



ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS

200-260 St. Mary Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0M6 Telephone: (204) 956-0610 Fax: (204) 956-2109

CERTIFIED COPIES
OF
ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

AMC GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**Opaskwayak Cree Nation
May 20, 21, 22, 2003**

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION - KIKIWAK INN
MAY 20, 21, 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTIONS:

- MAY-03.01 MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A TREATY RELATIONS COMMISSION FOR RESEARCH, PUBLIC EDUCATION AND FACILITATION TABLE
- MAY-03.02 MANITOBA FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT INITIATIVE AGREEMENT-IN-PRINCIPLE PROCESS
- MAY-03.03 JOINT CAPACITY BUILDING STRATEGY FOR FIRST NATIONS COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES WORKERS
- MAY-03.04 ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS YOUTH SECRETARIAT ANNUAL FUNDING
- MAY-03.05 ON-RESERVE FIRST NATIONS YOUTH RESOURCE CENTRES
- MAY-03.06 FIRST NATION YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION
- MAY-03.07 KEEWATIN WINNIPEG YOUTH INITIATIVE
- MAY-03.08 AMC RESTRUCTURING - RE: YOUTH INVOLVEMENT
- MAY-03.09 ALTERNATIVE FIRST NATIONS & INUIT HEALTH BRANCH (FNIHB) NON-INSURED HEALTH BENEFITS CONSENT FORMS
- MAY-03.10 ROMANOW JOINT WORKING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE
- MAY-03.11 RENEWAL OF FEDERAL DEPARTMENT AUTHORITIES
- MAY-03.12 CHEMAWAWIN CREE NATION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY INITIATIVE
- MAY-03.13 RECOGNITION OF OKAWAMITHIKANI (PICKERAL NARROWS) FIRST NATION
- MAY-03.14 SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A WOMEN'S CORRECTIONAL HEALING CENTRE IN LONG PLAIN FIRST NATION
- MAY-03.15 MATHIAS COLOMB CREE NATION - RAILWAY LINE

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION - KIKIWAK INN
MAY 20, 21, 22, 2003**

- MAY-03.16 SUPPORT THE CALL FOR A TREATY GATHERING
- MAY-03.17 HEALTH CANADA - FNIHB "PAYOR OF LAST RESORT" POLICY
- MAY-03.18 YORK FACTORY CREE NATION HOTEL AND OFFICE COMPLEX
- MAY-03.19 BOLD EAGLE PROGRAM
- MAY-03.20 ASSOCIATION OF FIRST NATION FISHERMEN
- MAY-03.21 MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF NATIVE FIRE FIGHTERS-BOARD
AUTHORITY
- MAY-03.22 SUPPORT FOR THE STRATEGY AND POSITION OF SPIRIT WIND
ASSOCIATION FOR SURVIVORS OF THE INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL
SYSTEM
- MAY-03.23 ADDICTIVE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS
- MAY-03.24 WEST NILE VIRUS EMERGENCY MEASURES
- MAY-03.25 SWAMPY CREE TRIBAL COUNCIL - CORRECTIONAL / HEALING CENTRE

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.01
Page 1 of 2**

Moved by:

Chief Roy Redhead
York Factory First Nation

**RE: MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A
TREATY RELATIONS COMMISSION FOR RESEARCH,
PUBLIC EDUCATION AND FACILITATION TABLE**

Seconded by:

Chief Larry Soldier
Swan Lake First Nation

Carried

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly mandated the establishment of a Treaty Commission process (Resolution MAR-01.30); the Honouring of our Treaties - development of an implementation strategy (Resolution MAR-01.31); and the development of a Memorandum of Understanding on the Treaty Commission process (Resolution SEPT-02.06); and for the Vice Regional Chief's office to jointly develop a National Treaty Implementation Strategy with the federal government (Resolution SEPT-02.17); and

WHEREAS, it is the Inherent and Sovereign right of all First Nations to enter into Treaty relations and to implement their Treaties, Treaty relationship and Treaty rights on a nation-to-nation bilateral basis by each First Nation signatory and the Crown; and

WHEREAS, Canada's current mandate does not include the implementation and interpretation of Treaties and that under the mandate of the federal Department of Indian Affairs is limited to research, public education and to facilitate a table for discussion of the parties.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly support the Memorandum of Agreement purpose and principles to establish a Treaty Relations Commission on a nation-to-nation and Treaty-by-Treaty basis consistent with the spirit and intent of the Treaties with the objective of starting the Treaty implementation negotiation process commencing with research to advance Treaty issue discussions; facilitate public understanding of the Treaties; and enhance and maintain positive intergovernmental relations; and

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.01
Page 2 of 2**

**RE: MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A
TREATY RELATIONS COMMISSION FOR RESEARCH,
PUBLIC EDUCATION AND FACILITATION TABLE**

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to call on the Crown in right of Canada and the Prime Minister to establish a Treaty implementation negotiation process for proper recognition and implementation of the Treaties, Treaty relationship and Treaty rights.

**CERTIFIED COPY
of a Resolution Adopted
on May 20, 21 & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba**



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.02

Moved by:

Chief Morris Shannacappo,
Rolling River First Nation

**RE: MANITOBA FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT INITIATIVE
AGREEMENT-IN-PRINCIPLE PROCESS**

Seconded By:

Chief Gilbert Andrews,
God's Lake First Nation

WHEREAS, Resolution Mar.01.36 mandated the Grand Chiefs of AMC, MKO and SCO to develop a comprehensive package on the Manitoba Framework Agreement Initiative ("FAI") for assessment by First Nation leadership and communities; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Chiefs have been provided with an overview of the Agreements-in- Principle discussions currently being held with Canada; and

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Chiefs support and approve continued negotiations of self-government through the FAI.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct FAI to continue negotiations towards completion and signing of Agreements-in-Principle; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chiefs to sign completed Agreements-in-Principle for presentation to the First Nations communities to further ensure community consultation and seek further direction to guide the FAI towards a Final Agreement.

