

UNITY ASSEMBLY
March 22, 23, 24, 1988

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1. Resolution #1 - Manitoba Chiefs present to their First Nation Communities for ratification the statement of Principles of Political Unity

MANITOBA ASSEMBLY OF CHIEFS

MARCH 22 - 24, 1988

RESOLUTION:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Manitoba Chiefs shall present to their First Nations communities for ratification the Statement of Principles of Political Unity which was adopted at the October, 1987 Chiefs Unity Assembly.
2. That the Manitoba Chiefs in Assembly develop and adopt a Declaration of First Nations, which shall then be presented to individual First Nations communities for ratification.
3. That the Chiefs in Assembly hereby formally ratify the establishment of the four existing Chiefs Committees on:
 - i) Indian Child Welfare
 - ii) Economic Issues
 - iii) Self-Determination and Treaties
 - iv) Health and Social Development Issues
4. That the Chiefs in Assembly hereby mandate the establishment, subject to availability of finances, of a secretariat, which shall perform the following specific duties prior to the next Assembly of Chiefs:
 - Set up office in Winnipeg
 - Hire staff as directed by the Chiefs' Committees
 - Be accountable to the Chiefs' Committees
 - Recruit technical support services as required
 - Provide support services to the established Chiefs' Committees on Economic Issues, Child Welfare, Treaties and Self-Determination, NADAP/Health, and Structures and Organization
 - Disseminate information on all activities to all Chiefs, on a monthly basis

5. That existing technical support from political organizations and Tribal Councils shall be used to the degree possible to support and assist the work of the Chiefs' Committees and the interim Secretariat.
6. That the Chiefs adopt the structure and role of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs described in the papers "A Model for Political Coordination and Cooperation" and the "Discussion Paper for Political Unity."
7. That the Chiefs' Executive Council of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs shall be composed of the Chairs of each of the existing committees mandated by this and subsequent assemblies.
8. That the Chiefs at this Assembly shall elect a provincial leader who shall be a member of and accountable to the Chiefs' Executive Council and to the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.
9. That the person elected as leader shall be a member of a First Nation in Manitoba, and, may be, but not necessarily, a Chief of a First Nation.
10. That the Executive Council be charged with the responsibility of developing a detailed and comprehensive structure including the roles, authority and accountability of its various units; and, that the report on structure be tabled and considered at the next Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

Passed by Consensus

Draft Resolution: **FOR NATIONAL TREATY CONFERENCE**

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL.

WHEREAS: the UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL gathered for a Treaty Conference in Winnipeg on October 21 and 22, 1992, to discuss the Treaty rights of First Nations and a Treaty First Nations strategy; and,

WHEREAS: the assembled UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL have recognized the need for an alliance to protect and maintain the bilateral process between the Treaty First Nations and the Crown in Right of Canada; and,

WHEREAS: the UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL assembled recognized and affirmed their autonomy, uniqueness and inherent rights as signatories to Treaties, and that these Treaties must be recognized by the Government of Canada as international in nature; and,

WHEREAS: the UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL assembled have adopted and approved a joint Treaty position and bilateral process with regard to the Constitutional amending process initiated by the Government of Canada.

WHEREAS: the UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL assembled have decided that the Assembly of First Nations does not represent the Treaty position adopted and agreed upon by the UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL, and,

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT:

1. The attached Treaty position be adopted and approved as the guiding principles of the UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL;
2. The UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL demands that the Crown in Right of Canada enter into immediate bilateral discussions with representatives of the UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL, under the authority of Section 44 of the Constitution Act, 1982, to amend the Constitution of Canada so as to recognize and affirm the exclusive bilateral relationship between Treaty First Nations and the Crown in Right of Canada and that support representatives from each Treaty area be chosen.
3. A delegation of representatives from the UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL be chosen to immediately meet with Ministers of the Federal Government for the purpose of implementing the foregoing Resolution;

4. The text of this Resolution and the attached Treaty Position be circulated to all Treaty First Nations to approve.
5. The UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL are aware that there exists First Nations who are in the process of establishing a Treaty relationship with the Crown and are in agreement that the UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL is open to those First Nations who are in this Treaty process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: each First Nation take this resolution to their respective First Nation for discussion and ratification.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT: the foregoing resolution is consented to in principle by all members of the UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL and that this Resolution and attached Treaty Position be ratified and signed by the UNITED TREATY FIRST NATIONS COUNCIL at their next National Meeting.

