

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
August 9, 10, 11, 1988

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**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT**

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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 1 (a)/88

**Subject: Housing Conference - CMHC 56.1 Program Review;
Alternatives; Forgiveness of Loans**

MOVED BY:

Chief Raymond Swan
Lake Manitoba First Nation

WHEREAS the Chiefs and Band Council of Manitoba are most concerned about on-Reserve housing issues affecting our people and communities, namely inadequate supply inadequate funding;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Wesley Hart
Fisher River First Nations

WHEREAS the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada has a responsibility to provide adequate housing under our Treaties;

WHEREAS the additional need and demand for housing created under Bill C-31 are not being met by the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada;

CARRIED

WHEREAS approximately thirty (30) Bands have entered into housing agreements under Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), 56.1 Program for on-Reserve housing, and that program has caused financial difficulties for several of these Bands;

WHEREAS the Chief and Band Council of all communities want all housing requirements addressed in a meaningful forum;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs call upon the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs to provide financial support for a conference on housing for all Bands of Manitoba;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Minister undertake, in conjunction with Indian Chiefs and Band Councils in Manitoba, a review of the 56.1 Housing Program and seek, jointly with Indian leaders, alternatives to that program that will provide housing assistance and construction on Reserves that will not result in producing a financial burden on the Indian Band Governments and that will eliminate the housing backlog and the housing subsidy formula;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada undertake to have all loans under the 56.1 Program forgiven for all Bands who participate in this program.


Louis J. Stevenson
Interim Provincial Leader

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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 1 (b)/88

Subject: **Moratorium Re: Collection of Mortgage Payments**

MOVED BY:

Chief Raymond Swan
Lake Manitoba First Nation

WHEREAS land in the Province of Manitoba reserved for Indian Reserves is held by Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Manitoba;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Walter Monias
Cross Lake First Nation

WHEREAS the Canada Mortgage and Housing Act pursuant to Section 56.1 has, heretofore, in conjunction with the Department of Indian Affairs, funded by way of mortgage, the construction of housing on the said Reserves;

WHEREAS repayment of the monies loaned pursuant to the said mortgage agreement under the said section, is guaranteed by the Band;

CARRIED

WHEREAS each Band has in place a social service policy;

WHEREAS on repayment of the mortgage, title does not vest in the name of the resident but remains in the name of Her Majesty the Queen;

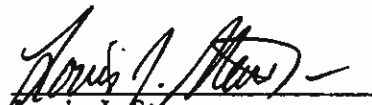
WHEREAS there are substantial defaults on the Reserves by residents whose houses are covered by 56.1 C.M.H.C. mortgage;

WHEREAS in the end result the Band becomes a landlord and the resident becomes a tenant in terms of management of the said mortgage;

WHEREAS over the long term the Band, being required to satisfy the terms of the mortgage, suffers great financial hardship so much so that many Bands are facing potential bankruptcy;

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WHEREAS the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, having reviewed the provisions of Section 56.1 of the C.M.H.C. Act, find that to continue with the operation and administration of Section 56.1, it will be to the great detriment of each of the Bands and their members;


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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Her Majesty the Queen through her Minister, the Honourable Bill McKnight, or his successor, do the following:

- (a) Place a moratorium on the collection of all mortgage payments due under Section 56.1 of the said Act;
- (b) Appoint a Commission consisting of three people one of which will be selected by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, the Chairman by the Department of Indian Affairs and a third party to be appointed by agreement of the other two appointees;
- (c) That the mandate for the Commission be, to examine the impact of Section 56.1 on Treaty Indian Reserves and residents occupying premises utilizing funding under the said Section, and determine whether or not such funding and provisions for repayment thereof is fair and equitable considering, in particular, the fact that the resident of any such housing is never entitled to own the said premises.

