

# **ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS**

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**□ ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT**

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***CERTIFIED COPIES***

***OF***

***ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS***

***9TH ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997***

***Winnipeg Convention Centre***

## **TABLE OF CONTENT**

<b>AUG-97.01</b>	<b>NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS GAMES</b>
<b>AUG-97.02</b>	<b>RCAP HOUSING RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
<b>AUG-97.03</b>	<b>POST-SECONDARY HOUSING NEEDS IN THOMPSON</b>
<b>AUG-97.04</b>	<b>N.I.H.B. MANDATE RENEWAL</b>
<b>AUG-97.05</b>	<b>PROVINCE OF MANITOBA &amp; REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES</b>
<b>AUG-97.06</b>	<b>FIRST NATIONS FINANCIAL MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION</b>
<b>AUG-97.07</b>	<b>SAYISI DENE RELOCATION CLAIM &amp; HEALING JOURNEY</b>
<b>AUG-97.08</b>	<b>SOUTH INDIAN LAKE FIRST NATION</b>
<b>AUG-97.09</b>	<b>EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE - OXFORD HOUSE FIRST NATION</b>
<b>AUG-97.10</b>	<b>DENESULINE CLAIMS NORTH OF 60</b>
<b>AUG-97.11</b>	<b>DAKOTA MCGILLIVARY CASE</b>
<b>AUG-97.12</b>	<b>MANOMIN IN THE WHITESHELL PROVINCIAL PARK</b>
<b>AUG-97.13</b>	<b>GRANVILLE LAKE FIRST NATION</b>
<b>AUG-97.14</b>	<b>DOROTHY MARTIN MEMORIAL CRISIS CENTRE</b>
<b>AUG-97.15</b>	<b>MANOMIN PRODUCTION</b>
<b>AUG-97.16</b>	<b>THE VISION OF A CREE NATION CONFEDERACY</b>
<b>AUG-97.17</b>	<b>FACILITATION OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF "ABORIGINAL YOUTH TODAY"</b>
<b>AUG-97.18</b>	<b>INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE</b>

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.01**

**Moved by:**

Chief Phillip Buck  
Mosakahiken Cree Nation

**Seconded by:**

Chief Sydney Garrioch  
Cross Lake First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: NORTH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS GAMES**

**WHEREAS**, the Manitoba Aboriginal Sports Council was established in February 1996 to coordinate sporting activities for youth; and

**WHEREAS**, the Province of Manitoba and Sports Manitoba recognizes and supports the Manitoba Aboriginal Sports Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the North American Indigenous Games are held every two years to promote youth involvement in physical activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the next North American Indigenous Games will be held in Fargo, North Dakota in 1999; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chiefs-in-Assembly recognize the importance of providing activities for the First Nations youth.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the Manitoba Aboriginal Sports Council's bid to host the next North American Indigenous Games in the City of Winnipeg in the Year 2001; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Secretariat support the Manitoba Aboriginal Sports Council in fundraising and organizing the North American Indigenous Games.

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August 26, 27 & 28, 1997, WINNIPEG, Manitoba*

  
**Rod Bushie, Grand Chief**

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
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WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.02**

**Moved by:**

Chief Sydney Garrioch  
Cross Lake First Nation

**Seconded by:**

Chief Helen Cook  
Bloodvein First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: RCAP HOUSING RECOMMENDATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples report was extensive and far reaching with 440 recommendations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples report listed 15 recommendations on housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Government has not committed to enact any of the recommendations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Chiefs-in-Assembly recognized these recommendations as part of the solution to the housing backlog in First Nation communities and have expressed to the Prime Minister of Canada the need for those recommendations to be implemented immediately.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the A.M.C. Grand Chief to request A.F.N. National Chief Phil Fontaine convene a meeting of Provincial Territorial Organizations Grand Chiefs/Presidents before the end of 1997 to develop a strategy on ensuring the Federal Government enacts the housing recommendations.