MOVED BY: CHIEF LAWRENCE HENRY
ROSEAU RIVER FIRST NATION
TREATY # 1 TERRITORY

SECONDED BY : CHIEF ERIC LARGE
SADDLE LAKE FIRST NATION
TREATY # 6 TERRITORY

TREATY POSITION

1. PURSUANT TO THE ROYAL PROCLAMATION OF 1763 THE TREATIES WERE ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE IMPERIAL CROWN TO LAST AS LONG AS THE SUN SHINES, THE WATERS FLOW AND THE GRASS GROWS.
2. THE TREATIES ESTABLISHED THE BILATERAL PROCESS RECOGNIZED AND CONFIRMED BY TREATY, THE IMPERIAL CROWN IS UNDER A CONTINUING OBLIGATION TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THE FIRST NATIONS SIGNATORIES TO TREATY.
3. PURSUANT TO THE BILATERAL PROCESS RECOGNIZED AND CONFIRMED BY TREATY, THE IMPERIAL CROWN IS UNDER A CONTINUING OBLIGATION TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THE FIRST NATIONS SIGNATORIES TO TREATY.
4. ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL AND CANADIAN LAW, TREATIES CANNOT BE UNILATERALLY INTERPRETED, DEFINED, OR LIMITED.
5. A FULLY INFORMED AND WRITTEN CONSENT IS REQUIRED BY BOTH PARTIES TO TREATY PRIOR TO ANY CHANGES IN THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.
6. NO FORM OF CONSENT TO ALTERING, DIMINISHING, AFFECTING OR EXTINGUISHING THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP HAS EVER BEEN GIVEN BY THE FIRST NATION SIGNATORIES TO TREATY.
7. THE FACT IS THAT FIRST NATION SIGNATORIES TO TREATY DO NOT CONSENT, NOR HAVE THEY TAKEN ANY ACTIONS WHEREBY CONSENT CAN BE IMPLIED, TO ANY ALTERATION OF THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.
8. THE FIRST NATION SIGNATORIES TO TREATY HEREBY SERVE NOTICE UPON CANADA THAT THE CURRENT MULTILATERAL PROCESS IS A VIOLATION TO THE SACRED TREATY RELATIONSHIPS AND IS UNACCEPTABLE.
9. ACCORDINGLY, ANY REPRESENTATIONS MADE OR POSITIONS FILED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS ARE NOT REPRESENTATIONS MADE OR FILED ON BEHALF OF TREATY FIRST NATIONS.
10. TREATIES ENTERED INTO, BETWEEN FIRST NATIONS SIGNATORIES TO TREATY AND THE IMPERIAL CROWN, SETS OUT THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP AND OBLIGATIONS FLOWING BETWEEN THEM, AS A RESULT, TREATIES PLACE THE TREATY FIRST NATIONS IN A UNIQUE AND SPECIAL POSITION. TREATY FIRST NATIONS MUST HAVE A BILATERAL PROCESS WHICH ALLOWS FOR SEPARATE AND DISTINCT DISCUSSIONS IN ALL MATTERS AFFECTING TREATIES.