CERTIFIED COPY

**of a Resolution Adopted on May 20, 21, & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba**



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.03

Moved by:

Chief Tina Leveque,
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation

**RE: JOINT CAPACITY BUILDING STRATEGY FOR FIRST
NATIONS COMMUNITY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WORKERS**

Seconded By:

Chief Larry Soldier,
Swan Lake First Nation

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) has provided separate mandates by resolution to the Aboriginal Education for Health & Human Services (AEHHS) in 1989, and the Manitoba First Nations Wellness Working Group (MCWWG) in 1992, to provide culture-based training for community-based CHR and NNADAP, and BFI and BHC workers; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the AEHHS and MCWWG has developed a *Joint Capacity Building Strategy*, which is a coordinated approach to providing accredited education and training opportunities for front-line community health workers; and

WHEREAS, the *Joint Capacity Building Strategy* calls for an integrated mandate for both the AEHHS and MCWWG resulting in a new Management Board and a shared administration that requires approval by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly approves the *Joint Capacity Building Strategy* of the AEHHS and MCWWG and supports the establishment of a Joint Management Board responsible for overseeing the development, implementation, and overall management of the *Joint Capacity Building Strategy*.

CERTIFIED COPY

***of a Resolution Adopted on May 20, 21, & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba***



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.04

Moved by:

Chief Ron Evans,
Norway House Cree Nation

**RE: ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS YOUTH SECRETARIAT
ANNUAL FUNDING**

Seconded By:

Chief Morris Shannacappo,
Rolling River First Nation

WHEREAS, the Chiefs in Assembly passed Resolution APR-99.01 in support of the establishment of the Youth Secretariat within the organization of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, to address youth issues through networking, advocacy, representation, and capacity building; and

WHEREAS, the Youth Secretariat currently receives approximately 4.2% of the Annual Youth Budget of the Human Resource Development annual funding; and

WHEREAS, the Youth Secretariat has made progress in achieving its objectives within the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the Youth Secretariat and Youth Advisory Committee in their efforts to address youth issues; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly request an increase of the annual funding for the Youth Secretariat within the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to correspond to 5% of the Annual Youth Budget from the Manitoba First Nations Human Resource Development Agreement starting April 1, 2004.

CERTIFIED COPY

***of a Resolution Adopted on May 20, 21, & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba***



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.05

Moved by:

Chief Nelson Leask,
Sapotaweyak Cree Nation

**RE: ON-RESERVE FIRST NATIONS YOUTH RESOURCE
CENTRES**

Seconded By:

Chief Tina Leveque,
Brokenhead First Nation

WHEREAS, First Nations youth in Manitoba experience negative social conditions as exhibited by extreme rates in unemployment, suicide and incarceration; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the First Nations youth population is increasing at a rate beyond mainstream society and financial resources and programs for youth are inadequate to meet existing needs; and

WHEREAS, one of the ongoing concerns of Manitoba First Nations youth is to have places to go in times of need and for positive development of life skills and other skills.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the development of on-reserve First Nation Youth Resource Centres to be operated by the youth for the benefit of the youth; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the objective of the First Nations Youth Resource Centres will be for youth to have a place to go in times of need and for positive development of life skills, youth suicide prevention, traditional, spiritual and cultural development, parenting, peer counselling, access to employment and training, for the long-term benefit of the individual and the community; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Youth Secretariat lead this initiative with the support of the Manitoba Chiefs.

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**of a Resolution Adopted on May 20, 21, & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba**



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.06

Moved by:

Chief Russell Harper,
Garden Hill First Nation

Seconded By:

Headman Chris Baker,
O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree
Nation

CARRIED

RE: FIRST NATION YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION

WHEREAS, Aboriginal youth in Canada have a suicide rate five to six times higher than non-Aboriginal youth; and

WHEREAS, in Manitoba there were 25 reported suicides in First Nation communities in 2002 and 14 reported First Nation suicides to date in 2003; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no coordinated effort in the area of suicide prevention in First Nation communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs in Assembly direct the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs to establish a visioning committee to develop a suicide prevention strategy for research, development and implementation of resources for First Nation communities; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Youth Secretariat take the lead role in coordination of the AMC suicide prevention visioning committee and development of a communication strategy to promote awareness, education and culturally appropriate solutions in the area of suicide prevention; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Youth Secretariat continue to work with First Nations youth over the next year to create community-based solutions focusing on suicide prevention education and awareness among First Nation youth.

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***of a Resolution Adopted on May 20, 21, & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba***



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.07

Moved by:

Chief Darren Audy,
Wuskwi Sipiik Cree Nation

RE: KEEWATIN WINNIPEG YOUTH INITIATIVE

Seconded By:

Chief Phillip Buck,
Mosakahiken Cree Nation

WHEREAS, Keewatin Winnipeg Youth Initiative has provided training, resources, and work experience opportunities for urban Aboriginal youth living in Winnipeg; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, Keewatin Winnipeg Youth Initiative has received funding from Canadian Heritage under the Urban Multi-Purpose Aboriginal Youth Centre Initiative for 2001 and 2002 fiscal years; and

WHEREAS, Keewatin Winnipeg Youth Initiative has secured employment and/or education opportunities for 90% of the youth participants in Phases I & II; and

WHEREAS, Keewatin Winnipeg Youth Initiative is currently seeking funding from Canadian Heritage under the Urban Multi-Purpose Aboriginal Youth Centre Initiative for a third year and is currently working on strategies and options for long-term core funding and facility for the Keewatin Winnipeg Youth Initiative.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs in Assembly support the development of a long-term strategy for the Keewatin Winnipeg Youth Initiative in partnership with the AMC Youth Secretariat; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Youth Secretariat take the lead role in assisting the Keewatin Winnipeg Youth Initiative in securing additional funding resources.

