# ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS 19th ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

CERTIFIED COPIES

OF

ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

O-CHI-CHAK-KO-SIPI FIRST NATION AUGUST 20, 21 & 22, 2007

# ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS 19<sup>TH</sup> Annual General Assembly O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi First Nation August 20, 21 & 22, 2007

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTIONS**

Aug-07.01	Manitoba First Nations Post-Secondary Institute (MFNPSI)
Aug-07.02	On-Reserve First Nation Child and Family Services (CFS)
	Funding and Prevention Model
Aug-07.03	Chiefs Review Committee on Organizational Review
Aug-07.04	First Nation Personal Care Home Licensing Authority - Legal
	Entity rescinding Resolutions JAN-03.16 and JAN-07.09
Aug-07.05	Financial Support for Norway House Cree Nation (NHCN) Re:
	Indian & Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) Shelter Allowance in
	Income Assistance
Aug-07.06	Tendering Process for AMC Annual Audit
Aug-07.07	Devils Lake Outlet - Legal Challenge
Aug-07.08	Conference on Issues Affecting Northern, Remote and Isolated
	Communities
Aug-07.09	Implementation of an Urban First Nation Strategy
Aug-07.10	Post-Secondary Education Funding

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.01

# RE: MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTE (MFNPSI)

Moved by:

Chief David Crate Fisher River First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Norman Bone Keeseekoowenin Ojibway Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly approved the establishment of a First Nation-controlled Post-Secondary Institute, established a Working Group and provided the Working Group with a mandate to engage in discussions with government and existing institutions to pursue accreditation, affiliation and funding; and

WHEREAS, the Manitoba First Nation Education Resource Centre (MFNERC) Board of Directors has requested formal direction from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) indicating political support and directions for the MFNERC to continue assisting with the MFNPSI initiative.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly politically support the direction of the MFNPSI and direct that the MFNERC staff involved in the MFNPSI Working Group continue to assist the AMC in establishing the Manitoba First Nation Post-Secondary Institute and see it operating by September 2008; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Grand Chief inform the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Regional Director General that all current and future Indian Studies Support Program (ISSP) funding must be used for First Nation-led and mandated post-secondary initiatives including the MFNPSI.

CERTIFIED COPY
of a resolution adopted on
AUG 20-22, 2007

O-CHI-CHAK-KO-SIPI EARST NATION, Manitoba

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.02 Page 1 of 2

# RE: ON-RESERVE FIRST NATION CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES (CFS) FUNDING AND PREVENTION MODEL

Moved by:

Chief Ken Whitecloud Sioux Valley Dakota Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Marcel Balfour Norway House Cree Nation

**CARRIED** 

WHEREAS, Manitoba First Nation CFS (FNCFS) agencies and leaders have been frustrated over the Provincial and Federal Government's slow response and inaction in implementing the many recommendations from the National Policy Review (2000); Wen: De Report (2005), Changes for Children (2006) and many other reports; and

WHEREAS, FNCFS agencies are facing a major funding crisis for on-reserve FNCFS operations, maintenance, and early intervention programs, and in addition, jurisdictional disputes between governments are resulting in very tragic outcomes for children, youth and families; and

WHEREAS, INAC has approached Manitoba First Nations through the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to begin negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to set out a prevention-focused model with a strong early intervention approach rather than bringing children into care.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to work jointly with INAC and the Province to enter into an MOU and begin negotiating to establish a tripartite working group comprised of First Nation, Federal and Provincial technicians to develop a new and enhanced "Made in Manitoba" First Nation Differential Response Model for a new Prevention-Focused Approach; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, the "Made in Manitoba" First Nation approach incorporate "Jordan's Principle" – a "child first" principle, and "best practice" models already demonstrated by successful Manitoba First Nation program models; and

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.02 Page 2 of 2

RE: ON-RESERVE FIRST NATION CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES (CFS) FUNDING AND PREVENTION MODEL (cont'd)

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs ensure that the joint negotiation process of developing the MOU, technical workplan and differential response model is based on the principles of First Nation self-governance and jurisdiction, respecting the inherent rights of First Nations, and supporting the right of each First Nation to tailor the services based on their own expectations, cultural and geographical differences ensuring a "Made in Manitoba" First Nation approach is a priority.

CERTIFIED COPY
of a resolution adopted on
AUGUST 20, 21 & 22, 2007

O-CHI-CHAK-KO-SIPLFIRST NATION, Manitoba

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.03

RE: CHIEFS REVIEW COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATIONAL REVIEW

Moved by:

Chief David Crate Fisher River First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Marcel Balfour Norway House Cree Nation

**CARRIED** 

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly support a review of the current Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs administrative structure underway with the assistance of PricewaterhouseCooper; and

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly recommend Chiefs' participation to oversee the organizational review and provide direction.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Chiefs-in-Assembly endorse the establishment of the Chiefs Review Committee (CRC) consisting of seven (7) Chiefs to oversee the organizational review and provide direction; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, the Chiefs Review Committee present the recommended organizational model to the Chiefs-in-Assembly.