11. WE ARE REAFFIRMING THE RELATIONSHIP SET OUR IN TREATY. NO DISCUSSIONS ON TREATIES CAN PROCEED WHICH DEVIATE FROM THE BILATERAL PROCESS THAT WAS ESTABLISHED BY OUR FOREFATHERS.
12. WE ARE SOVEREIGN AND INDEPENDENT NATIONS WITH OUR OWN PRE-EXISTING LAWS, PRINCIPLES AND FORMS OF GOVERNMENT WE ENTERED INTO TREATIES OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP.
13. THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE IMPERIAL CROWN AS REPRESENTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AGREED TO LIVE SIDE BY SIDE WITHOUT INTERFERENCE.
14. TREATIES RECOGNIZED OUR INHERENT LAWS AND OUR INHERENT GOVERNMENTS. TREATIES ALSO RECOGNIZED THE LAWS AND GOVERNMENTS OF THE IMPERIAL CROWN. TREATIES ARE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN TWO NATIONS TO UNDERSTAND AND RESPECT ONE ANOTHER'S LAWS AND GOVERNMENTS WITHOUT INTERFERENCE. FURTHERMORE, THERE WERE OTHER BINDING OBLIGATIONS, SET OUT AND AGREED TO, IN TREATIES WHICH ARE TO BE HONOURED AND FULFILLED BY THE CROWN AND WHICH CREATE A BRIDGE BETWEEN OUR NATIONS. TREATY FIRST NATIONS AND THE CROWN, RESPECTIVELY, MUST SET UP A MECHANISM WITHIN THEIR OWN RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS AND LEGAL SYSTEMS TO ENSURE THAT THESE OBLIGATIONS ARE FULFILLED.
15. THE CONSTITUTION OF CANADA, CANADA'S SUPREME LAW, DOES NOT REFLECT THE SPIRIT AND INTENT OF THE TREATY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND THE IMPERIAL CROWN.
16. CANADA MUST SET UP MECHANISMS WITHIN THEIR LAW WHICH RESPECT THE SPIRIT AND INTENT OF THE TREATIES TO ENSURE THAT HER OBLIGATIONS PURSUANT TO TREATY ARE HONOURED.
17. ANY CHANGES OF AMENDMENTS TO ANY SECTIONS OF THE CONSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING SECTION 91(24), MUST REFLECT THE SPIRIT AND INTENT OF THE TREATIES AS UNDERSTOOD BY THE TREATY FIRST NATIONS AND ANY AND ALL AMENDMENTS MUST HAVE THE CONSENT OF THE TREATY FIRST NATIONS.

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS

AND

SECRETARIAT

A MODEL

FOR

POLITICAL COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

IN

MANITOBA

MARCH 22, 23 & 24, 1988

ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS

Introduction

The Chiefs of Manitoba, in October, 1987, decided to begin working together on common issues.

The nature and scope of that relationship, in terms of organization, remains to be determined by the Chiefs at this conference.

The political will exists at this time for a collective struggle for promoting and protecting treaty and aboriginal rights. At this conference, the Chiefs will have to decide whether this collective struggle can be achieved by:

1. a political forum with a technical support body;
or
2. a new political organization.

In October, the Chiefs agreed to establish Chiefs committees on the common issue of child welfare, health and economic development. In addition, the Chiefs agreed to another Chiefs' conference, the political forum, to focus primarily on:

1. organizational matters for the Assembly, and,
2. treaty and aboriginal rights.

Assumptions for Collective Action

1. That the Chiefs of Manitoba recognize and support the imperative to organize collectively on common issues and problems.
2. That the primary imperative is the organization of strong and powerful collective struggle for the promotion and preservation of treaty and aboriginal rights.
3. That the overriding concern in this common pursuit to preserve and enhance our rights and freedoms as distinct people is the restoration of our cultures and societies through the implementation of Treaties and through the exercise and practice of our rights to self-determination.
4. That as leaders, we must take greater care in ensuring that we do not unwittingly prejudice our rights and freedoms as distinct peoples by our behavior, actions and initiatives on matters related to the application and implementation of policies and programs developed by other governments.

5. That, despite the existence of various forms of Indian organizations in Manitoba, the Chiefs of Manitoba recognize the need for political and technical cooperation and coordination as we seek solutions to common problems and issues.
6. That we must strive to find a consensus on how we wish to work together on common issues, and, in that connection, agree on a model for political cooperation and consideration before we return to our respective communities.

AN OPTION FOR POLITICAL COOPERATION

At this point in time, the creation of a single political organization to replace existing regional organizations such as FNC or MKO is neither possible, nor desirable. The desire for political cooperation between Chiefs can be achieved by utilizing existing strengths and by recognizing the fact that all Chiefs are political equals and that collective cooperation requires collective leadership.