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**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.03**

**Moved by:**

Chief Sydney Garrioch  
Cross Lake First Nation

**RE: POST-SECONDARY HOUSING NEEDS IN  
THOMPSON**

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**Seconded by:**

Chief Pascall Bighetty  
Mathias Colomb First Nation

**WHEREAS**, some First Nation students relocate to Thompson in order to access post-secondary education; and

**WHEREAS**, students have rented housing units that are substandard due to lack of maintenance and indifference from landlords; and

**MOTION CARRIED**

**WHEREAS**, the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Chiefs-in-Assembly facilitated discussions with the Mayor of Thompson and the Provincial Minister of Northern Affairs to try and resolve the issue as per M.K.O. Resolution #97-06-12; and

**WHEREAS**, classes will be starting shortly and the Provincial Government has not properly addressed this housing issue.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the A.M.C. Grand Chief to correspond with appropriate government ministers to advise that First Nation students will not accept inferior living standards while attending classes in Manitoba's cities.

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9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.04  
Page 1 of 2**

Moved by:

Chief Sydney Garrioch  
Cross Lake First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Bill Traverse  
Jackhead First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: N.I.H.B. MANDATE RENEWAL**

**WHEREAS, the Non-Insured Health Benefits (N.I.H.B.) Program coverage includes Pharmacy, Medical Supplies and Equipment, Dental, Vision, Mental Health Counseling and Health Care Premiums (B.C. and Alberta); and**

**WHEREAS, the N.I.H.B. Program is in the midst of drastic changes and its future configuration is uncertain; and**

**WHEREAS, the Medical Services Branch of Health Canada is proposing to make two specific benefits into programs which are Medical Transportation and Allied Health Services such as chiropractic, physiotherapy, home nursing, psychology and other services which vary across the regions; and**

**WHEREAS, the N.I.H.B. Mandate Renewal Process needs further review to determine implications for First Nations in Manitoba.**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly reject the Assembly of First Nations' present involvement in the N.I.H.B. Mandate Renewal Process and that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs undertake the following:**

1. **Reject the removal of any services under the N.I.H.B. Program; and**

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.04  
Page 2 of 2**

**RE: N.I.H.B. MANDATE RENEWAL (CONT'D)**

2. Recommend a meeting be set up immediately with the A.F.N. National Chief, A.M.C. Grand Chief and the Minister of Health Canada to ensure that these benefits remain intact;
3. Support the Manitoba First Nations' position on the N.I.H.B. Pilot Project Discussion Paper; and
4. Direct the Chiefs Committee on Health and health technicians to assist in the above-noted recommendations.

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**Rod Bushie, Grand Chief**

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.05  
Page 1 of 2**

Moved by:

Chief Bill Traverse  
Jackhead First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Sydney Garrioch  
Cross Lake First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: PROVINCE OF MANITOBA & REGIONAL  
HEALTH AUTHORITIES**

---

**WHEREAS**, Manitoba First Nation communities and organizations are pursuing federal health transfers including services that fall under the 1964 Federal/Provincial Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Province of Manitoba has started a health restructuring process that will impact on First Nations health care services and programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Province of Manitoba has extended an offer to First Nations to work in a partnership relationship in the area of health; and

**WHEREAS**, the Province of Manitoba has not defined the proposed partnership arrangement nor have the Chiefs provided clear direction to determine the extent of First Nations' involvement in the health restructuring process; and

**WHEREAS**, the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Chiefs-in-Assembly passed a resolution supporting a process to define the proposed partnership arrangement with the Province of Manitoba.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the process of defining a new partnership relationship with the Province of Manitoba in the area of health; and



**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.05  
Page 2 of 2**

**RE: PROVINCE OF MANITOBA & REGIONAL  
HEALTH AUTHORITIES (CONT'D)**

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the A.M.C. Secretariat to work collectively with Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak to develop a working document to define the partnership relationship with the Province of Manitoba which shall be based on recognition of the Treaty Right to Health Care pending the outcome of the Health Framework Agreement; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that a report be presented at the next A.M.C. Chiefs Committee on Health meeting for their discussion, review and further direction.

