# ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY ON HEALTH AND HOUSING

CERTIFIED COPIES
OF
ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

Long Plain First Nation January 25, 26, 27 & 28, 2005

# ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS Special Chiefs Assembly on Health and Housing Long Plain First Nation January 25, 26, 27 & 28, 2005

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTIONS**

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	Beyond 2005
Jan-05.02	Establishment of Manitoba First Nations Diabetes
	Prevention Centres of Excellence
Jan-05.03	Island Lake Renal Health and Treatment Centre (ILRHTC)
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# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.01 Page 1 of 3

## Moved by:

Chief Norman Bone Keeseekoowenin First Nation

### Seconded by:

Chief Frank Whitehead Opaskwayak Cree Nation

## **CARRIED**

RE: MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS HEALTH STRATEGY, TEN YEARS AND BEYOND 2005

WHEREAS, the Creator placed the First Nations of the Cree, Dakota, Dene, Ojibway, and Oji-Cree on these lands and territories with our own languages, cultures, spiritual teachings, governments and economies in harmony with all creation; and

WHEREAS, First Nations had prospered upon these lands and territories since time immemorial with our own institutions, infrastructures and trade relations which secured the well-being of our peoples; and

WHEREAS, generations of First Nations have suffered from colonization, assimilation, oppression and violation of our Treaty and Inherent Rights which continues to adversely affect our health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) has developed a Manitoba First Nations Health and Well-Being Strategy and 10+ Year Action Plan presented at this Assembly with the following goals:

- i. To restore and maintain First Nation jurisdiction consistent with the inherent right of self-determination:
- ii. To promote and protect traditional ways of living, health, healing and medicines;
- iii. To design and implement a First Nations health plan by First Nations;
- iv. To achieve equitable outcomes such as:
  - a. increased life expectancy;
  - b. reduced prevalence of disease;
- v. To strengthen First Nations health infrastructure and improve access to health services and supports.

WHEREAS, the Manitoba First Nations Health and Well-Being Strategy is a work in progress built upon several years of Chiefs resolutions and recommendations, Wahbung (1971), Manitoba Health Crisis Report (1997), including information obtained from meetings with the Manitoba Health Technicians Network and knowledge of community needs – all dedicated to advocating for the protection, implementation and enforcement of Inherent Rights and Treaties including the Inherent Right of Self-Determination of First Nations peoples in Manitoba; and

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.01 Page 2 of 3

RE: MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS HEALTH STRATEGY, TEN YEARS AND BEYOND 2005 (cont'd)

## THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC to undertake a three-part strategy based on the Inherent Rights and Treaties including the Inherent Right of Self-Determination of First Nations peoples in Manitoba:

- i. At the regional level:
  - a. Support in principle the Draft Manitoba First Nations Health and Well-Being Strategy and 10+ Year Plus Action Plan (Health Strategy & Action Plan), with the exercise of First Nations jurisdiction in the forefront within that time period;
  - Immediately secure adequate resources to develop a grassroots-driven comprehensive Health Strategy & Action Plan for Chiefs-in-Assembly approval by September 2005;
  - c. Establish by April 1, 2005, a Manitoba First Nations Health Council, to be led and guided by First Nation leadership, and to include traditional healers and health experts to set targets, develop implementation plans and evaluate progress of the Health Strategy and Action Plan;
- ii. Establish a Chiefs Committee on Health to ensure immediate action to take back responsibility and decision-making on First Nation health that will advance the Health Strategy & Action Plan in all forums regionally and nationally:
  - a. Assembly of First Nations;
  - b. Federal-Provincial First Ministers Conference;
  - c. The Federal Aboriginal Health Blueprint table
  - d. The Prime Minister commitment of \$700 million in Aboriginal Health Funding;
    - 1. \$400M: Health Promotion and Disease Prevention upstream investments.
    - 2. \$200M: Aboriginal Health Transition Fund
    - 3. \$100M: Aboriginal Health Human Resources
- iii. At the international level, initiate political and legal action to protect, implement and enforce the inherent right of self-determination and treaty rights, which are fundamental to the continued survival of First Nations, by 2005-2006.