CERTIFIED COPY

of a Resolution Adopted on May 20, 21, & 22, 2003

OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.08

Moved by:

Chief Ron Evans,
Norway House First Nation

RE: AMC RESTRUCTURING - RE: YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

Seconded By:

Chief Florence McLean,
Lake Manitoba First Nation

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs is in the process of restructuring; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Manitoba First Nations Youth Secretariat is not expressly included within the Constitution of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs; and

WHEREAS, at the 6th Regional Youth Gathering, the youth in assembly passed Resolution #2003-04-03, to lobby for formalized inclusion of a Youth Secretariat in the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs in Assembly support the inclusion of the Manitoba First Nations Youth Secretariat and its components within the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Constitution.

CERTIFIED COPY

of a Resolution Adopted on

May 20, 21, & 22, 2003

OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.09

Page 1 of 2

Moved by:

Chief Morris Shannacappo
Rolling River First Nation

**RE: ALTERNATIVE FIRST NATIONS & INUIT HEALTH
BRANCH (FNIHB) NON-INSURED HEALTH BENEFITS
CONSENT FORMS**

Seconded by:

Chief Norman Bone
Keeseekoowenin First Nation

WHEREAS, the mandate of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs is to “*promote, preserve, and protect Aboriginal and Treaty rights for First Nations people in Manitoba*”; and

Carried

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs-in-Assembly Resolution JAN-03.09 supported the Manitoba First Nations strategy on the NIHB consent process; and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2003, the Health Canada - FNIHB Regional Director committed for AMC to develop an alternative consent form; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly of First Nations Resolution no. 15/2002 at the July 2002 Kahnawake Assembly and AMC Resolution SEPT-02.01 rejected Health Canada’s NIHB blanket Client Consent form because it violates Treaty rights and other rights of First Nations peoples; and

WHEREAS, the federal Minister of Health and the FNIHB Regional Director, Manitoba Region have stated the implementation deadline of September 1, 2003 in their letter of October 2, 2002 and March 31, 2003 respectively. (*see attached*)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly continue individually and collectively their political pressure and lobbying of the federal government and request Aboriginal and First Nations’ professionals and organizations to write letters to the Minister of Health on the NIHB client consent issue; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the three Grand Chiefs of AMC, MKO and SCO to meet with the Minister of Health Canada to discuss the changes to the NIHB client consent form; and

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.09

Page 2 of 2

**RE: ALTERNATIVE FIRST NATIONS & INUIT HEALTH
BRANCH (FNIHB) NON-INSURED HEALTH BENEFITS
CONSENT FORMS**

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct that Health Canada's NIHB Client Consent form be split into three consent forms (treatment, drug utilization review, research) so that health care professionals can continue to provide treatment without obstruction, while further changes are being advanced.

CERTIFIED COPY

of a Resolution Adopted

on May 20, 21 & 22, 2003

OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

Minister of Health



Ministre de la Santé

The Honourable/L'honorable A. Anne McLellan

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0K9

OCT 02 2002

Mr. Dennis White Bird
Grand Chief
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
200 - 260 St. Mary Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0M6

OCT 09 2002
89

Dear Grand Chief White Bird:

Thank you for your correspondence of June 13, 2002, in which you request a meeting with me to discuss the implementation of client consent by the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program of Health Canada's First Nations and Inuit Health Branch.

Unfortunately, prior commitments prevent me from meeting with you at this time. However, I have asked one of my officials, Mr. Ian Potter, Assistant Deputy Minister of the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch, to meet with you on my behalf, to discuss this important matter and provide answers to your questions. You may wish to contact Mr. Potter directly at (613) 957-7701.

The consent initiative undertaken by the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program would ensure that the privacy rights of clients are fully respected by the Program in accordance with existing legislation, including the *Privacy Act* and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. It would also enable the Program to collect, use and disclose client personal information in order to provide them with the benefits and services to which they are entitled, while ensuring that claims are processed in an effective and efficient manner.

Over the past two years, the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch has worked with First Nations representatives to develop the process for consent and the materials required to move the initiative forward. Discussions on the consent initiative commenced in May 2000 with the National Joint Steering Committee. In the spring of 2001, the Committee created a joint Assembly of First Nations /Inuit

Canada

Tapiriit Kanatami/First Nations Inuit Health Branch Consent Advisory Sub-Committee, to assist the Program with the development of the process and the consent materials. Within this process, feedback from meetings with First Nations organizations, from the consent test sites, and from presentations across the country since the fall of 2001, has been used to revise and finalize the consent materials. Translation of the material into aboriginal languages is part of the process. Based on the feedback and the need to extend the time frame to consider all information received, the consent initiative will commence in September 2002 and run until September 1, 2003, after which time the requirement for consent will become policy.

Considering the need to respect the privacy rights of individual First Nations people and the possibility that clients may face hardships should non-insured health benefits be unavailable without a consent process in place, it is essential that this process move forward.

I have forwarded the issues document included with your letter to Health Canada's Non-Insured Health Benefit's staff to respond directly.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Anne McLellan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "A. Anne" and the last name "McLellan" clearly distinguishable.

A. Anne McLellan



First Nations and Inuit
Health Branch
Suite 300
391 York Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 4W1

APR 07 2003

Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

100-1-1
AMC

March 31, 2003

Grand Chief Dennis White Bird
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
200-260 St. Mary Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 0M6

Dear Grand Chief White Bird:

I am writing as a follow-up to our conversation about consent on March 24, 2003.

As I indicated in my conversation it is clear that the September 1, 2003 date for implementation of the consent initiative is firm.

In order to ensure that communities, and individuals understand this, First Nations and Inuit Health Branch has begun a national advertising campaign that will inform people about consent, and the deadline for completing the form.

As I indicated, there is still time to develop a "made in Manitoba" consent form; however, any form that is developed must meet the legal requirements of Health Canada, and be approved by the Department of Justice. In addition, the form must be operationally viable. Given these requirements, and the looming September 1, 2003 deadline, time is of the essence if Manitoba wishes to use a form of its own design.