<u>CERTIFIED COPY</u> of a resolution adopted on

AUG 20-22, 2007

O-CHI-CHAK-KO-SIPI FIRST NATION, Manitoba

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.04

RE: FIRST NATION PERSONAL CARE HOME LICENSING AUTHORITY – LEGAL ENTITY RESCINDING RESOLUTIONS JAN-03.16 AND JAN-07.09

Moved by:

Chief Ken Whitecloud Sioux Valley Dakota Nation

Seconded by:

Chief David Crate Fisher River Cree Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly passed Resolution JAN-03.16 supporting the concept of a First Nations Personal Care Home Licensing Authority (FNPCHLA) and directed AMC to negotiate a draft funding agreement with the Federal and Provincial Health Ministers that will enable the First Nations to implement their inherent authority to license and regulate Personal Care Homes within their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly passed Resolution JAN-07.09 appointing an interim board of directors for a First Nation Personal Care Home Licensing Authority that would include AMC Executive Council of Chiefs Members; and

WHEREAS, the FNPCHLA should be established by leaders with personal care homes in their communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the establishment of the "First Nations Personal Care Home Licensing Authority," directed by the leaders who have personal care homes in their communities.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that Resolution JAN-03.16 is hereby rescinded and JAN-07.09 is hereby amended.

**CERTIFIED COPY** 

of a resolution adopted on

AUG 20-22, 2007

O-CHI-CHAK-KO-SIPI PIRST NATION, Manitoba

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.05 Page 1 of 2

RE: FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR NORWAY HOUSE CREE NATION (NHCN) RE: INDIAN & NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA (INAC) SHELTER ALLOWANCE IN INCOME ASSISTANCE

Moved by:

Chief Marcel Balfour Norway House Cree Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Ralph Beaulieu Ebb and Flow First Nation

**CARRIED** 

WHEREAS, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly passed Resolution AUG-06.19 giving their full support to NHCN to undertake negotiations with INAC to reverse INAC's arbitrary decision and to work jointly to determine the criteria to be used when INAC MB Region follows the provincial policy for the shelter allowance program on-reserve; and

WHEREAS, NHCN continues to wait on a response from INAC to negotiate this issue and on August 20, 2007 at the AMC Annual General Assembly, the new INAC Minister did not respond to questions about where the Department was regarding these negotiations with NHCN; and

WHEREAS, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly agreed to provide support to NHCN in pursing legal action if this issue was not resolved through negotiations; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs established the Tay Bay Win Justice Fund to assist First Nations in pursing legal action; and

WHEREAS, there is insufficient resourcing in this Justice Fund to assist NHCN in pursuing this legal action; and

WHEREAS, NHCN's legal counsel has recommended that NHCN consider approaching other Manitoba First Nations and Manitoba-based First Nations political organizations that might benefit from a shelter allowance challenge to canvas them for financial contributions towards this important litigation.

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.05 Page 2 of 2

RE: FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR NORWAY HOUSE CREE NATION (NHCN) RE: INDIAN & NORTHERN AFFAIRS CANADA (INAC) SHELTER ALLOWANCE IN INCOME ASSISTANCE (cont'd)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support NHCN in approaching individual First Nations to request financial contributions towards the Shelter Allowance court challenge.

**CERTIFIED COPY** 

of a resolution adopted on AUGUST 20, 21, & 22, 2007

O-CHI-CHAK-KO-SIPI FYRST NATION, Manitoba

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.06

# RE: TENDERING PROCESS FOR AMC ANNUAL AUDIT

Moved by:

Chief Billyjo De La Ronde Pine Creek Anishinabeh Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Marcel Balfour Norway House Cree Nation

**CARRIED** 

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Secretariat is required to prepare budgets, receive, administer and distribute funds and transact business and engage in such activities that are necessary for the maintenance and management of the Assembly Secretariat in order to achieve fruition of designated objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs is required to present an annual audit to the Chiefs-in-Assembly.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Secretariat prepare and implement a tendering process for bids for the annual audit; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Secretariat provide a summary of the bids to the Chiefs-in-Assembly which shall appoint the successful auditing firm at the next Chiefs Assembly; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the appropriate clauses from 22.3 to 22.10 of AMC's Financial Policies & Procedures be amended to reflect the direction provided in this resolution.

CERTIFIED COPY

of a resolution adopted on

AUG 20-22, 2007

O-CHI-CHAK-KO-SIPY FIRST NATION, Manitoba

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.07

#### RE: DEVIL'S LAKE OUTLET - LEGAL CHALLENGE

Moved by:

Chief George Kemp Berens River First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief David Crate Fisher River Cree Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Devil's Lake Outlet in North Dakota was recently shown to be violating their commitments to not pose a threat to waters in Manitoba and waters connected to the Manitoba watershed such as Saskatchewan and northwest Ontario; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs passed a resolution in 2004 requesting that the State of North Dakota adhere to international convenants and processes to ensure our waters are protected from contamination with foreign species of fish and foreign biota; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Dakota is not going to honour the demands of First Nations in Manitoba.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly hereby support the Berens River First Nation's call for action against the Devil's Lake water diversion in seeking an injunction to stop the State of North Dakota threat under the provisions of the Jay Treaty which recognizes our rights under United States statutory law; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grand Chief assist Berens River First Nation and other interested First Nations in re-establishing support with Minnesota and North Dakota Tribes, who have previously supported Manitoba First Nations against the Devil's Lake diversion project; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that the Grand Chief seek funding and political support to assist with a legal challenge under the Jay Treaty (or any other legal instruments) to halt the State of North Dakota from contaminating and/or harming our waters given the fact that the Jay Treaty was a peace treaty that guarantees that no harm can be caused by people living on either side of the United States / Canadian border.