## **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.01 Page 3 of 3

RE: MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS HEALTH STRATEGY, TEN YEARS AND BEYOND 2005 (cont'd)

# FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED,

That the AMC ensure that in all First Nation relationships with the federal and provincial governments, any action or measures taken to address the health and well-being of our people be consistent with the Constitutional protection of our Treaty and Inherent Rights and the fiduciary responsibility of the Crown.

## FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED,

The Health Strategy & Action Plan is not intended to displace nor interfere with any First Nations' Inherent and Treaty rights nor their autonomy to initiate their own health care strategy.

CERTIFIED COPY
of a resolution adopted on
JANUARY 25-28, 2005
LONG PLAIN FIRST NATION, Manitoba

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.02

# RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS DIABETES PREVENTION CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

Moved by:

Chief Frank Whitehead Opaskwayak Cree Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Morris Shannacappo Rolling River First Nation

**CARRIED** 

WHEREAS, the diabetes epidemic experienced by Manitoba First Nations has been well documented; and is projected to continue with future generations, increasing three-fold between 1995 and 2015; and

WHEREAS, Treatment for diabetes is over four times higher for First Nations people than other Manitobans (4.5% vs. 18.9%); and

WHEREAS, the Burden of Illness Report of Manitoba Health (1995) revealed diabetes treatment accounted for 81% of total health costs of Manitoba First Nations people; and

WHEREAS, Diabetes is preventable, and this prevention can be taught through public health prevention and promotion programs; and

WHEREAS, the Manitoba First Nations Diabetes Strategy: A Call to Action (1999), outlined responses of prevention and education, care and support, policy and infrastructure, and others to address this epidemic; and

WHEREAS, the goals of the Manitoba First Nations Diabetes Prevention Centres of Excellence are:

- 1) Prevention of the onset of diabetes and prevention of the progression/complications of diabetes for those diagnosed with the disease, and
- Provision of high quality diagnostic assessment, knowledge and practices to effectively prevent, control, and manage diabetes across the life span of Manitoba First Nations people.

## THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the establishment of northern and southern Manitoba First Nations Diabetes Prevention Centres of Excellence.

**CERTIFIED COPY** 

of a resolution adopted on JANUARY 25-28, 2005 LONG PLAIN FIRST NATION, Manitoba

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.03 Page 1 of 2

# RE: ISLAND LAKE RENAL HEALTH AND TREATMENT CENTRE (ILRHTC)

### Moved by:

Chief David Harper Garden Hill First Nation

### Seconded by:

Chief Jack Wood St. Theresa Point First Nation

## CARRIED

WHEREAS, The Island Lake Renal Health and Treatment Centre (ILRHTC) opened on January 17, 2005 on the Garden Hill First Nation and allows First Nations citizens to receive treatment at home in the Island Lake First Nations area; and

WHEREAS, The ILRHTC is facing imminent closure due to low water pressure flowing from an outdated water main pipe system; and

WHEREAS, If the inevitable happens, then the Centre will be forced to close whereby the patients will have no recourse but to relocate back to Winnipeg; and

WHEREAS, Garden Hill First Nation is ready to undertake water infrastructure improvements as funding of \$1.2 million has been approved by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), yet these project improvements have been deferred to 2006 due to lack of design approval; and

WHEREAS, This situation has resulted in turning away further ILRHTC clients; creating an unsafe school environment for elementary and high school students; and creating a fire hazard situation for all Garden Hill First Nation citizens;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC Grand Chief to assist Garden Hill First Nation in meeting with INAC to ensure the immediate commencement of their water infrastructure improvements project;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the Garden Hill First Nation in commencing their infrastructure improvements project, including the immediate release of funding approved by INAC;

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.03 Page 2 of 2

RE: ISLAND LAKE RENAL HEALTH AND TREATMENT CENTRE (ILRHTC) (cont'd)

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED, That this support does not impact other First Nations who are listed on the Capital Plan and that those communities who have been pushed back by one year, such as Black River First Nation school project, will not have their scheduled projects negatively impacted or pushed back any further.