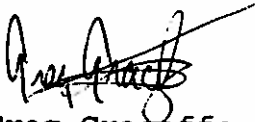
It is also timely to consider what will happen after September 1, 2003 should Manitoba not develop an acceptable form, or otherwise fail to have a significant uptake on the provision of consent.

.../2

While NIHB benefits will continue to be provided, there will be two processes for paying benefits. Those who have provided consent will continue to receive their benefits as they have in the past. All others will continue to receive benefits, but will have to apply for reimbursement of the benefits they will have already paid for.

I trust the foregoing accurately captures the essence of our conversation.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Graceffo", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Greg Graceffo
Regional Director
FNIHB, Manitoba Region

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.10
Page 1 of 2**

Moved by:

Chief Cornell Pashe
Dakota Tipi First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Ron Evans
Norway House Cree Nation

CARRIED

**RE: ROMANOW JOINT WORKING GROUP
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

WHEREAS, the Chiefs-in-Assembly passed resolution Jan-03.12 regarding the formation of a joint technical working group between AMC and the Province of Manitoba to begin a dialogue on the Romanow Report; and

WHEREAS, the Romanow Joint Working Group (RJWG) was subsequently established and has had the draft Terms of Reference approved in principle by the AMC Executive Council of Chiefs by motion #10 on April 15, 2003; and

WHEREAS, the First Ministers' Accord was signed by the federal and provincial governments and a separate agreement was signed with the territorial governments; and

WHEREAS, each government and First Nation representative of the RJWG is to report back to their respective governments to seek direction to have the federal government participate (Health Canada - First Nations and Inuit Health Branch) at the table; and

WHEREAS, some of the home care services and personal care home issues are under the auspices of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada; and

WHEREAS, the May 9th, 2003 letter from Minister Chomiak confirmed that he approved the Terms of Reference of the RJWG as presented and *"is prepared to cost-share the continuation of this process on the understanding that First Nation authorities and the federal government each contribute \$40,000 in funding or in-kind support respectively."*

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.10
Page 2 of 2**

**RE: ROMANOW JOINT WORKING GROUP
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly endorse the Terms of Reference of the Romanow Joint Working Group; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly call for the participation of Health Canada - First Nations and Inuit Health Branch and Indian and Northern Affairs of Canada at the Romanow Joint Working Group table.

**CERTIFIED COPY
of a Resolution Adopted
on May 20, 21 & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba**



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.11
Page 1 of 2**

Moved by:

Chief Larry Soldier
Swan Lake First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Frank Whitehead
Opaskwayak Cree Nation

CARRIED

**RE: RENEWAL OF FEDERAL DEPARTMENT
AUTHORITIES**

WHEREAS, the federal government is requiring all its departments to renew authorities for their policies and their programs between 2003 and 2005, under the Federal Treasury Board's Transfer Payments policy; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Council of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs resolved at their April 15th, 2003 meeting: "*that AMC establish a working relationship with the Tribal Councils and their working group ... (to develop) a strategy to find the impacts to First Nation funding resulting from the review currently underway by the federal government and to ensure that first Nation interests are properly represented.*"; and

WHEREAS, several departments (such as Health Canada, HRDC, Solicitor General) have policies and programs that directly affect the funding of First Nations, and these departments have unilaterally begun their reviews; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs initiated their overall review process by renewing authorities to deliver social development programs, and DIAND did not adequately consult with First Nations, and did not consider First Nation recommendations in its final submission to Cabinet and Treasury Board.

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.11
Page 2 of 2**

**RE: RENEWAL OF FEDERAL DEPARTMENT
AUTHORITIES**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to call on the federal government to ensure full First Nations involvement in the development of all federal departmental reports to Cabinet and Treasury Board regarding policies and programs affecting First Nations.

**CERTIFIED COPY
of a Resolution Adopted
on May 20, 21 & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba**



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.12

Moved by:

Chief Clarence Easter,
Chemawawin Cree Nation

Seconded By:

Chief Andrew Colomb,
Marcel Colomb Cree
Nation

CARRIED

**RE: CHEMAWAWIN CREE NATION ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS, the Chemawawin Cree Nation has been a full participant in the economic development strategy for its community; and

WHEREAS, the Chemawawin Cree Nation has achieved an unemployment rate of 15-20% on average by establishing partnerships with Government and the private sector; and

WHEREAS, the Federal and Provincial Governments are reviewing their priorities and policies in the areas of First Nation relationships and interactions; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs is in the process of developing a sustainable development strategy for First Nations; and

WHEREAS, the Chemawawin Cree Nation and its citizens want to continue to participate in the development of any strategy on the sustainable development of its lands, resources, infrastructure, and capacity development in consultation and partnership with both levels of government.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the Chemawawin Cree Nation in its endeavour to fully participate in the sustainable development strategy with the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support any other First Nation that wants to fully participate in the development of any economic development strategy which will be implemented in its community.

CERTIFIED COPY

**of a Resolution Adopted on May 20, 21, & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba**



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.13

Moved by:

Chief Pascal Bighetty
Mathias Colomb Cree Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Andrew Colomb
Marcel Colomb Cree Nation

CARRIED

**RE: RECOGNITION OF OKAWAMITHIKANI FIRST
NATION**

WHEREAS, the members of Okawamithikani First Nation (Pickeral Narrows First Nation) are currently members of Mathias Colomb Cree Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation recognizes and supports the desire of Okawamithikani First Nation Reserve to pursue separate reserve status as guaranteed under the terms of Treaty 6, and to seek membership with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs; and

WHEREAS, the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly pursuant to Article 4.2 recognize the formation of a new First Nation and the right of that Nation to seek membership in the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly endorse and grant the Okawamithikani First Nation full membership in the AMC with full privileges to vote and attend all AMC Assemblies.