**CERTIFIED COPY** 

of a resolution adopted on AUGUST 20, 21 & 22, 2007

O-CHI-CHAK-KO-SIPI FIRST NATION, Manitoba

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.08

# RE: CONFERENCE ON ISSUES AFFECTING NORTHERN, REMOTE AND ISOLATED COMMUNITIES

Moved by:

Chief Harold Crow Pauingassi First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Martin Owens Little Grand Rapids First Nation

**CARRIED** 

WHEREAS, First Nation leaders from northern, remote and isolated communities in Manitoba presented a letter to Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs in Winnipeg, Manitoba on August 20, 2007 calling on Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to fund a Special Conference to deal with the unique issues impacting northern, remote and isolated communities in Manitoba and northwest Ontario.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly hereby endorse and support a Special Conference to discuss issues affecting northern, remote and isolated communities; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to lobby Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to fund the conference and secure Minister Strahl's attendance; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that upon commitment of funding, the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to organize the conference as soon as possible.

CERTIFIED COPY
of a resolution adopted on
AUG 20-22, 2007

O-CHI-CHAK-KO-SIPI/FIRST NATION, Manitoba

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.09

# RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF AN URBAN FIRST NATION STRATEGY

Moved by:

Chief George Kemp Berens River First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Ted Bland York Factory Cree Nation

**CARRIED** 

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs is mandated to represent the interests of all First Nations people in Manitoba as affirmed in resolution JAN-07.10; and

WHEREAS, the urban First Nations people in Winnipeg and other larger urban centers in Manitoba look to the Chiefs of their respective First Nation for assistance regarding all aspects of their well being and care; and

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised by urban First Nations members in Winnipeg in terms of the mandate and operations of the Aboriginal Centre of Winnipeg Inc. on Higgins Avenue and other aboriginal entities serving First Nations people in Winnipeg and other large urban centres in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS, the Aboriginal Center and other such entities receive funding from provincial and federal departments to service the needs of urban First Nations people; and

WHEREAS, some urban First Nations citizens have called on certain Chiefs at the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to clawback those portions of funds received by the Aboriginal Center and other "Aboriginal" entities on behalf of First Nations people in Winnipeg and other large urban centers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to continue developing, updating and implementing an urban First Nation strategy in a manner that places full control of all funding and services for urban First Nations people under the mandate of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the implementation of an urban First Nations strategy and entity be created in a way that ensures such entities remain under the control/direction of either the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs or other First Nations sanctioned political bodies such as the Southern Chief's Organization and Manitoba Keewatinook Ininew Okimowin; and

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.09 Page 2 of 2

RE: IMPLEMENTATION OF AN URBAN FIRST NATION STRATEGY (cont'd)

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that an update and presentation on the urban strategy be provided at the next Chiefs Assembly.

**CERTIFIED COPY** 

of a resolution adopted on AUGUST 20, 21 & 22, 2007

O-CHI-CHAK-KO-SIPI FIRST NATION, Manitoba

#### **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

AUG-07.10

# **RE: POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION FUNDING**

Moved by:

Chief Jeffrey Napoakesik Shamattawa First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Gilbert Andrews God's Lake First Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Post-Secondary Education (PSE) program annual budget was \$304 Million nationally in 2003-2004 which provided support for approximately 26,000 students; and

WHEREAS, the regional expenditure for the post-secondary education program was \$43 Million in 2005/06; and

WHEREAS, PSE funding for individual First Nation communities is based on historical allocations and has not substantially changed or increased since 1989; and

WHEREAS, PSE funding is not distributed in an equitable manner to ensure that more eligible PSE students have access to funding; and

WHEREAS, First Nations have encouraged their students to complete high school but their inability to sponsor all eligible PSE students has resulted in many students being discouraged when they find out that funds are not available for sponsorship; and

WHEREAS, First Nations have incurred deficits when they have been forced to subsidize the PSE program by using other sources of funding for PSE student support.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to raise these issues with the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Regional Director General and direct that INAC Manitoba Region ensure that PSE funding is distributed more equally taking into consideration equitability, population growth, student eligibility, isolation and remoteness; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, that a progress report be provided on the PSE issue at the next Annual General Assembly.

**CERTIFIED COPY** 

of a resolution adopted on

AUG 20-22, 2007

O-CHI-CHAK-NO-SIPI FYRST NATION, Manitoba