<u>CERTIFIED COPY</u>
of a resolution adopted on
JANUARY 25-28, 2005
LONG PLAIN FIRST NATION, Manitoba

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.04 Page 1 of 2

# RE: GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION: GARNISHMENT PROCEEDINGS BY MCDIARMID LUMBER

Moved by:

Proxy Douglas Hastings God's Lake First Nation

Seconded by:

Proxy J.R. Yellowback Manto Sipi Cree Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, McDiarmid Lumber initiated collection proceedings seeking garnishment of the God's Lake First Nation's accounts at Peace Hills Trust in the amount of \$548,811.55 on January 6, 2004; and

WHEREAS, this collection action resulted in the garnishment of the First Nation's January 2004 Indian & Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) installment under its Comprehensive Funding Agreement (CFA) from INAC; and

WHEREAS, the God's Lake First Nation responded to the collection action by successfully arguing in the Court of Queen's Bench that Sections 89 & 90 of the *Indian Act* protects these funds from garnishment, and was awarded the January CFA funding allocation less \$125,000; and

WHEREAS, McDiarmid Lumber appealed this decision in Manitoba Court of Appeal on November 29 and December 1, 2004, with a decision expected in Spring 2005; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney General of Canada is intervening in this appeals proceedings with its convoluted position that: Section 91(24) of the Constitution Act, 1867 is not a source of federal obligation to First Nations peoples, but is instead a source of legislative authority to pass laws in respect to First Nations peoples; and contends that the term "agreement" in section 90(1)(b) of the Indian Act does not contemplate agreements such as CFA agreements; and

WHEREAS, God's Lake First Nation intends to take this matter to the Supreme Court of Canada in the event of an unfavorable decision by the Manitoba Court of Appeals; and

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.04 Page 2 of 2

RE: GOD'S LAKE FIRST NATION: GARNISHMENT PROCEEDINGS BY MCDIARMID LUMBER (cont'd)

WHEREAS, the God's Lake First Nation has advised the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) that the outcome of this case has implications for all Manitoba First Nations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chiefs-in-Assembly provide their political support to the God's Lake First Nation should this matter proceed to the Supreme Court of Canada; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That the AMC Grand Chief and the AMC Executive Director assist God's Lake First Nation in seeking support from the Assembly of First Nations should this matter proceed to the Supreme Court of Canada.

<u>CERTIFIED COPY</u>
of a resolution adopted on
JANUARY 25-28, 2005
LONG PLAIN FIRST NATION, Manitoba

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.05

# RE: EXTENSIONS TO NORTHERN AIRPORT RUNWAYS TO ACCOMMODATE LARGER AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

Moved by:

Proxy J.R. Yellowback Manto Sipi Cree Nation

Seconded by:

Proxy Doug Hastings God's Lake First Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, Under the responsibility of the Province of Manitoba's Department of Highways and Transportation, twenty-two (22) short distance airport runways have been constructed in northern Manitoba since the early 1960's; and

WHEREAS, Existing runways do not meet the standards to accommodate larger aircrafts;

WHEREAS, First Nations communities relying on the regional airline carriers seek significant improvements to northern existing airstrips to meet standards to accommodate larger aircraft landing distances; and

WHEREAS, These airport runways improvements will enable First Nations to meet evolving community needs related to high population growth, developments in health and social, business, infrastructure and economic opportunities including partnerships with airline carriers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Grand Chief of Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs support the Grand Chief of MKIO to lobby, petition, and meet with the Premier and Ministers of Manitoba to ensure the Province supports and finances the construction extensions to northern airstrips to accommodate larger aircraft carriers that will serve to bring access and improvements for First Nations and northern communities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the parties meet with aircraft carriers representatives to develop a plan that identifies issues including standards to be met and construction costs for airstrip expansions.

**CERTIFIED COPY** 

of a resolution adopted on JANUARY 25-28, 2005

LONG PLAIN FIRST NATION, Manitoba

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.06 Page 1 of 2

# **RE: SWAN LAKE FIRST NATION TREATY POSITION**

## Moved by:

Chief Irvin McIvor Sandy Bay Ojibway Nation

### Seconded by:

Chief Orville Smoke Dakota Plains First Nation

### CARRIED

WHEREAS, It is the unique, inherent and sovereign right of every First Nation to enter into treaty relations and to implement their treaties, treaty relationships and treaty rights; and

WHEREAS, The Swan Lake First Nation's position is that the Nation-to-Nation relationship shall be maintained and respected; and

WHEREAS, The Swan Lake First Nation's position is that no person(s), organization(s), entity(ies), or government(s), other than the duly elected Council of Swan Lake First Nation, can speak on behalf of, or purport to represent, Swan Lake First Nation's position with respect to its treaty, treaty relationships and its treaty rights; and