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**Rod Bushie, Grand Chief**

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
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WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.06**

**Moved by:**

Chief Felix Antoine  
Roseau River First Nation

**Seconded by:**

Chief Jerry Fontaine  
Sagkeeng First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: FIRST NATIONS FINANCIAL MANAGERS'  
ASSOCIATION**

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**WHEREAS**, the First Nations Financial Managers' Association has been established to:

- provide a forum for Financial Managers to discuss common financial issues;
- represent Financial Managers by appointing an official spokesperson for purposes related to the mandate of the Association;
- take a proactive approach in dealing with First Nations funding issues including recommending changes to funding arrangements; and
- develop programming to advance and provide accredited training for First Nation Financial Officers and Managers; and

**WHEREAS**, the First Nations Financial Managers' Association is very important for future negotiations and the establishment of First Nations standards and reporting guidelines.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the First Nations Financial Managers' Association; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs encourage all First Nations and Tribal Councils to support their staff to attend future meetings of the First Nations Financial Managers' Association.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
*Rod Bushie, Grand Chief*

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
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WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.07**

**Moved by:**

Chief Bill Traverse  
Jackhead First Nation

**Seconded by:**

Chief Sydney Garrioch  
Cross Lake First Nation

**RE: SAYISI DENE RELOCATION CLAIM & HEALING  
JOURNEY**

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**WHEREAS**, the forced relocation of the Sayisi Dene First Nation to Churchill in 1956 had many devastating impacts on the Sayisi Dene; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Government has refused to acknowledge responsibility for this forced relocation and enter into negotiations with the Sayisi Dene First Nation for a compensation package; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sayisi Dene First Nation can no longer wait passively for the government to come to the negotiating table and has begun to organize a Journey for Healing to Churchill; and

**WHEREAS**, the process of organizing the journey and negotiating a compensation package will require extensive support.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the A.M.C. Grand Chief to support the Sayisi Dene First Nation in its efforts for healing and negotiating the compensation package.

**MOTION CARRIED**

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**Rod Bushie, Grand Chief**

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WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.08**

**Moved by:**

Proxy David Spence  
Nelson House First Nation

**Seconded by:**

Chief Sydney Garrioch  
Cross Lake First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: SOUTH INDIAN LAKE FIRST NATION**

**WHEREAS**, Nelson House members residing in South Indian Lake have always been self-sustaining and exercised their political, social and economic sovereignty within their community; and

**WHEREAS**, the leadership of the Nelson House First Nation initiated a process for separate status for South Indian Lake since the early 1900's without government support; and

**WHEREAS**, ninety-five percent of the people at South Indian Lake have treaty status with many currently listed as Nelson House band members; and

**WHEREAS**, the South Indian Lake resource area is within the Nelson House traditional territory; and

**WHEREAS**, representatives of the Nelson House First Nation, South Indian Lake, Federal and Provincial Governments signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Nelson House to start the process of establishing a reserve for the South Indian Lake First Nation members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal and Provincial Governments have not made significant progress towards the establishment of the South Indian Lake First Nation.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the A.M.C. Grand Chief to contact both levels of governments to expedite the establishment of the South Indian Lake First Nation.

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**Rod Bushie, Grand Chief**

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.09**

**Moved by:**

Chief James Mason  
Oxford House First Nation

**Seconded by:**

Chief Sydney Garrioch  
Cross Lake First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: EMERGENCY HOUSING ASSISTANCE - OXFORD  
HOUSE FIRST NATION**

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**WHEREAS**, the Oxford House First Nation (O.H.F.N.) lost most of its housing material in a warehouse fire on August 23, 1997; and

**WHEREAS**, the O.H.F.N. met with I.N.A.C. officials to discuss the replacement of the housing material lost in the fire; and

**WHEREAS**, I.N.A.C. officials proposed an advance from the O.H.F.N.'s 1997/98 capital funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the O.H.F.N. is severely under-funded for all programs and cannot afford to cut into next year's funding.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the O.H.F.N. in its position that I.N.A.C. provide funds other than O.H.F.N. future funds to replace the housing material destroyed in the fire; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs request I.N.A.C. take immediate action to address this emergency faced by the O.H.F.N.

