

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS

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CERTIFIED COPIES
OF
ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY ON HOUSING & CAPITAL
December 10 - 11, 1997

Legion Hall
Thompson, Manitoba

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**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS & MANITOBA KEEWATINOWI OKIMAKANAK
SPECIAL ASSEMBLY ON HOUSING & CAPITAL
LEGION HALL -- THOMPSON, MANITOBA
December 10 - 11, 1997**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

DECEMBER-97.01

Moved by:

Chief Roy Redhead
York Factory First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Emile Garson
Tataskweyak First Nation

CARRIED

RE: KTC HOUSING INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, The Keewatin Tribal Council (KTC) represents eleven (11) First Nations in northern Manitoba, the majority of which are considered remote;

WHEREAS, Today, KTC has a current backlog of at least 700 housing units in KTC communities and the numbers are growing quickly;


WHEREAS, Chiefs and Councils of every KTC First Nation have authorized Tribal Council staff to develop an innovative approach to provide housing on-reserve to meet First Nation needs, subject to the Chiefs' approval of the final plan;

WHEREAS, KTC has held positive discussions with CMHC and INAC to try to make this initiative a reality;

WHEREAS, KTC requests the active support of AMC in advocating on KTC's behalf for the development and implementation of this KTC Housing Initiative

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, The Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, by way of this resolution, provides its complete and whole-hearted support for the proposed KTC Housing Initiative and requests that CMHC and INAC assist KTC in ensuring this initiative is carried out.

**Certified copy of a Resolution Adopted on
DECEMBER 11, 1997; THOMPSON, Manitoba**


Grand Chief Rod Bushie
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs


Grand Chief Francis Flett
Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS & MANITOBA KEEWATINOWI OKIMAKANAK
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CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

DECEMBER-97.02

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Moved by:

RE: WORLD BANK LOBBYING

Chief Pascall Bighetty
Mathias Colomb First Nation

WHEREAS, Manitoba First Nations face a severe housing crisis with backlogs and shortages in housing (with INAC's own figures showing a province wide adequacy in First Nation housing of 45.4 percent), and;

Seconded by:

Chief Andy Anderson
Fairford First Nation

WHEREAS, This crisis has produced overcrowded living conditions, in some cases numbering in 30 people living in a single dwelling, and;

CARRIED

WHEREAS, This overcrowding has led to serious health problems in Manitoba First Nations both physically and mentally, and;

WHEREAS, The Government of Canada has not lived up to its fiduciary obligations to provide adequate housing for First Nations people, and;

WHEREAS, The Chiefs-in-Assembly passed a resolution to begin International Lobbying for Housing at a Special Assembly in May of 1997 (MAY-07-03), and;

WHEREAS, Mathias Colomb Cree Nation (MCCN) Chief Pascall Bighetty ventured on a privately funded trip to the former Soviet Union in August of 1997 to try to secure foreign aid for MCCN housing and while there gathered information on the World Bank.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Chiefs-in-Assembly approve the Housing Committee Chiefs along with both Grand Chiefs venture to the World Bank Headquarters in Washington D.C. U.S.A. to lobby for housing and infrastructure aid during February of 1998, and;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, The Chiefs-in-Assembly extend an invitation to the Executive of the World Bank to visit Manitoba First Nations in 1998 to view first hand the current housing crisis in our communities, and;

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CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**DECEMBER-97.02
Page 2 of 2**

RE: WORLD BANK LOBBYING (cont'd)

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, This action by Manitoba First Nations will not in any way release the federal government from its fiduciary obligation to provide housing to First Nations.

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Grand Chief Rod Bushie
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs


Grand Chief Francis Flett
Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak

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CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

DECEMBER-97.03

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Moved by:

Chief Ron Evans,
Norway House First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief John R. Yellowback
God's River First Nation

CARRIED

**RE: NON-CONFIDENCE IN THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR,
MEDICAL SERVICES BRANCH, HEALTH CANADA**

WHEREAS, The Regional Director as the senior executive officer for the department within Manitoba, represents the Government of Canada in the delivery of health services to status Indians and First Nation communities; and

WHEREAS, The Regional Director was allowed a sufficient period of time to develop ways and means to alleviate the health conditions of First Nations in Manitoba; and

WHEREAS, The Regional Director has chosen to fast-track Health Transfers in an attempt to reduce the deficit at all possible costs and to impose the National Envelope System without due consideration and support from First Nations in Manitoba, and;

WHEREAS, The Regional Director, in carrying out his agenda, has manipulated the Chiefs in different ways such as tripartite negotiations processes with service providers/suppliers in an attempt to establish new agreements for the sole purpose of cutting expenditures, and;

WHEREAS, The Regional Director has failed to manage and properly direct the Medical Services Branch office, and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Minister of Health Canada, to immediately remove Mr. Jerome Berthlette from his position as the Regional Director, Manitoba Region.

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS & MANITOBA KEEWATINOWI OKIMAKANAK
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CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

DECEMBER-97.03

Page 2 of 2

**RE: NON-CONFIDENCE IN THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR,
MEDICAL SERVICES BRANCH, HEALTH CANADA
(cont'd)**

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That the Minister of Health Canada is directed not to appoint Mr. Jerome Berthelette to another department in any area of health relating to First Nations, and;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That the Minister of Health Canada is directed to immediately replace Mr. Berthelette with a qualified aboriginal person.