WHEREAS, The Swan Lake First Nation has identified that the basic principles to be incorporated in their comprehensive treaty position will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Their Treaty represents a "Nation to Nation" relationship between their Sovereign First Nation and the Crown;
- Their Treaty represents a bilateral process of negotiation and agreement;
- Their Treaty must be interpreted in keeping with their perspectives and understandings of the nature of the treaty relationship and terms of the treaty; and
- Their Treaty must be honoured by the Crown on the basis of full compliance and in accordance with the Spirit and Intent of Treaty #1 of 1871;

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.06 Page 2 of 2

# RE: SWAN LAKE FIRST NATION TREATY POSITION (cont'd)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs respect the Swan Lake First Nation's treaty position as set out in its letters dated January 18, 2005 to the Prime Minister of Canada, First Nations organizations and entities - that no person(s), organization(s), entity(ies), or government(s), other than the duly elected Council of Swan Lake First Nation, can speak on behalf of, or purport to represent, Swan Lake First Nation's position with respect to its treaty, treaty relationships and its treaty rights.

**CERTIFIED COPY** 

of a resolution adopted on JANUARY 25-28, 2005

LONG PLAIN FIRST NATION, Manitoba

## **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.07

# RE: SUPPORT FOR THE ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS (AMC) ACTION PLAN ON HOUSING

Moved by:

Chief David Harper Garden Hill First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Norman Bone Keeseekoowenin First Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, The AMC Special Chiefs Assembly and Housing, January 25-28, 2005 addressed a wide range of significant housing issues relevant to Manitoba First Nations; and

WHEREAS, The AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly are committed to working together to ensure First Nation housing needs are addressed by the Government of Canada; and

WHEREAS, The Chiefs-in-Assembly have mandated, by way of AMC resolution Nov.99-03 First Nations Housing Codes and Standards, the development of a Working Group on Housing, now referred to as the First Nation Housing Committee; and

WHEREAS, The Chiefs-in-Assembly have provided recommendations for action and directed AMC to move forward on the recommendations outlined in their Action Plan on Housing; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct AMC to work with MKIO and SCO to develop a province-wide First Nation strategy through the First Nations Housing Committee.

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Grand Chief of AMC work with MKIO and SCO to secure an immediate meeting with the President of the Treasury Board Secretariat and the Manitoba Liberal Caucus with the attendance of the AMC Executive Council to lobby and resolve First Nation housing and infrastructure needs.

**CERTIFIED COPY** 

of a resolution adopted on JANUARY 25-28, 2005

LONG PLAIN FIRST NATION, Manitoba

## **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.08

## RE: MATHIAS COLOMB CREE NATION HOUSING CONCERNS

Moved by:

Proxy Charlie Boucher Pine Creek First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Alfred Everett Berens River First Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, The Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) and Manitoba Hydro spilled over 300,000 gallons of fuel on the reserve lands of the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation from 1952 to 1989; and

WHEREAS, Mathias Colomb Cree Nation was forced to demolish over thirty (30) houses in the past five years due to fuel contamination and will remove an additional eighteen (18) houses this summer; and

WHEREAS, DIAND provided resourcing for clean up of the reserve land only; and

WHEREAS, Manitoba Hydro did not provide funding to the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation to replace the demolished houses; and

WHEREAS, Mathias Colomb Cree Nation has an on-reserve population of 2,600 and have a backlog of approximately three hundred (300) houses for its band membership;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to assist the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation in formulating strategies to engage DIAND and Manitoba Hydro in the replacement of houses demolished as a result of this environmental catastrophe and in addressing the overall housing shortage.

**CERTIFIED COPY** 

of a resolution adopted on JANUARY 25-28, 2005

LONG PLAIN FIRST NATION, Manitoba

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.09 Page 1 of 2

## **RE: PERSONAL CARE HOMES LICENSING**

Moved by:

Chief David Crate Fisher River First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Irvin McIvor Sandy Bay Ojibway Nation

**CARRIED** 

WHEREAS, the First Nations Personal Care Home Networking Group (FNPCH) received the INAC directive in July 2004 that INAC's funding required adherence to two conditions, as an interim measure, to be in compliance to provincial licensing requirements and that each PCH to make a one-time contribution of one half of their minor capital to upgrade their facility to meet Provincial standards and that the cost would be recovered over an undetermined time period starting in fiscal year 2005/06; and