CERTIFIED COPY
of a Resolution Adopted
on May 20, 22 & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

PICKERAL NARROWS FIRST NATION

**GRANVILLE LAKE, MANITOBA, R0B 1W0
PHONE (204) 476-8871 -FAX (204) 476-8896**

**Presentation
to the
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
May 21, 2003
Kikiwak Inn, Opaskwayak Manitoba**

I thank the Chiefs of AMC, Elders and the Assembly for allowing me the opportunity to state the case of the plight of my people and to seek support from the leadership, brothers and sisters of Manitoba.

I would also like to personally thank Chief Pascal Bighetty for his unwavering support for myself as Headman of Pickeral Narrows First Nation, but I also thank him for the First Nations peoples of Pickeral Narrows.

I will be brief and to the point with my presentation.

I am sitting here before you today to seek support for Pickeral Narrows First Nation's acceptance into the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs organization. I sit before you today as other First Nations have before me, to assist us in seeking a better life for my people.

There have been other cases where, because of their geographical locations, some First Nations have been a forgotten island of people by the government of Canada. This is not the fault of our Mother Bands, such as Mathias Colomb Cree Nation or their leadership. It is the failure of Canada to deliver on the Treaty promises, the failure of Canada to fulfill their fiduciary and trust obligations to First Nations and the failure of Canada to safeguard the rights and deliver on promises made to Mathias Colomb Cree Nation and its First Nations.

That is why I commend Chief Pascal Bighetty and Mathias Colomb Cree Nation for all their support throughout the years. But I need more support for my people.

The willingness is there from the members of Pickeral Narrows First Nation. Support has also been provided from Mathias Colomb Cree Nation for separate Band Status and the Chiefs of MKO in Assembly, by way of resolution, have also accepted us, the Pickeral Narrows First Nation as members of their organization.

We are asking for the same support from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs at this assembly. To be accepted as a member First Nation of AMC so that Pickeral Narrows First Nation can begin to make strides in improving the lives of its own members.

To provide the Assembly with an example of why we are seeking this support, please refer to the letter from Martin Egan, Director, Lands and Trusts Services, INAC. He states; to qualify and meet the criteria to establish a new Band and Reserve, item # 1 of letter states;

“Evidence that there is regional support for the creation of the new Band (eg. a resolution of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak”

is needed before any preliminary determinations or discussions can begin.

The Minister has also given an indication that he would consider the matter further.

All the other items contained in the letter are currently being followed up and worked on and all documents pertaining to the above are included with this presentation. They include;

- 1) Letter to Grand Chief Dennis White Bird (May 16, 2003)
- 2) Letter from Martin Egan (Apr 28, 2003)
- 3) Letter from Chief Pascal Bighetty (March 7, 2003)
- 4) Mathias Colomb Resolution (Feb 24, 2003)
- 5) MKO Resolution (Feb 16, 2003)

The plight of my people is not unique, other First Nations have tread the same road. I hope the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and this assembly can assist me so I can dually assist and provide for Pickeral Narrows First Nation.

I thank the Chiefs, Elders and the Assembly for giving me the opportunity to make this presentation.

Ekosi, Tapwe Kiche



Office of
Chief Pascall Bighetty
Missinippi Cree Nation
Mathias Colomb Indian Band

P.O. Box 135
Pukatawagan, MB R0B 1G0
Phone: 1-204-553-2088-2089 Home: 1-204-553-2142
Cell: 1-204-627-0396 Fax: 1-204-553-2419

March 07, 2003

Headman, Leslie Baker
Granville Lake, Manitoba

Headman, Neil Nice
Sherridon, Manitoba

Headman, Matthew Morin
Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan

Dear Honorable and Respected Headmen:

This is to advise you that I, as Chief of the Mathias Colomb Indian Band which include Granville Lake, Sherridon and Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan, hereby recognize your leadership(s) to speak for the MCB members living in the communities of Granville Bay, Sherridon, and Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan.

Indian Affairs, MKO, AMC are informed of this decision which was presented to the recent MKO meeting in The Pas.

Thank you,

Chief Pascall Bighetty

c.c. All Banc Councillors

“Home of the Missinippi Challenge”

MANITOBA KEEWATINOWI OKIMAKANAK INC.
 CHIEFS SPECIAL ASSEMBLY
 Wescana Inn, The Pas, Manitoba
 February 19, 20, 2003

RESOLUTION: 2003-February #16 (Rev.1)

Page 1

**RE: Granville Lake, Sherridan and Sandy Bay Membership in
 Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak**

WHEREAS, The Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO) and Assembly of the Manitoba Chiefs have accepted the O-Pipon-Na-Piwin First Nation into their membership; and,

WHEREAS, the O-Pipon-Na-Piwin First Nation is represented by a Headman as they continue to negotiate their Reserve Status; and,

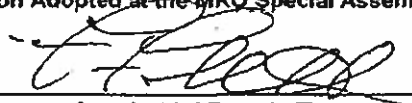
WHEREAS, Granville Lake, Manitoba has 180 Mathias Colomb Cree Nation members, Sherridan, Manitoba represents 110 Mathias Colomb Cree Nation members and Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan represents 240 Mathias Colomb Cree Nation members who do not belong to either AMC and MKO; and,

WHEREAS, these communities are negotiating their own individual reserve status with the support of the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the MKO Chiefs-in-Assembly accept in principle the Granville Lake, Sherridan Manitoba and Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan First Nations and their Headmen as members of Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak subject to the receipt of a First Nation Council Resolution from the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation.

MOVED BY: Chief Pascal Bighetty, Mathias Colomb First Nation
SECONDED BY: Chief Phillip Buck, Mosakahiken Cree Nation
CARRIED: YES

Certified Copy of a Resolution Adopted at the MKO Special Assembly - February 19 & 20, 2003


 Grand Chief Francis Flett

Mathias Colomb Band Government



1043

MISSISSIPPI RIVER
PUKATAWAGAN, MANITOBA R0B 1G0
TELEPHONE 1-204-553-2089-2090
1-204-553-2419

BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION
RÉSOLUTION DE CONSEIL DE BANDE

File reference no - N° de référence du dossier

NOTE The words "from our Band Funds", "capital" or "revenue" whichever is the case, must appear in all resolutions requesting expenditures from Band Funds.
NOTA Les mots "des fonds de notre bande", "capital" ou "revenu" selon le cas doivent paraître dans toutes les résolutions portant sur des dépenses à même les fonds des bandes.