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Grand Chief Rod Bushie
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs


Grand Chief Francis Flett
Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS & MANITOBA KEEWATINOWI OKIMAKANAK
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CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

DECEMBER-97.04

Moved by:

Chief Ron Evans,
Norway House First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief John R. Yellowback
God's River First Nation

CARRIED

RE: NATIONAL ENVELOPE SYSTEM

WHEREAS, Medical Services Branch (Health Canada) has failed to follow established principles in the area of matching resources with community needs and providing resources with ongoing management structures at the community level, and;

WHEREAS, Funding provided by Health Canada for the delivery of health care services on behalf of First Nation communities is not based on standards and qualities similar to the Canada Health Care System, and;

WHEREAS, Medical Services Branch (Health Canada) imposed limitations and restrictions on the provision of services and programs which have severely affected the health status of First Nations, and;

WHEREAS, The health crisis continues to escalate as a direct result of policy changes and federal cuts imposed by the National Envelope System and the fast tracking of health transfers, and;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Manitoba First Nations will no longer accept the national Envelope System being imposed on First Nations health transfer processes and administration of health services and programs from Health Canada, and;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That Chiefs in Assembly will terminate all health transfer agreements effective January 31, 1998, in protest of the health transfer process and the National Envelope System.

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Grand Chief Rod Bushie
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs


Grand Chief Francis Flett
Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak

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**DECEMBER-97.05
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Moved by:

Chief Dennis White Bird
Rolling River First Nation

Seconded by:

Proxy William Lathlin
Opaskwayak First Nation

**RE: JOINT FIRST NATION - CROWN TASK FORCE ON
CLAIMS POLICY REFORM**

CARRIED

WHEREAS, Since the unilateral development and establishment of the federal Specific Claims Policy by Canada in 1973, Manitoba First Nations have maintained the position that this policy, and the process is fundamentally flawed and;

WHEREAS, Manitoba First Nations have consistently supported joint First Nation/Canada efforts to review and reform the specific claims process in order to fundamentally change the way First Nation land rights and land claims issues are addressed and;

WHEREAS, There is currently a joint First Nation/Canada effort to review the specific claims policy with the intent to offer recommendations on specific claims policy reform, this process being the **Joint First Nation - Crown Task Force on Claims Policy Reform [JTF]**, and;

WHEREAS, The Confederacy of Nations at the AFN's National Land Claims Conference November 3 & 4, 1997 have reviewed and support the progress made to date to reform the specific claims policy as reflected in the Working Draft, Revision #7, October 14, 1997 and;

WHEREAS, In order for a new specific claims policy to be fully effective, the new Independent Claims Body must have the power to make binding decisions on claim acceptance [which is reflected in the Working Draft], and also must have the power to make binding decisions on claims settlements (or remedies) [which has not been agreed to in the Working Draft].

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, The First Nations of Manitoba do hereby express general support for the proposal on reform of the Specific Claims Policy as contained in the **Working Draft of the Joint First Nation - Crown Task Force on Claims Policy Reform [Revision #7, October 14, 1997]** and for the continuation of the Joint Task Force effort and;

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DECEMBER-97.05

Page 2 of 2

**RE: JOINT FIRST NATION - CROWN TASK FORCE ON
CLAIMS POLICY REFORM (cont'd)**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, The First Nations of Manitoba support is contingent on review of the completed report and recommendations of the JTF through a meeting of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, The First Nations of Manitoba do hereby direct the First Nation representatives on the JTF appointed through the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs continue their efforts to secure agreement on the power of the new Independent Claims Body to make binding decisions on claim settlements (or remedies).

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Grand Chief Rod Bushie
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs


Grand Chief Francis Flett
Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak

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CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

DECEMBER-97.06

Moved by:

Chief Louis Malcolm
Ebb and Flow First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Pascall Bighetty
Mathias Colomb First Nation

CARRIED

**RE: EBB AND FLOW FIRST NATION - SHELTER
ALLOWANCE STATEMENT OF DEFENCE**

WHEREAS, The Ebb and Flow First Nation has been in negotiations with the Federal Government regarding Shelter Allowance since 1996; and

WHEREAS, A Statement of Defence has been prepared as it relates to subsidizing the Shelter Allowance Program in regards to First Nation Members who qualify for Social Assistance and residing in NHA reserve housing; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That we the Ebb and Flow Chief and Council believe this amounts to discrimination against our First Nation citizens contrary to Section 15 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms Act and Section 35 of the Canada Constitution Act in so far as the Shelter Allowance is paid up by the Province of Manitoba to non-Indian persons including those residing in non-NHA housing whether on or off reserve lands;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, We are requesting that this All Chiefs Assembly endorse and ratify our objective to take this issue/concern to the court systems of the provincial government to justify our position under the Treaties signed by our forefathers regarding shelter/housing rights; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chiefs in Assembly endorse and ratify our position that in absolutely no terms or conditions that the Federal Government of Canada relieves themselves of any/all fiduciary responsibility regarding shelter/housing rights including costs/expenses incurred for this process.

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Grand Chief Rod Bushie
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs


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Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak

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DECEMBER-97.07

Moved by:

Chief Ken Wood
St. Theresa Point First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Larry Monias Sr.
Garden Hill First Nation

CARRIED

RE: AIRPORT AND AIR SAFETY

WHEREAS, There are 22 airports in northern Manitoba that are under the jurisdiction of Manitoba Department of Highways and Transportation, and;

WHEREAS, There is a need to address the deteriorating conditions of northern airports situated near First Nations communities. Initially the airports were constructed in the early 1960's, and;

WHEREAS, These airports are still in a pioneer state with very little improvements since construction. They are not up to standard to guarantee the safety of the users and;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That AMC and MKO call the provincial government to upgrade all the conditions that exist regarding air transport facilities located near First Nation communities. These include upgrading and maintenance of airports, lack of air controllers, the use of instrument landing systems, radar use, lack of emergency response teams, and the location of air strips near the First Nation communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak create a task force to provide a leadership role to ensure that the provincial government on airport and air safety is carried out to meet the needs of the First Nations, as per current legislation.

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Grand Chief Rod Bushie
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs


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