WHEREAS, AMC letter of January 14, 2005 requested INAC to provide written confirmation to be forwarded to each First Nation Personal Care Home as soon as possible stating that INAC will be contributing 100% of costs of the actual capital upgrades to meet provincial standards, minus the First Nations one time capital contribution; and

WHEREAS, the First Nations Personal Care Homes have begun discussions as to the benefits and risks associated without interim provincial licensing and agreed to develop a "standard policy manual of care" that adheres to provincial guidelines, that will also have the flexibility to customize their own manuals to reflect their respective cultures; and

WHEREAS, the FNPCH preferred interim measure for a licensing process workplan is to develop a First Nation Standards Policy Manual and establish a "First Nation Licensing and Monitoring funded body" which has received leadership support; and

WHEREAS, INAC and Provincial structural assessments for PCH upgrade costs to meet Provincial licensing standards are vastly different. INAC totals at \$6.3 million and the Province is \$10 to \$13 million; and

WHEREAS, by letter of January 19, 2005, the Provincial Health Minister Tim Sale has given notice to INAC Minister Andy Scott that Manitoba Health is not prepared to license PCH's on reserve, as they do not meet provincial licensing requirements based on the structural assessments completed in 2002 and 2003.

## **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.09 Page 2 of 2

# RE: PERSONAL CARE HOMES LICENSING (cont'd)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Chiefs-in-Assembly instruct the AMC Grand Chief to work with the Grand Chiefs of MKIO and SCO to take immediate action on the Licensing of the six (6) First Nation Personal Care Homes, and secure a written commitment from INAC, to be provided to the Chiefs with First Nation Personal Care Homes, that INAC will contribute 100% of the actual capital upgrades to meet provincial standards, minus the First Nations one time capital contribution; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That INAC funding for PCH continue without interruption into the new fiscal years 2005 – 2006 and beyond. First Nations preferred interim measure be supported to implement a First Nations standards policy manual and establish a First Nations licensing and monitoring body comprised of First Nation representatives.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That this support does not negatively impact on other First Nations Capital project allocations.

CERTIFIED COPY
of a resolution adopted on
JANUARY 25-28, 2005
LONG PLAIN FIRST NATION, Manitoba

# **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

JAN-05.10 Page 1 of 2

## **RE: URBAN FIRST NATION HOUSING**

Moved by:

Chief Dennis Meeches Long Plain First Nation

Seconded by:

Proxy J.R. Yellowback Manto Sipi Cree Nation

CARRIED

WHEREAS, First Nations people are First Nations citizens regardless of where they reside and are entitled to basic needs such as shelter; and

WHEREAS, Urban First Nations citizens have experienced limited access to adequate and affordable housing in urban centres for the past 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Nearly half of the Manitoba First Nations population live in urban centres and the rate of migration to urban centres is increasing at a higher than expected rate; and

WHEREAS, There are currently 1,400 units available through urban Aboriginal Housing Authorities, that First Nations people access, but they cannot keep up to the demand for affordable low income housing with the increasing First Nation population; and

WHEREAS, No new housing units have been made available since the 1994 moratorium imposed by the Federal Government, which cut funding for new urban Aboriginal housing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC to request that the Federal Government commit to increase financial support for First Nations Urban Housing Authorities in order to address the shortage of urban housing for low and fixed income First Nation families; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC to request that the Federal Government commit to provide funding for First Nations Urban Housing Authorities to increase the number of housing units it currently has available and to lift the 1994 moratorium; and

## <u>CERTIFIED RESOLUTION</u>

JAN-05.10 Page 2 of 2

# RE: URBAN FIRST NATION HOUSING (cont'd)

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC to request that the Federal Government renew the operating agreements of First Nation urban housing units that have matured in order to continue to provide affordable housing for low and fixed income First Nation families; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC to request that the Federal Government provide additional funding for a First Nations Urban Housing Building Audit and Renovation Upgrading Program to address housing upgrades and renovations in urban centres.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That this support will not negatively impact on-reserve housing and infrastructure capital allocations.

<u>CERTIFIED COPY</u> of a resolution adopted on JANUARY 25-28, 2005 LONG PLAIN FIRST NATION, Manitoba