*Certified copy of a Resolution Adopted on  
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Rod Bushie, Grand Chief

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.10  
Page 1 of 2**

Moved by:

Chief Roy Redhead  
York Factory First Nation

Seconded by:

Proxy Joe Antsanen  
Northlands First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: DENESULINE CLAIMS NORTH OF 60**

**WHEREAS**, the Northlands Dene Nation and the Sayisi Dene Nation (the Manitoba Denesuline) have been striving to achieve recognition by Canada, provincial and territorial governments, neighboring First Nations and Inuit of all traditional Denesuline lands in the Northwest Territories and Saskatchewan as Denesuline Nene, including recognizing the Treaty Right of the Manitoba Denesuline to select Treaty entitlement lands in the Northwest Territories and Saskatchewan; and

**WHEREAS**, Canada, the government of the Northwest Territories, the Inuit and the provincial governments have refused to recognize Denesuline traditional lands as Denesuline Nene, and that portion of Denesuline Nene included within the southwest Keewatin District of the Northwest Territories has been included within the Settlement Lands for the Inuit of Nunavut, and Canada has denied the Treaty Rights of the Manitoba Denesuline to select lands throughout their traditional territories; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1992 and 1993, the Northlands Dene Nation and the Sayisi Dene Nation have pursued the recognition of Denesuline Nene and the Treaty Right to select lands throughout their traditional territories in a court challenge before the Federal Court of Canada, which legal action also includes a claim of fiduciary breach against Canada and a challenge of the Nunavut Settlement Agreement; and

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.10  
Page 2 of 2**

**RE: DENESULINE CLAIMS NORTH OF 60  
(CONT'D)**

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**WHEREAS**, between 1994 and 1997, the Northlands Dene Nation and the Sayisi Dene Nation have attempted to pursue their claims through negotiations with the Inuit, Canada and Manitoba, and in May of 1997, the Inuit advised the Manitoba Denesuline that the Inuit would refuse negotiations in this matter and furthermore, that the Inuit of Nunavut intended to seek a dismissal of the Denesuline court challenge; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northlands Dene Nation and the Sayisi Dene Nation now intend to resume their legal action in the Federal Court of Canada in defense of Denesuline territory, claims and Treaty Rights; and

**WHEREAS**, the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly of Chiefs of the twenty-six Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak First Nations unanimously passed Resolution No. 97-06-07 support the legal challenge of the Manitoba Denesuline and calling for the full support of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC).

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly hereby directs the A.M.C. Grand Chief and the A.M.C. Secretariat to fully support the objectives and initiatives of the Manitoba Denesuline, including the legal challenge before the Federal Court of Canada, in defense of Denesuline territory, claims and Treaty Rights.

*Certified copy of a Resolution Adopted on  
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**Rod Bushie, Grand Chief**

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.11  
Page 1 of 2**

Moved by:

Acting Chief William Lathlin  
Opaskwayak Cree Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Clarence Easter  
Chemawawin First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: DAKOTA MCGILLIVARY CASE**

**WHEREAS**, the Opaskwayak Cree Nation has a claim in Federal Court for Dakota Erin McGillivary; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 6 (2) of the Indian Act could lead to the extinction and elimination of First Nations; and

**WHEREAS**, the long-term survival of our members is very important; and

**WHEREAS**, those children placed in this section will eventually have children and their children will be non-treaty; and

**WHEREAS**, the treaty rights of First Nation members are protected in the Canadian Constitution under Section 35; and

**WHEREAS**, the First Nations have always, from time immemorial, had the right to determine memberships.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs will continue to fight for the rights of those members affected by Section 6 (2) of the Indian Act; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs be mandated to initiate political action to ensure that all members of First Nations in Canada be recognized by the Government of Canada; and



**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.11  
Page 2 of 2**

**RE: DAKOTA MCGILLIVARY CASE (CONT'D)**

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs work with the Government of Canada toward the elimination of Section 6 (2); and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs assist with the funding of further strategies.

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***Rod Bushie, Grand Chief***

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9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.12**

**Moved by:**

Chief Bill Traverse  
Jackhead First Nation

**Seconded by:**

Chief Jerry Fontaine  
Sagkeeng First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: MANOMIN IN THE WHITESHELL PROVINCIAL  
PARK**

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**WHEREAS**, the First Nations of Manitoba have traditionally harvested manomin within the region now known as the Whiteshell Provincial Park; and

**WHEREAS**, the Province of Manitoba imposed the Wild Rice Act to manage the Wild Rice industry; and

**WHEREAS**, since the Province started managing the Wild Rice Industry, the production of manomin crop have steadily depleted due to improper management; and

**WHEREAS**, the First Nations of Sagkeeng and First Nations of Interlake Reserves Tribal Council and Southeast Resource Development Council are in the process of developing a long-term proposal to manage the manomin in the Whiteshell Provincial Park in areas of:

1. Water level controls;
2. Proper manomin harvesting based on historical date;
3. Negotiations with the Province of Manitoba for co-management or sole management for the First Nations; and

**WHEREAS**, the First Nations will develop a committee to develop the proposal and will require funding in the amount of \$180,000.00 from the Department of Indian Affairs.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs fully support the request to negotiate the funding as required.