		Cash free balance - Solde disponible	
The Council of the Le conseil de	Mathias Colomb	Capital account Compte capital	\$ _____
Date of duly convened meeting Date de l'assemblée dument convoquée	2013 12 40	Revenue account Compte revenu	\$ _____

DO HEREBY RESOLVE:
DECIDE PAR LES PRÉSENTES:

Whereas; Missinippi people has always resided in Keewatinak-Askey (Hughes Lake) Okawamithikani (Granville Lake) Kaministikochiwak (Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan), Wiposka Sakahikanik (Burntwood), Kissisinowi Sakahikanik (Kississing Lake) as separate Nations

Whereas; In 1911 without their consent Burntwood Lake, Granville Lake, Hughes Lake, Kississing Lake, and Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan were admitted into the Mathias Colomb Indian Band, and

Whereas; On March 30, 1999, Keewatinak Askay (Black Sturgeon) people were admitted as a separate reserve, and

Whereas; In February 20, 2003 Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak accepted the three head persons from Granville Lake, Sherridon, and Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan as members of the Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak,

Hereby Resolve, That we the Chief and Council of the Mathias Colomb Indian Band honor the request of the three head persons to become part of M.K.O., and

Hereby Further Resolve; That the Mathias Colomb Indian Band respect the wishes of Granville Lake, Sherridon, and Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan Band Members to attain separate reserve status of Canada

Quorum

6

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Chief - Chef)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

(Councillor - Conseiller)

Resolution 04-03-04

Granville Lake Community Council
Granville Lake MB
ROB-OPO

May 5 2003

WHERE AS; Chief and council recognize Granville Lake as separate First Nation and separate status.

AND WHERE AS; The mayor and council support Headman Leslie Baker to convert Granville Lake into reserve status.

AND WHERE AS; We support Mathias Colomb Band to convert Granville Lake into a reserve through the T.L.E. process.

THEREFORE Be it resolved that Mathias Colomb lobbies the provincial Government to bring the contamination problem up to Federal Environmental and Health standards.

AND FURTHERMORE; Granville Lake Community Council will hold a community referendum ratification for reserve status.

Mayor,

W.S. Anderson

Councilor,

Harriet Baker

Councilor

Anna Baker

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.14
Page 1 of 2**

Moved by:

Chief Tina Leveque,
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation

**RE: SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A WOMEN'S
CORRECTIONAL HEALING CENTRE IN LONG PLAIN FIRST
NATION**

Seconded By:

Proxy John Meeches,
Long Plain First Nation

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Aboriginal Justice Inquiry rightfully noted that Aboriginal women currently occupy the most socio-economic disadvantaged position in Canada; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Aboriginal Justice Inquiry rightfully noted that Aboriginal women, particularly Aboriginal youth, represent the majority of residents in the Canadian penal system; and

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Aboriginal Justice Inquiry recommended the immediate closure of the Portage Women's Correctional Facility located in Portage la Prairie; and

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Aboriginal Justice Inquiry recommended the implementation of an Aboriginal culturally appropriate and sensitive correctional facility so as to recognize, affirm and reclaim Aboriginal culture and heritage within the Province of Manitoba; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs recognizes the fundamental and critical need for all correctional facilities, which house First Nation citizens, to provide indigenous philosophical foundations and activities; and

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.14
Page 2 of 2**

**RE: SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A WOMEN'S
CORRECTIONAL HEALING CENTRE IN LONG PLAIN FIRST
NATION Cont'd**

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs recognizes that this process, from the very beginning, must intrinsically include the active participation of First Nations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly support Long Plain First Nation in its attempt to begin the process of hosting a women's Correctional Healing Centre in Long Plain First Nation; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Secretariat to provide political, administrative, and consultative support to pursue the above objective.

**CERTIFIED COPY
of a Resolution Adopted
on May 20, 21, & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba**



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.15

Page 1 of 2

Moved by:

Chief Pascall Bighetty,
Mathias Colomb Cree Nation

RE: MATHIAS COLOMB CREE NATION - RAILWAY LINE

Seconded By:

Chief Andrew Colomb,
Marcel Colomb Cree Nation

WHEREAS, in May 2002, Omnitrax, the owner of The Hudson Bay Railroad which operates the line between The Pas and Lynn Lake gave notice of its intention to sell or abandon this rail service; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, this will leave the community of Mathias Colomb without a means of transportation; and

WHEREAS, the natural resources from the territory have been depleted, and now the recently announced reduction of rail service by Omnitrax will eliminate the fishing season for the summer of 2003. A request for intervention has been made with the Federal and Provincial governments (letter attached); and

WHEREAS, the economic impact of the community without ground transportation has resulted in skyrocketing prices of all goods and services including the cost of transporting people.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC Grand Chief to lobby the Federal and Provincial governments to address the need for an alternate transportation system by constructing an all weather road into Mathias Colomb Cree Nation; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC Grand Chief to request the governments intervene with Omnitrax to prevent them from reducing the rail service until the negotiations for the purchase has been completed; and

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.15
Page 2 of 2**

**RE: MATHIAS COLOMB CREE NATION - RAILWAY LINE
Cont'd**

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly offer political support to the Mathias Colomb Cree Nation in their negotiations with Omnitrax for the purchase of the Lynn Lake line.

**CERTIFIED COPY
of a Resolution Adopted
on May 20, 21, & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba**



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.16

Moved by:

Chief Morris Shannacappo,
Rolling River First Nation

RE: SUPPORT THE CALL FOR A TREATY GATHERING

Seconded By:

Chief Tina Leveque,
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation

WHEREAS, the Treaties are being diminished each and every day, and the Canadian government's attempts to do away with Treaties continue; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, First Nations are concerned and will defend and protect these sacred agreements (Treaties 1-11) from further erosion; and

WHEREAS, the future of First Nations people depends on how well the First Nations leaders protect and preserve these agreements and curtail the activities of Governments from their efforts to erode and do away with Treaties.