Given the above analysis, the option that may find the most support at this time in our common fronts is to confirm the need for a political forum that will give the Chiefs

the opportunity to address common issues and concerns through the creation of specifically mandated committees of Chiefs who will report to the Assembly. In the interest of increasing coordination, however, the Chiefs may consider establishing an Executive Council of Chiefs, composed of the Chairpersons of the various Committees mandated by the Assembly.

Under this model, a small secretariat will have the important role of implementing the decisions of the Assembly consistent with the mandate granted at Assemblies.

The following diagram and explanation provides a possible description for this type of model for political cooperation and coordination.

Included in this description are the terms of references for two of the Committees, namely, the Chiefs' Committee on Child Welfare and the Chiefs' Committee on Self-Determination and Treaties.

THE
ASSEMBLY
OF
MANITOBA CHIEFS

CHAIR
CHIEFS'
EXECUTIVE
COUNCIL OF THE
ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA
CHIEFS*

*CHAIR
CHIEFS' EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE ON
CHILD & FAMILY

POLICY ADVISOR
COORDINATOR

*CHAIR
CHIEFS' EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC MATTERS

POLICY ADVISOR
COORDINATOR

*CHAIR
CHIEFS' EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE ON
TREATIES & SELF-
DETERMINATION

POLICY ADVISOR
COORDINATOR

*CHAIR
CHIEFS' EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH

POLICY ADVISOR
COORDINATOR

FUTURE MANDATED
COMMITTEES

ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

ROLE OF THE ASSEMBLY

1. The Assembly is a political forum for the Chiefs of Manitoba to meet on a regular and emergency basis to address common issues and concerns with the mission of developing and implementing common strategies and initiatives.
2. The Assembly may, by resolution, mandate the establishment of task forces, working groups, committees, or Chiefs councils on any particular subject matter to facilitate the implementation of the decisions made by Chiefs at Assemblies.
3. The Assembly, as a political forum, shall not function as a political organization separate and distinct from existing Tribal Councils or political organizations in Manitoba, but shall function principally as a coordinating mechanisms for common strategies and initiatives of Manitoba Chiefs.
4. The Assembly shall establish a small secretariat composed of technical advisors and support staff to ensure that the mandates and direction granted at Assemblies is respected, advanced, coordinated and implemented.

5. The Assembly, being composed of all Chiefs as equals, shall ensure that in the composition of its delegated mechanisms, the following principles will be adhered to: respect for diversity, equal regional representation and shared leadership responsibility.

6. The Assembly may, as a measure for building greater cooperation and coordination, establish an Executive Council of Chiefs composed of the designated Chairpersons of all its delegated Chiefs' Committees on common issues and concerns.

ROLE OF ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

1. To implement the decisions made by Manitoba Chiefs at Assemblies and in their Committees on the issues referred to it for action regarding common issues and concerns.
2. To assist the Chiefs and their Committees in formulating responses and positions, strategies and workplans on common issues and concerns.
3. To provide professional and expert review and analysis on policy and program developments and to assist Chiefs in the development of policies and programs that are respectful and cognizant of Indian rights and interests.
4. To collect and compile a library of resource material and literature for the use and benefit of the First Nations in Manitoba, with the objective of providing data and information to substantiate First Nations' positions and assertions on various areas of endeavor and activities.
5. To assist the Chiefs and their Committees in coordinating their activities on common issues and, in particular, to help in the organization of workshops, committee meetings, conferences and Chiefs Assemblies.

6. To assist the Chiefs and their Committees in coordinating and preparing for meetings with the Provincial Government officials and/or Ministers on matters regarded by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs as common issues.
7. To assist the Chiefs and their Committees in their relationship with the federal Government and, in particular, their ongoing discussions and dealings with appropriate Federal Government departments, such as Health and Welfare, Solicitor-General, Justice and DIAND.
8. To provide professional and expert advice to the Chiefs and their Committees available in the Secretariat or purchased through consulting services.