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**Rod Bushie, Grand Chief**

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
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WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.13**

**Moved by:**

Chief Emile Garson  
Split Lake First Nation

**Seconded by:**

Chief Jerry Fontaine  
Sagkeeng First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: GRANVILLE LAKE FIRST NATION**

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**WHEREAS**, Granville Lake is a First Nation community which is part of Mathias Colomb First Nation but which is in an isolated location 120 kilometers northeast of Mathias Colomb First Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Granville Lake community has a sub-office under the Mathias Colomb First Nation and has a small band government in place consisting of a Vice-Chief and two Councillors; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of the Granville Lake First Nation are moving towards local self-government and wish to represent themselves in their own right; and

**WHEREAS**, the Granville Lake First Nation wishes to become a member of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the right of self-determination of Granville Lake First Nation and accept Granville Lake First Nation as a member of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs endorse and grant Granville Lake First Nation full membership in the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs will full privileges to vote and attend all Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs meetings.

*Certified copy of a Resolution Adopted on  
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**Rod Bushie, Grand Chief**

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.14**

**Moved by:**

**Chief Harvey Nepinak  
Waterhen First Nation**

**Seconded by:**

**Chief Joseph Colomb  
Black Sturgeon First Nation**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: DOROTHY MARTIN MEMORIAL CRISIS CENTRE**

**WHEREAS**, the First Nation women of Moose Lake with the support of other First Nation women are working to complete the "Dorothy Martin Memorial Crisis Centre;" and

**WHEREAS**, the centre project came as a result of the "Journey For Justice" walk from Moose Lake to Winnipeg from November 2 - 7, 1996; and

**WHEREAS**, the Moose Lake Cree Nation women are seeking a financial commitment towards the "Dorothy Martin Memorial Crisis Centre."

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the establishment of the "Dorothy Martin Memorial Crisis Centre;" and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Secretariat assist the Moose Lake Cree Nation in its efforts to secure the required \$588,000.00 for the establishment of the centre.

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**Rod Bushie** Grand Chief

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.15**

**Moved by:**

**Chief Bill Traverse  
Jackhead First Nation**

**Seconded by:**

**Chief Jerry Fontaine  
Sagkeeng First Nation**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: MANOMIN PRODUCTION**

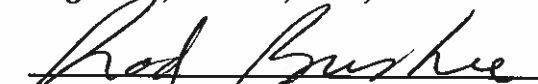
**WHEREAS**, the First Nations held a Manomin meeting in Winnipeg on August 26, 1997 and developed recommendations and regulations for this year's harvesting season; and

**WHEREAS**, the recommendations and regulations will be presented to the Province of Manitoba for this consideration; and

**WHEREAS**, manomin production is one of the last known Native Industries.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs support the recommendations and regulations that were developed by the First Nations that are going to be presented to the Province of Manitoba.

*Certified copy of a Resolution Adopted on  
August 26, 27 & 28, 1997, WINNIPEG, Manitoba*

  
**Rod Bushie, Grand Chief**

## Recommendations - Rice Harvesting 1997

- 1.) Mechanical machines that damage the rice will not be allowed.
- 2.) Trays with wires or rope as a bumper will not be allowed 1.5" bumper with a round face will be allowed.
- 3.) The mechanical harvesting of rice will be stopped for 2 days when decided by the people present at the lakes.
- 4.) Should it rain on a rest day the rice will be allowed to rest an extra day.
- 5.) Each First Nation will be responsible to appoint a representative from their First Nation to monitor these regulations.
- 6.) Mechanical harvesting of rice in : Lone Island, Little Whiteshell, Mallard Lake, Crow Duck Luck.  
Will not be allowed, until permission is given by the hand pickers present.
- 7.) Pickers will register upon entering the rice picking area; this will act as a permit.
- 8.) Pickers will be allowed to sell their rice to the buyers of their choice.
- 9.) Anyone that does not follow these regulations will be banned from the Whiteshell for the rest of the season.
- 10.) These regulations will be enforced in the Whiteshell and anyone picking rice will be subject to these rules.
- 11.) Non-aboriginal people will not be allowed on traditional lake of the Whiteshell.