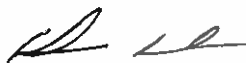
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly provide political support to Brokenhead Ojibway Nation to host a Treaty Gathering in June 2003 to discuss various ways and means to protect and preserve the Treaties; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC Secretariat to provide organizational and technical support along with other political First Nation organizations and Tribal Councils.

CERTIFIED COPY

***of a Resolution Adopted on
May 20, 21, & 22, 2003***

OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.17

Moved by:

Chief Gilbert Andrews
God's Lake First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Tina Leveque
Brokenhead First Nation

CARRIED

**RE: HEALTH CANADA - FNIHB "PAYOR OF LAST RESORT"
POLICY**

WHEREAS, Health Canada's new "payor of last resort" policy effective June 1, 2003 will result in all insurance coverage by public, private and the band employee benefits (BEB) "wrap-around program" being the first payor of bill payments for dental, pharmacy and vision care services and that Health Canada - First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) will only pay for those costs not covered by the insurance programs; and

WHEREAS, Health Canada-FNIHB's new policy was developed without notice or consultation with First Nations leadership and citizens and this is simply an administrative cost-saving measure and off-loading federal responsibility for First Nations health care at the expense of First Nations; and

WHEREAS, this federal policy is a further erosion and unconstitutional infringement of First Nations' Treaty rights to medical aid and health care services; and

WHEREAS, this is negatively impacting the First Nations patient and medical services provider relationship created by the bureaucratic billing problem that is already being experienced by First Nations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to meet with the Minister of Health to ensure that Health Canada fulfills its fiduciary obligations and discuss the federal 1979 Indian Health Policy.

CERTIFIED COPY

of a Resolution Adopted

on May 20, 22 & 22, 2003

OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.18

Page 1 of 2

Moved by:

Chief Frank Whitehead,
Opaskwayak Cree Nation

**RE: YORK FACTORY CREE NATION HOTEL AND OFFICE
COMPLEX**

Seconded By:

Chief Morris Shannacappo,
Rolling River First Nation

WHEREAS, the York Factory Cree Nation has begun discussions with The City of Winnipeg to convert 260 and 280 St. Mary Avenue to urban reserve; and,

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the York Factory Cree Nation has completed architectural drawings which capture a proposed Hotel and Office Complex for First Nations use; and,

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs have expressed their desire to establish a Manitoba First Nations Government House; and,

WHEREAS, the York Factory Cree Nation has incorporated the vision of a Manitoba First Nations Government House into the design of the proposed Hotel and Office Complex; and,

WHEREAS, there are adequate provisions in the proposed Hotel and Office Complex to accommodate the functions and requirements of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the York Factory Cree Nation's initiative to convert lands in downtown Winnipeg to reserve status; and,

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.18
Page 2 of 2**

**RE: YORK FACTORY CREE NATION HOTEL AND OFFICE
COMPLEX Cont'd.**

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly support the York Factory Cree Nation's vision for the proposed Hotel & Office Complex; and,

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC Secretariat to discuss a potential lease arrangement with York Factory Cree Nation to accommodate the Manitoba First Nations Government House and supporting governance functions.

**CERTIFIED COPY
of a Resolution Adopted
on May 20, 21, & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba**



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.19

Moved by:

Chief Frank Whitehead,
Opaskwayak Cree Nation

RE: BOLD EAGLE PROGRAM

Seconded By:

Chief Ron Evans,
Norway House First Nation

WHEREAS, the Bold Eagle Program was designed to prepare First Nation youth for basic level entry into the Canadian Armed Forces; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the First Nations in Manitoba participate in this program each year by sending 16 to 24 students per year; and

WHEREAS, this training teaches individuals pride, culture and self-reliance; and

WHEREAS, this program opens doors to careers in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada currently commits \$30,000 to the Bold Eagle Program each year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the AMC Chiefs-in-Assembly direct Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to further support the Bold Eagle Program by allocating \$75,000 annually from the Summer Student Career Placement Program, starting this fiscal year 2003/04.

CERTIFIED COPY

of a Resolution Adopted on

May 20, 21, & 22, 2003

OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.20
Page 1 of 2**

Moved by:

Chief Pascall Bighetty
Mathias Colomb Cree Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Frank Whitehead
Opaskwayak Cree Nation

CARRIED

RE: ASSOCIATION OF FIRST NATION FISHERMEN

WHEREAS, the First Nations in Manitoba have never relinquished their Inherent Right to provide for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, their Inherent Rights include the harvesting of fish to provide a livelihood for their families; and

WHEREAS, the Saskatchewan River First Nation fishermen are experiencing severe economic hardship due to the restrictions on marketing their fish that are being imposed by the Manitoba Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation; and

WHEREAS, the Saskatchewan River First Nation fishermen have located several huge markets for their fish including Taiwan and China which would greatly increase the profitability of fish sales for First Nation fishermen if they were able to access these markets.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly provide political support to the Saskatchewan River First Nation fishermen in affirming their Inherent Right to market their fish in order to sustain a livelihood for their families; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that an Association of First Nation Fishermen be established to pursue the affirmation of their Inherent Right to harvest fish to provide a living for themselves and their families; and

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

**MAY-03.20
Page 2 of 2**

RE: ASSOCIATION OF FIRST NATION FISHERMEN

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the said Association of First Nation Fishermen develop and provide a market analysis that will identify the proposed markets including the strength of their commitment to purchase First Nation fish.