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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 2/88

**Subject: KTC: Health -- Equipment, Services and Education,
Professional Service**

MOVED BY:

Chief Sam George
Chemawawin First Nation

WHEREAS our people in Northern Manitoba are experiencing and suffering from kidney failures;

WHEREAS there is no such equipment available in Thompson to assist our people with this problem;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Tommy Weenusk
Oxford House First Nation

WHEREAS all northern patients from Keewatin Tribal Council area have to come to Winnipeg to receive continued treatment;

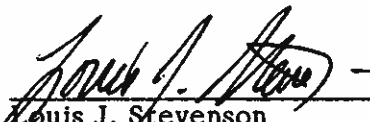
WHEREAS this process is taking the patient away from family and community, thus creating emotional stress and loneliness;

CARRIED

BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Health Department and National Health and Welfare Canada take immediate steps to provide the following:

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- Establishment of a facility with the necessary equipment in Thompson to assist the patients from the Keewatin Tribal Council area;
- Provision of services and education to the patient and families affected by this disease;
- Obtaining the necessary professionals needed to provide this service.



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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 3/88

Subject: **Split Lake - Search & Rescue Funding**

MOVED BY:

Chief Robert Wavey
Fox Lake First Nation

WHEREAS the Split Lake Band have experienced the loss of a band member;

WHEREAS the Band and the Keewatin Tribal Council have gone to great lengths and expenditures to continue the search of this member;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Raymond Swan
Lake Manitoba First Nation

WHEREAS the Department of Indian Affairs will not provide assistance of any kind, because of no mandate;

WHEREAS by virtue of the treaties, the Government of Canada has legal obligations to "Indians and lands reserved for Indians";

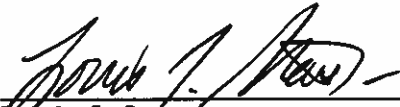
WHEREAS this clearly spells out the Department's responsibility to Indian people of this country;

CARRIED

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs support the Split Lake Band in putting pressure on the Department of Indian Affairs in meeting it's obligations to Indian people;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Indian Affairs provide the urgently needed funding for this search and rescue operation by the Split Lake Band and the Keewatin Tribal Council.



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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 4/88

Subject: **Role, Mandate, Accountability of Assembly Secretariat,
Political Strategy**

MOVED BY:

Chief Bill Traverse
Jackhead First Nation

WHEREAS the Chiefs of Manitoba supported the establishment and development of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs for united approaches and strategies on common issues;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Raymond Swan
Lake Manitoba First Nation

WHEREAS the Chiefs of Manitoba have received, reviewed and considered the report on "A Model for Political Coordination and Cooperation in Manitoba";

CARRIED

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WHEREAS the report deals with the role, mandate, and accountability of the Provincial Indian Leader, the Assembly Secretariat, and the various Chiefs' Committees of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs of Manitoba unanimously adopt the report, and resolutions that confirm the role, mandate and accountability of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs as a common organization to address common issues as mandated by the Chiefs of Manitoba;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs be also mandated to develop a political strategy towards the resolution of the dilemma faced by the people that the Assembly represent.


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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 5/88

Subject: **Chiefs Committee on Education--Structure, Mandate,
Activities, Composition**

MOVED BY:

Chief Alex Hudson
Poplar River First Nation

WHEREAS the First Nations of Manitoba and Canada assert that access to and control over quality education is a treaty right and an integral element of Indian government;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Henry Bird
Little Black River First Nations

WHEREAS Indian education continues to be under assault by federal government policies and actions, exemplified by the unilateral imposition of inadequate formula funding, capital allocations and a new restrictive policy on post-secondary education assistance;

WHEREAS the First Nations of Manitoba recognize the need for both political and technical mechanisms for collective organization, coordination and implementation of strategies to protect and advance the educational needs and rights of First Nations citizens;

CARRIED

WHEREAS the Chiefs of Manitoba have established the principle and practice of establishing collective mechanisms of the Assembly to pursue common priority issues;

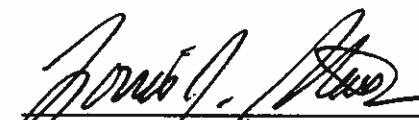
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chiefs in Assembly hereby mandate the establishment of:

- (1) A Chiefs' Committee on Education, to be assisted by
- (2) A Technical Task Force composed of advisors from existing First Nations education authorities and the Assembly Secretariat;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT

- (1) The function of the Chiefs' Committee and Technical Task Force shall be to provide a mechanism for coordinated and collective efforts by the First Nations of Manitoba to address and advance the objectives of First Nations education;
- (2) The Technical Task Force shall advise and assist and be accountable to the Chiefs' Committee on Education;
- (3) The Chiefs' Committee shall take direction from and be accountable to the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and its Interim mandated organization;


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Provincial Leader

- (4) The structure, mandate, activities and composition of the Chiefs Committee on Education shall respect the principles of the Assembly, including equal regional representation;
- (5) The Chiefs' Committee on Education is directed to seek such new resources as are required to conduct its activities, without jeopardizing existing financial resources available to First Nations educational authorities or organizations;
- (6) The Chiefs' Committee on Education is directed to draft, in conjunction with the Assembly Secretariat, specific terms of reference, a workplan and strategy for its activities, which shall be presented to the Executive Council of Chiefs and ultimately to the Assembly of Chiefs for ratification at the earliest possible date.

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No. 6/88

Subject: **Taxation -- Exemptions, Rights**

MOVED BY:

Chief Oscar Lathlin
The Pas First Nation

WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba has implemented tax laws and regulations that are contrary to Section 87 and Section 90 of the Indian Act;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Bill Traverse
Jackhead First Nation

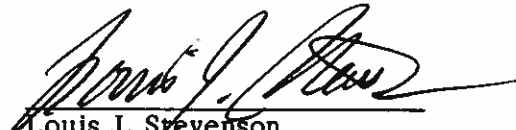
WHEREAS the Province is aware that these tax laws and regulations are repugnant with respect to First Nation tax exemptions and rights;

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WHEREAS the First Nations have inherent aboriginal and statutory rights for taxation exemption;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs give the mandate to the Assembly Secretariat to pursue a process with the Province of Manitoba whereby the Province of Manitoba will respect the taxation rights of Manitoba's First Nations.


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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 7/88

**Subject: Housing Issues and Concerns; Workshops and Seminars;
Lobbying Activity; Committee Representative Re Housing
Forums**

MOVED BY:

Chief Harvey Nepinak
Waterhen First Nation

SECONDED BY:

Chief Bill Traverse
Jackhead First Nation

CARRIED

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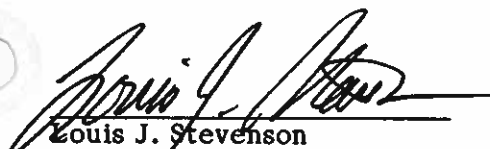
WHEREAS the Chiefs of Manitoba are determined to obtain the necessary funding to build quality homes that meet the national standards for housing construction;

WHEREAS the Chiefs of Manitoba are determined to implement the treaty obligations and promises by the Crown in Right of Canada to ensure that no single Indian and no Indians become destitute as a result of entering into Treaty with the Crown;

WHEREAS the Federal Government continues its neglect of treaty rights and, in particular, the deplorable absence of political will to provide the fiscal resources needed to address the acute housing shortages and substandard housing conditions on reserves for all Indians, including newly-registered members;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs establish a Chiefs' Committee on Housing that shall operate in accordance with the following terms of reference:

- 1) To undertake, on behalf of the Chiefs of Manitoba, in conjunction with the Provincial Leader and the Executive Council, a review, study, and report on the housing issues and conditions affecting all First Nations in Manitoba, as well as the housing problems of the urban Indians.
- 2) To organize seminars, workshops and conferences on the housing problem of all Indian people, with the objective of encouraging the Indian people to take an active interest in solving our housing problems and needs and to obtain a better standard of life and fulfillment of treaty obligations.
- 3) To represent, in conjunction with the Provincial Leader, all the Chiefs of Manitoba in representations and lobby activities on the promotion and securement of better housing policies and programs for Indian people in Manitoba.
- 4) To participate, or designate a representative of the Committee to participate, in all available First Nations forums having to do with the pursuit of better housing for Indian people.
- 5) To report to the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs on the progress made from time to time and to seek further direction or mandate by the Chiefs on the issue of Indian housing.


