department of Indian Affairs is asking for detailed and confidential student information;

WHEREAS Ottawa has indicated that only numbers are required;

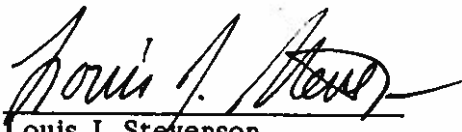
SECONDED BY:

Chief Wesley Hart
Fisher River Band

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the First Nations of Manitoba provide the Department of Indian Affairs, Regional Office, with basic numbers of students for each institution, consistent with Ottawa's stated expectations of numbers only.

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No. 4/89

Subject:

MOVED BY:

Chief Rodney Spence
Nelson House Band

WHEREAS Indian Affairs has unilaterally decided that First Nations under local control of education will no longer be able to use the Federal pay scale for teachers as per their qualifications and experiences;

SECONDED BY:

Councillor George Hamilton
Cross Lake Band

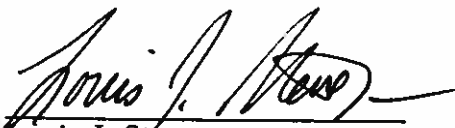
WHEREAS Indian Affairs has decided that the Bands will receive only a three percent increase annually for teachers pay;

WHEREAS Indian Affairs has decided that our teachers in schools under local control of education will no longer receive retroactive pay as per past practices;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Indian Affairs immediately rescind these decisions.

CARRIED

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No. 5/89

Subject:

MOVED BY:

Chief Larry Beardy
Split Lake Band

WHEREAS the Support Group has identified three additional staff, including a secretary to effectively meet the objectives of the Chiefs' Committee on Education to:

1. Co-ordinate all activities as recommended by the Chiefs' Committee on Education; and
2. To collect and disseminate all information to ensure that communities are informed of these activities;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Pascal Bighetty
Mathias Colomb Band


WHEREAS the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs does not have the necessary funding to maintain existing staff and to employ additional staff as required;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that each Tribal Council, First Nation and Education Authority contribute funds to maintain existing staff and three additional staff, including a secretary;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each First Nation donate the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) toward the cost of existing staff and the employment of three additional staff members.

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**MANITOBA CHIEFS EMERGENCY EDUCATION CONFERENCE
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 6/89

Subject:

MOVED BY:

Chief Esau Turner
Grand Rapids Band

SECONDED BY:

Chief Wendell Sinclair
Brokenhead Band

CARRIED

WHEREAS the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs reaffirm the following positions respecting the post-secondary education policy:

1. Education is a treaty and aboriginal right;
2. The rejection of the new policy and guidelines on post-secondary education;
3. The demand for a moratorium of a one-year period to allow First Nations adequate time needed to develop an alternative policy;
4. The development of an alternative policy for education based on the full recognition of the treaty and aboriginal rights to education;
5. The development of the alternative education policy to be implemented through a bilateral government-to-government process consistent with the right of self-determination;
6. The development of the alternative education policy recognizing and advancing First Nations jurisdiction and control of Indian education;

WHEREAS the Federal Government, to date, has steadfastly refused to seriously reconsider their ill-fated decision to impose unilaterally the post-secondary education assistance policy guidelines that fail to recognize the treaty and aboriginal rights to education;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs adopt the following course of action:

1. That the Chiefs of Manitoba reject the new policy and demand a moratorium;
2. That a delegation of Manitoba Chiefs be sent to meet with the Minister of Indian Affairs, the Opposition Leaders and Manitoba Members of Parliament to demand changes to the colonial-based relationship; to the general treatment and disregard of Indian rights and Indian peoples by the current Federal Government; and for a new education policy consistent with treaty rights to education and the right to self-determination;

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3. That the Manitoba Chiefs support a unified national position;
4. That the Chiefs of Manitoba demand of the Prime Minister that the Government of Canada honour the treaties, including implementing its financial obligations without arbitrarily capping Indian education funding.

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No. 7/89

Subject:

MOVED BY:

Chief Esau Turner
Grand Rapids Band

WHEREAS the post-secondary education issue has not been resolved to the satisfaction of the First Nations of Manitoba;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a Manitoba strategy involve the following actions:

SECONDED BY:

Chief Rod Bushie
Hollow Water Band

1. Organize a public demonstration on April 29, 1989 to coincide with the Meech Lake Hearings at the Manitoba Legislature;
2. Organize as a continuing political activity, future public demonstrations, including a major rally on the First Anniversary of the Federal Government's announcement to cap post-secondary education funding (May 12, 1989);
3. Organize a public awareness campaign to educate the general public on the living conditions of First Nations in Manitoba and Canada, including the dissemination of information and knowledge on treaty aboriginal rights of First Nations; and
4. Define and develop a bilateral process and mechanism that will guarantee the future development of a post-secondary education policy and guidelines that recognize and implement the treaty and aboriginal rights to education and the right of self-determination.

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No. 8/89

Subject:

MOVED BY:

Councillor James Nichols
Nelson House Band

SECONDED BY:

Chief Ronald Cook
Shoal River Band

WHEREAS the school facilities at Tadoule Lake are of unsound and unacceptable standards;


WHEREAS the Indian students of Tadoule Lake First Nation have a need and a right to proper educational facilities, as does any other Canadian student;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Indian Affairs immediately acknowledge and act on Canada's responsibility to provide proper educational facilities for the Tadoule Lake First Nation students in accordance with the needs and desires of the Tadoule Lake First Nations people;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Indian Affairs move quickly and begin construction of new educational facilities in the year 1990, rather than 1991/92.

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No. 9/89

Subject:

MOVED BY:

Chief Alpheus Brass
Chemawawin Band

WHEREAS the Chiefs of Manitoba have heard the students' message asking for support and action;

WHEREAS the Chiefs of Manitoba are committed to carry on the fight for educational rights of First Nations;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Walter Monias
Cross Lake Band

WHEREAS the students are endangering their health with this fast;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs of Manitoba encourage the students to cease their fast;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chiefs of Manitoba travel to Ottawa to confront Pierre Cadieux and the Government of Canada on the post-secondary issue.

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