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.16**

**Moved by:**

Acting Chief William Lathin  
Opaskwayak Cree Nation

**Seconded by:**

Acting Chief David Spence  
Nelson House First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: THE VISION OF A CREE NATION CONFEDERACY**

**WHEREAS**, the Cree Peoples and Affiliated Tribes of Turtle Island (North America) were placed on this Sacred Land by the Creator; and

**WHEREAS**, since time immemorial, the Cree Peoples and Affiliated Tribes of Turtle Island have believed that it is only in our individual and collective practice of our Sacred and Customary Laws that we will once again become healthy and strong in mind, body and spirit; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cree Peoples and Affiliated Tribes of Turtle Island never relinquished our sovereignty to nor were we ever conquered by the Settler Governments of the Sacred Land; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cree Peoples and Affiliated Tribes of Turtle Island, having twice assembled in the Traditional Territory of the Opaskwayak Cree Nation reassert our sovereignty through the establishment of a Cree Nation Confederacy founded on our Sacred and Customary Laws.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the above preamble forms part of this resolution; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, the Chiefs and leaders assembled on the occasion of the Ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) Annual General Assembly of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs hereby affirm and endorse the vision of a Cree Nation Confederacy.

*Certified copy of a Resolution Adopted on  
August 26, 27 & 28, 1997, WINNIPEG, Manitoba*

  
**Rod Bushie** Grand Chief

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.17  
Page 1 of 2**

Moved by:

Chief Bill Traverse  
Jackhead First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Florence McLean  
Lake Manitoba First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: FACILITATION OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF  
"ABORIGINAL YOUTH TODAY"**

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**WHEREAS**, the portrayal of Aboriginal youth in media has profound impacts on our youths' self perceptions, outlook, esteem, ambitions, and is a major factor in shaping their treatment by society; and

**WHEREAS**, the mainstream media has tended to focus on the sensational and negative aspects in their portrayal of Aboriginal youth while the positive achievements and contributions made by our youth are under emphasized or ignored; and

**WHEREAS**, the national publication "*Aboriginal Youth Today*" which is published four times a year by Aboriginal youth is designed to showcase our youth's achievements and accomplishments and be a vehicle for sharing their hopes, dreams, views and aspirations to their peers, community and society as a whole; and

**WHEREAS**, the "*Aboriginal Youth Today*" is an important forum for Aboriginal youth to present themselves to the public at large in a positive and responsible manner and provides a counterpoint to the negative images of Aboriginal young people that the mainstream media continuously presents to society; and

**WHEREAS**, "*Aboriginal Youth Today*" is self-sustained by advertising and bulk subscriptions are available free of charge in any quantity desired provided the subscriber pays the shipping charges; and



**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

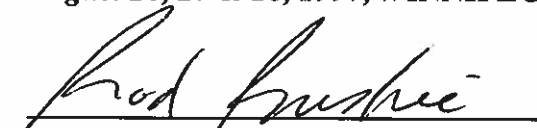
**AUG-97.17  
Page 2 of 2**

**RE: FACILITATION OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF  
"ABORIGINAL YOUTH TODAY" (CONT'D)**

**WHEREAS**, the proper distribution of *"Aboriginal Youth Today"* to reserves throughout Manitoba in a consistent and comprehensive manner is lacking which has limited the exposure of this publication to our youth - those who would benefit of it the most.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly, at this annual meeting of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, directs the A.M.C. Secretariat to henceforth facilitate the distribution of the publication *"Aboriginal Youth Today"* throughout Manitoba by covering the shipping charges to all the Reserves and First Nations Schools in Manitoba that wish to subscribe.