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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 8/88

Subject: **Federal Election Strategy**

MOVED BY:

Chief Raymond Swan
Lake Manitoba First Nation

BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Leader, along with his Executive Committee, embark on preparations for an election strategy for the upcoming Federal election;

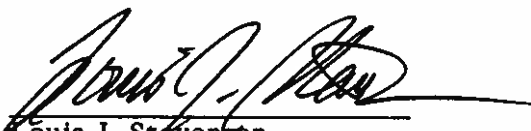
SECONDED BY:

Lawrence Henry
Roseau River First Nation

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this plan be forwarded to each First Nation for implementation.

CARRIED

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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 9/88

Subject: Indian Child Welfare Act -- Development and Use

MOVED BY:

Chief Norman Bone
Keeseekoowenin First Nation

WHEREAS this program is governed by provincial legislation (Child and Family Services Act) on Indian Reserves, which are under Federal jurisdiction;

WHEREAS this arrangement has become unacceptable;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Bill Traverse
Jackhead First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Leader, along with his Executive Committee, begin plans for the development and use of an Indian Child Welfare Act on the Reserves of the First Nations of Manitoba.

CARRIED

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No. 10/88

Subject: Manitoba Jr. Hockey League -- Support Re Membership

MOVED BY:

Chief Rod Bushie
Hollow Water First Nation

WHEREAS Southeast Resource Development Council has been negotiating with the Manitoba Junior Hockey League (MJHL) to enter a native-owned franchise commencing in the Fall of 1988;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Walter Monias
Cross Lake First Nation

WHEREAS education is a prime consideration;

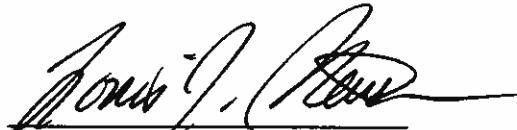
WHEREAS the National Hockey League (NHL) is the ultimate objective;

CARRIED

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WHEREAS the Chiefs of Manitoba will encourage their potential junior calibre players to play with the native-owned franchise;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs of Manitoba totally support the SERDC in their endeavors to become a member of the MJHL.



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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 11/88

Subject: **Land Matters -- Jurisdiction, Interference in Management
and Control**

MOVED BY:

Chief Dennis Whitebird
Rolling River First Nation

WHEREAS the Regional Director General, Mr. Emil Korchinski, has challenged the jurisdiction of the Rolling River Band Council governing the title, ownership and control of reserve land;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Walter Monias
Cross Lake First Nation

WHEREAS the R.D.G. has extended his authority to outside Corporations such as M.I.A.P. to enter into reserves specifically the Rolling River Indian Reserve;

WHEREAS the R.D.G. has abused his powers gained through the Indian Act;

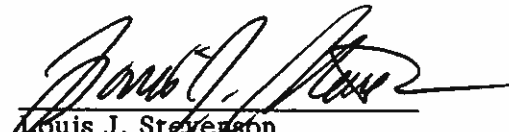
CARRIED

WHEREAS Emil Korchinski clearly demonstrates by his actions that the R.D.G.'s concepts of Indian Self-Government are inconsistent with the First Nations Governments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs fully support the Rolling River Indian Band in their jurisdictional dispute over land matters;

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Emil Korchinski be notified to cease all interference in the management and control of Indian Reserve lands.


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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 12/88

**Subject: Support for Transfer of McKay Residence to West Region
Tribal Council**

MOVED BY:

Chief Raymond Swan
Lake Manitoba First Nation

WHEREAS the McKay Residence at Dauphin, Manitoba, was designed and used as a residence for Native students to live in Dauphin for the purpose of obtaining education unavailable in their own communities;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Norman Bone
Keeseekoowenin First Nation

WHEREAS the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada has closed the facility as at June 30, 1988 and proposes to have the facility disposed of through the Department of Public Works;

CARRIED

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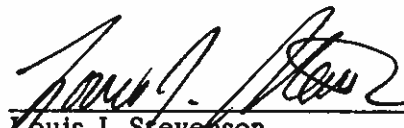
WHEREAS the need of northern communities has lessened with the opening of schools in the north but there are a number of reserves that will never have a high school in their communities, therefore, there will be a continuing need for a residence and the counselling services associated with the best efforts to educate our youth;