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
EXECUTIVE COALITION
FOR
SOCIO-ECONOMIC JUSTICE
ON
INDIAN CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES**

**PROPOSED COMMITTEE
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. To give direction and provide leadership for the development of a new arrangement on Indian child and family services within the context of Indian self-government.
2. To assign and delegate tasks related to the preparation and organization of work involved to support the joint strategies and activities such as dissemination of information, development of position paper, policies and programs, research and analysis on child and family matters.
3. To promote cooperation, to ensure coordination, and to ensure fulfillment of the joint strategies of development, such as:
 - (a) development of Indian standards, policies, and progress within the context of Indian culture and tradition,
 - (b) to review federal and provincial laws and subsequent amendments (regulations and policies) and to assist their impact on the right to self-government and to actively promote alternatives of same,
 - (c) develop strategies and positions consistent with the right to self-government,
 - (d) to identify, develop, and codify Indian Child and Family law.
4. To organize and provide leadership in preserving the special historical relationship with the Federal government, including developing a proactive policy of non-cooperation and active resistance to the apparent federal strategy of making Indians subject to Provincial laws and government.
5. To ensure participation of elders in the work and activities as advisors.

CHIEFS' EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON SELF-DETERMINATION AND TREATIES

Terms of Reference

1. The Chiefs' Executive Council is a political unit of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs charged with the authority and responsibility of addressing common issues and concerns, common plans and strategies, and common goals and objectives on the assertion and advancement of the right to self-government, lands and resources, and other aboriginal and treaty rights for First Nations in Manitoba.
2. The Chiefs' Executive Council is established by, takes direction from, reports to, and is accountable to the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs; and, in the conduct of its authority and responsibilities, shall operate on the principles of respect for diversity and respect for the historic traditional rights of the Indian people to decide their own destiny through the exercise of their common freedoms, free from the interference or intrusion of internal and external aggression and suppression.
3. The Chiefs' Executive Council shall, in the course of conducting its planning and in the implementation of its plans, operate with due regard and respect for the existing political and social organizations currently operating within the Indian political environment, but may undertake to organize common efforts and fronts through the creation of new initiatives, provided these new methods of organization help advance the assertion and the realization of self-determination and the implementation of treaties.

4. The Chiefs' Executive Council shall have the authority to organize a technical and support group of advisors and workers who shall become the nucleus of a larger group of technicians/advisors drawn together from existing Indian political and social organizations. In the organization of its work, the Chiefs' Executive Council may establish working groups, task forces, subcommittees, or such other mechanisms and processes needed to advance the political, legal and distinct rights of First Nations.
5. More specifically in the matter of the core group of advisors and technicians, this Chiefs' Executive Council, limited only by its budget, may retain the services of qualified and experienced personnel or retain consultants, subject to the requirements that all technical and support staff shall operate in and from the offices of the Assembly Secretariat to ensure that proper coordination and cooperation exists in relation to the other Committees of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and any future common initiatives of the Chiefs of Manitoba.
6. The Chiefs' Executive Council shall establish a community and public education strategy to promote and enhance understanding and support for the treaty and aboriginal rights of First Nations in Manitoba.
7. The Chiefs' Executive Council shall establish a community education program for the citizens of First Nations to help promote community understanding and support for Indian rights and for the need to assert those rights; and, to promote the urgent need for the revitalization and restoration of Indian society.

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
AND
SECRETARIAT**

**A MODEL
FOR
POLITICAL COORDINATION AND COOPERATION
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3. That the overriding concern in this common pursuit to preserve and enhance our rights and freedoms as distinct people is the restoration of our cultures and societies through the implementation of Treaties and through the exercise and practice of our rights to self-determination.
4. That as leaders, we must take greater care in ensuring that we do not unwittingly prejudice our rights and freedoms as distinct peoples by our behavior, actions and initiatives on matters related to the application and implementation of policies and programs developed by other governments.
5. That, despite the existence of various forms of Indian organizations in Manitoba, the Chiefs of Manitoba recognize the need for political and technical cooperation and coordination as we seek solutions to common problems and issues.
6. That we must strive to find a consensus on how we wish to work together on common issues, and, in that connection, agree on a model for political cooperation and consideration before we return to our respective communities.

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Given the above analysis, the option that may find the most support at this time in our common fronts is to confirm the need for a political forum that will give the Chiefs the opportunity to address common issues and concerns through the creation of specifically mandated committees of Chiefs who will report to the Assembly. In the interest of increasing coordination, however, the Chiefs may consider establishing an Executive Council of Chiefs, composed of the Chairpersons of the various Committees mandated by the Assembly.