***Certified copy of a Resolution Adopted on  
August 26, 27 & 28, 1997, WINNIPEG, Manitoba***

  
***Rod Bushie, Grand Chief***

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.18  
Page 1 of 4**

Moved by:

Chief Louis Stevenson  
Peguis First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Alfred Everett  
Berens River First Nation

**MOTION CARRIED**

**RE: INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR  
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE**

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**WHEREAS**, the International Decade for Indigenous People established by the United Nations is drawing to an end without Canada having made any significant moves in accord with its spirit and principles; and

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, conventions of the International Labour Organization, and other international conventions clearly specify the rights of indigenous peoples including the First Nations of Canada to be treated without discrimination and to have access to the benefits of the resources of their traditional lands; and

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations has created the United Nations Human Rights Commission to receive complaints about violations of rights by member states; and

**WHEREAS**, Canada is a member of the Organization of American States which has created the Interamerican Commission on Human Rights which receives complaints violations of human rights; and

**WHEREAS**, the First Nations of Manitoba have entered into a Treaty relationship with the Crown based on, among other things, the promise that the Treaty would result in an improvement of the well-being of the First Nations and that First Nations would receive benefits at least equal to those received by Canadians; and

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.18  
Page 2 of 4**

**RE: INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR  
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE (CONT'D)**

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**WHEREAS**, the Canadian Constitution provides for the protection of human and civil rights through its Charter of Rights and Freedoms and guarantees that all peoples of Canada are entitled to the same level of public services; and

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution also recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty Rights; and

**WHEREAS**, Canada provides for the protection and promotion of human rights through the Canadian Human Rights Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, the social and economic circumstances of First Nations in Manitoba, as elsewhere in Canada, are worse than deplorable and inferior to any other sector of Canadian society as measured by any index: health, housing, employment, income levels, education, poverty, imprisonment, suicide and violent death; and

**WHEREAS**, the conditions which exist among Manitoba First Nations is *prima facie* evidence of systemic discrimination and neglect; and

**WHEREAS**, both federal and provincial governments have restricted First Nations from access to resources which might improve these conditions and have refused to share in the bountiful benefits they receive from such resources; and

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.18  
Page 3 of 4**

**RE: INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR  
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE (CONT'D)**

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**WHEREAS**, both federal and provincial governments have refused to honour the Treaty relationship and to act within its spirit and intent, and have instead created policies and distributed funding in a manner which is contrary to Treaty and which discriminates against First Nations members collectively and individually; and

**WHEREAS**, both federal and provincial governments have intentionally neglected the situation among First Nations people despite its reaching crisis proportions, and rather than assisting First Nations instead have provided diminished levels of resources as compared to those provided to other segments of the population, thereby acting in a discriminatory manner; and

**WHEREAS**, no other segment of the population has been treated with the discriminatory neglect and intentional indifference with which the First Nations have been treated by federal and provincial governments; and

**WHEREAS**, all of this has been amply documented and roundly criticized by the Canadian Human Rights Commission in its reports year after year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples has also reported in full detail on the existing unacceptable situation and recommended action which governments should take to correct it without any response from either the federal or provincial government; and

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
WINNIPEG CONVENTION CENTRE  
AUGUST 26, 27 & 28, 1997**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**AUG-97.18  
Page 4 of 4**

**RE: INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR  
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE (CONT'D)**

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**WHEREAS**, the First Nations of Manitoba have pressured, lobbied, pleaded, and petitioned the highest levels of both federal and provincial governments and Members of Parliament of all parties to take effective measures to bring an end to discriminatory treatment and to remedy the current longstanding social deficit which exists among the First Nations; and

**WHEREAS**, such efforts have not been met with any measurable success.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the undersigned Chiefs of First Nations in Manitoba mandate the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to file a complaint with the Manitoba Human Rights Commission, the Canadian Human Rights Commission, the Interamerican Human Rights Commission and the United Nations Human Rights Commission, to make contact with those Commissions so as to receive their assistance in the preparation of their complaints, and to begin gathering the evidence necessary to support the complaints, and report to the Chiefs of Manitoba at the next Assembly.

*Certified copy of a Resolution Adopted on  
August 26, 27 & 28, 1997, WINNIPEG, Manitoba*

  
**Rod Bushie, Grand Chief**