WHEREAS West Region Tribal Council is prepared to own and manage the facility as a multi-use education, training, residence and office complex;

WHEREAS the disposal of the residence will deprive our youth of a setting that provides discipline and direction to assure them of the best chance to complete a high school education and training to best enable them to take a rightful place in their own and Canadian Society;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs supports the West Region Tribal Council in its efforts and further demands that:

- 1- The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada stop the process of disposing of the property through the Department of Public Works and;
- 2- The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada work with the West Region Tribal Council to assure the transfer of the facility to the West Region Tribal Council.


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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 13/88

Subject: First Nation Gaming and Lottery

MOVED BY:

Chief Bill Traverse
Jackhead First Nation

WHEREAS the First Nations of Manitoba possess an inherent, aboriginal and constitutional right of developing, controlling and maintaining Gaming and Lotteries under self-government and self-determination;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Raymond Swan
Lake Manitoba First Nation

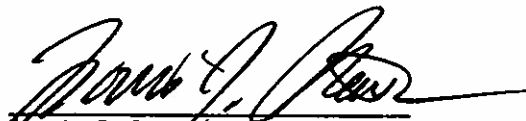
WHEREAS the Province of Manitoba and the federal government are encroaching upon Indian jurisdiction with respect to gaming and lotteries enforcement;

WHEREAS the previous administration of the Provincial government has agreed to have the First Nations develop an Indian Gaming and Lotteries Commission;

CARRIED

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs of Manitoba support the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs in their initiative to develop a First Nation Gaming Commission.

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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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No. 14/88

**Subject: Forks Development -- Moratorium and Board
Representative**

MOVED BY:

Chief Walter Monias
Cross Lake First Nation

WHEREAS the Forks Renewal Board has proceeded to excavate in and around the confluence of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Dennis Whitebird
Rolling River First Nation

WHEREAS a number of Manitoba Chiefs and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs have asserted their strong opposition to the excavation;

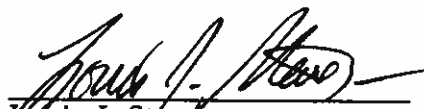
WHEREAS there is a strong likelihood that these excavations and developments would uncover, disturb and desecrate Indian burials, remains and artifacts;

CARRIED

WHEREAS the remains of Indian people are sacred and are not subject to any form of desecration;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs of Manitoba support the initiatives of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs whether it be in the form of a moratorium or First Nation representation at the highest level.

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**MANITOBA CHIEFS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTIONS**

No. 15/88

**Subject: Development of Child Care Services and Fiscal Resources
and Support Mechanism**

MOVED BY:

Chief Allan Ross
Norway House First Nation

WHEREAS the Chiefs of Manitoba are concerned with the absence of Indian day care facilities and services on Indian reserves and in urban areas;

SECONDED BY:

Chief Harvey Nepinak
Waterhen First Nation

WHEREAS the Federal Government recently announced the designation of fiscal resources over a period of six years for research and development of day care services for Indian people on Reserve;

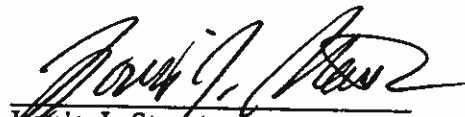
CARRIED

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs encourage and support current initiatives of Indian Bands and Indian Child and Family Services Agencies to engage in the development of child care services;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Assembly Secretariat, in conjunction with Indian Child and Family Services Agencies and the Provincial Leader, immediately initiate discussions and negotiations with National Health and Welfare with the objective of ensuring that Manitoba First Nations obtain a fair share of fiscal resources needed to support the development of child care on Indian Reserves in Manitoba;

Certified copy of a
Resolution adopted on:
August 11, 1988
Winnipeg, Manitoba

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Assembly Secretariat develop a supportive mechanism for Manitoba First Nations to assist the Bands and Indian Child and Family Services Agencies in developing their own initiatives in the area of child care.


Louis J. Stevenson
Interim Provincial Leader