Under this model, a small secretariat will have the important role of implementing the decisions of the Assembly consistent with the mandate granted at Assemblies.

The following diagram and explanation provides a possible description for this type of model for political cooperation and coordination.

Included in this description are the terms of references for two of the Committees, namely, the Chiefs' Committee on Child Welfare and the Chiefs' Committee on Self-Determination and Treaties.

ROLE OF THE ASSEMBLY

1. The Assembly is a political forum for the Chiefs of Manitoba to meet on a regular and emergency basis to address common issues and concerns with the mission of developing and implementing common strategies and initiatives.
2. The Assembly may, by resolution, mandate the establishment of task forces, working groups, committees, or Chiefs councils on any particular subject matter to facilitate the implementation of the decisions made by Chiefs at Assemblies.
3. The Assembly, as a political forum, shall not function as a political organization separate and distinct from existing Tribal Councils or political organizations in Manitoba, but shall function principally as a coordinating mechanisms for common strategies and initiatives of Manitoba Chiefs.
4. The Assembly shall establish a small secretariat composed of technical advisors and support staff to ensure that the mandates and direction granted at Assemblies is respected, advanced, coordinated and implemented.
5. The Assembly, being composed of all Chiefs as equals, shall ensure that in the composition of its delegated mechanisms, the following principles will be adhered to: respect for diversity, equal regional representation and shared leadership responsibility.
6. The Assembly may, as a measure for building greater cooperation and coordination, establish an Executive Council of Chiefs composed of the designated Chairpersons of all its delegated Chiefs' Committees on common issues and concerns.

ROLE, COMPOSITION, AUTHORITY,
AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE
CHIEFS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. The Executive Council of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs shall be composed of the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the standing and Ad Hoc Committees or councils of the Assembly.
2. The Executive Council has the mandate to monitor and control the Assembly Secretariat, and is responsible for ensuring that the delegated authority granted at Assemblies is implemented in accordance to the spirit and intent of the resolutions that contain the mandates on common or specific issues.
3. The Executive Council includes the Provincial Indian leader who shall chair all the meetings of the Executive Council and who shall be responsible for ensuring the Secretariat implements the decision of the Executive Council.
4. The Executive Council is accountable to the Chiefs in Assembly and must produce written reports at Assemblies indicating how the mandate has been carried out since the previous assembly and what new matters need to be address by the Chiefs of Manitoba.
5. The Executive Council, like the Provincial Indian Leader, has no independent or inherent authority and derives its mandate exclusively from the resolutions passed by the Chiefs of Manitoba at Assemblies.

ROLE, AUTHORITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY
OF THE PROVINCIAL INDIAN LEADER

1. The Provincial Indian Leader is elected at an Assembly by the Chiefs in Manitoba for a three year term of office.
2. The Provincial Indian Leader derives his authority and mandate from resolutions, passed by Chiefs at Assemblies and from other delegated authority granted from time to time by Chiefs of the various committees of the Assembly.
3. The Provincial Indian Leader is accountable to the Chiefs in Assembly and to the Executive Council of Chiefs between Assemblies.
4. The Provincial Indian Leader is the principle spokesperson in common issues and in that capacity may take a leadership role in advocating the rights and interests of the Indian people in Manitoba.
5. The Provincial Indian Leader may or may not be a Chief but the office shall be a full-time salary position with the salary being determined by the Executive Council of Chiefs.
6. The Provincial Indian leader has authority to manage and direct the Assembly Secretariat.

ROLE OF ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT

1. To implement the decisions made by Manitoba Chiefs at Assemblies and in their Committees on the issues referred to it for action regarding common issues and concerns.
2. To assist the Chiefs and their Committees in formulating responses and positions, strategies and workplans on common issues and concerns.
3. To provide professional and expert review and analysis on policy and program developments and to assist Chiefs in the development of policies and programs that are respectful and cognizant of Indian rights and interests.
4. To collect and compile a library of resource material and literature for the use and benefit of the First Nations in Manitoba, with the objective of providing data and information to substantiate First Nations' positions and assertions on various areas of endeavor and activities.
5. To assist the Chiefs and their Committees in coordinating their activities on common issues and, in particular, to help in the organization of workshops, committee meetings, conferences and Chiefs Assemblies.
6. To assist the Chiefs and their Committees in coordinating and preparing for meetings with the Provincial Government officials and/or Ministers on matters regarded by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs as common issues.

7. To assist the Chiefs and their Committees in their relationship with the federal Government and, in particular, their ongoing discussions and dealings with appropriate Federal Government departments, such as Health and Welfare, Solicitor-General, Justice and DIAND.

8. To provide professional and expert advice to the Chiefs and their Committees available in the Secretariat or purchased through consulting services.

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
EXECUTIVE COALITION
FOR
SOCIO-ECONOMIC JUSTICE
ON
INDIAN CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES**

**PROPOSED COMMITTEE
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. To give direction and provide leadership for the development of a new arrangement on Indian Child and Family Services within the context of Indian Self-Government.
2. To assign and delegate tasks related to the preparation and organization of work involved to support the joint strategies and activities such as dissemination of information, development of position paper, policies and programs, research and analysis on child and family matters.
3. To promote cooperation, to ensure coordination, and to ensure fulfillment of the joint strategies of development, such as:
 - a) development of Indian standards, policies, and progress within the context of Indian culture and tradition.
 - b) to review federal and provincial laws and subsequent amendments (regulations and policies) and to assist their impact on the right to self-government and to actively promote alternatives of same.
 - c) develop strategies and positions consistent with the right to self-government,
 - d) to identify, develop, and codify Indian Child and Family law.

4. To organize and provide leadership in preserving the special historical relationship with the Federal government, including developing a proactive policy of non-cooperation and active resistance to the apparent federal strategy of making Indians subject to Provincial laws and government.

5. To ensure participation of elders in the work and activities as advisors.

CHIEFS' EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON SELF-DETERMINATION AND TREATIES

Terms of Reference

1. The Chiefs' Executive Council is a political unit of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs charged with the authority and responsibility of addressing common issues and concerns, common plans and strategies, and common goals and objectives on the assertion and advancement of the right to self-government, lands and resources, and other aboriginal and treaty rights for First Nations in Manitoba.
2. The Chiefs' Executive Council is established by, takes direction from, reports to, and is accountable to the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs; and, in the conduct of its authority and responsibilities, shall operate on the principles of respect for diversity and respect for the historic traditional rights of the Indian people to decide their own destiny through the exercise of their common freedoms, free from the interference or intrusion of internal and external aggression and suppression.
3. The Chiefs' Executive Council shall, in the course of conducting its planning and in the implementation of its plans, operate with due regard and respect for the existing political and social organizations currently operating within the Indian political environment, but may undertake to organize common efforts and fronts through the creation of new initiatives, provided these new methods of organization help advance the assertion and the realization of self-determination and the implementation of treaties.

4. The Chiefs' Executive Council shall have the authority to organize a technical and support group of advisors and workers who shall become the nucleus of a larger group of technicians/advisors drawn together from existing Indian political and social organizations. In the organization of its work, the Chiefs' Executive Council may establish working groups, task forces, subcommittees, or such other mechanisms and processes needed to advance the political, legal and distinct rights of First Nations.
5. More specifically in the matter of the core group of advisors and technicians, this Chiefs' Executive Council, limited only by its budget, may retain the services of qualified and experienced personnel or retain consultants, subject to the requirements that all technical and support staff shall operate in and from the offices of the assembly Secretariat to ensure that proper coordination and cooperation exists in relation to the other committees of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and any future common initiatives of the Chiefs of Manitoba.
6. The Chiefs' Executive Council shall establish a community and public education strategy to promote and enhance understanding and support for the treaty and aboriginal rights of First Nations in Manitoba.
7. The Chiefs' Executive Council shall establish a community education program for the citizens of First Nations to help promote community understanding and support for Indian rights and for the need to assert those rights; and, to promote the urgent need for the revitalization and restoration of Indian society.