**CERTIFIED COPY
of a Resolution Adopted
on May 20, 22 & 22, 2003
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba**



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.21

Moved by:

Chief Darren Audy,
Wuskwi Siphk Cree Nation

**RE: MANITOBA ASSOCIATION OF NATIVE FIRE FIGHTERS-
BOARD AUTHORITY**

Seconded By:

Chief Tina Leveque,
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Association of Native Fire Fighters (MANFF) has been established to provide and promote fire protection services to the First Nations of Manitoba; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the MANFF Board has been restructured to ensure representation from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs; and

WHEREAS, the MANFF Board negotiates on behalf of the First Nations and MANFF for fire services and fire service issues.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the two Chiefs representing the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs on the MANFF Board must be present at any negotiations where fire services issues are being discussed between MANFF and any other party.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that MANFF Board including the two Chiefs be given full authority to negotiate for fire services and fire services issues, which fire services include:

- fire suppression
- training for fire attack crews
- supplies and equipment
- mutual aid agreements between various First Nations
- tree planting to re-establish forests; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the MANFF Board will have the authority to negotiate on behalf of First Nation Fire Fighters to ensure that their right to tax exemption is respected and protected anywhere that they provide services.

CERTIFIED COPY

of a Resolution Adopted on May 20, 21, & 22, 2003

OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.22

Moved by:

Chief Frank Whitehead,
Opaskwayak Cree Nation

Seconded By:

Chief Phillip Buck,
Mosakahiken Cree Nation

CARRIED

**RE: SUPPORT FOR THE STRATEGY AND POSITION OF SPIRIT
WIND ASSOCIATION FOR SURVIVORS OF THE INDIAN
RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs passed a resolution at the AMC General Assembly in January 2003 strongly supporting Spirit Wind; and

WHEREAS, Resolution JAN-03.15 stated that the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs would support and advocate politically on behalf of the Spirit Wind Association by establishing a working relationship that will assist in addressing the issues and concerns regarding residential school claims to be dealt with in an expedient and equitable manner; and

WHEREAS, Spirit Wind presented a Strategy and Position Paper at the May 2003 Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs General Assembly requesting endorsement from the Assembly.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly agree in principle with the Spirit Wind Strategy and Position Paper and direct the AMC Secretariat to meet with Spirit Wind in June 2003 to discuss the working arrangements and support required by Spirit Wind.

CERTIFIED COPY

of a Resolution Adopted on

May 20, 21, & 22, 2003

OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

SPIRIT WIND STRATEGY/PLAN

Presented to:

**Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
May 22, 2003**

Spirit Wind Strategy Presentation
Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Meeting
May 23, 2003

Background:

The Indian Residential School System was a deliberate policy of assimilation by the Government of Canada and a blatant attempt to destroy First Nation cultures and language in Canada. The pain and suffering of First Nations survivors of the residential schools operated by the Churches on behalf of the Government of Canada reached national prominence in 1991 when the experiences of those that suffered abuse at the schools first became public.

Aside from the language and cultural genocide, many of the First Nations children that attended the residential schools suffered physical and sexual abuse that has scarred many for life. The legacy of the Indian Residential School System is intergenerational and it can be argued the root cause of much of the social dysfunction experienced by First Nations people and communities. Resolution of the issue of providing fair, just and timely compensation for the abuse and cultural genocide suffered by those who attended the Canadian Indian Residential School System is one of the most pressing concerns of Canada's First Nations. This is important for the healing of survivors and First Nations communities. To date the Government of Canada has not allowed a fair and just resolution process be developed that takes into account the concerns and wishes of Indian Residential school survivors and their families.

Frustrated with the inaction of the Government of Canada, and their strategy and tactics to control the process without fair and accepted input from residential school survivors and their legal counsel, Manitoba survivors created Spirit Wind in January 2003. Spirit Wind is a grassroots non-affiliated association with the mandate to unite, represent and support Indian Residential School survivors in their fight to receive fair, just and timely compensation for the sexual, physical, emotional/psychological and cultural/language abuse they suffered. Political advocacy, education, public relations, communication and the facilitation and support of work being done by existing survivor organizations and groups are major goals of Spirit Wind. Spirit Wind was established to provide a direct voice for survivors and complement the work being done by legal counsel and First Nations organizations like the Assembly of First Nations and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs. Unity, resolve, commitment, strength of the spirit coupled with the development and execution of coordinated and well thought out action will be key to ensuring the success of Spirit Wind to help win just and fair treatment for all residential school survivors.

Since its creation in January 2003 Spirit Wind has been rapidly gaining key support as a grassroots voice for residential school survivors. A resolution establishing Spirit Wind has been endorsed by survivors across Manitoba and a strong resolution of support for the Association was passed by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs in January 2003. The Assembly of First Nations passed a strong resolution of national support for Spirit Wind and its mission at its national conference in Vancouver held from May 6-8, 2003. Individual First Nations and Tribal Councils from across Manitoba have also strongly endorsed Spirit Wind and have agreed to work closely with the Association to meet common objectives. Other provinces such as Saskatchewan, Ontario and Alberta have contacted Spirit Wind to establish similar grassroots associations. The goal is to have a network of residential school survivor associations across the country to pressure the government and advocate strongly to ensure fair and just treatment for all survivors across Canada.

Spirit Wind is a non-bureaucratic organization with direction provided by a volunteer Steering Committee comprised of First Nations survivors. The name Spirit Wind was provided by an Ojibway Elder and is being registered as a non-profit incorporated association.

Two successful general meetings of Spirit Wind have been held in Winnipeg on February 14, 2003 and The Pas on March 14, 2003. A successful meeting was held with Ontario First Nations and survivors in Eagle River Ontario with over 250 people attending including three Grand Chiefs and a number of other Chiefs. At the meeting strong support was given to the work of Spirit Wind and the development of a chapter for northwestern Ontario.

Requests have also been received for meetings in Brandon, Thompson, and a follow-up meeting in Winnipeg. A "run" to Ottawa, comprised of First Nations youth running on behalf of residential school survivors is being planned to start June 2, 2003 starting in northern Manitoba proceeding to Winnipeg and ending at Parliament Hill in Ottawa. Media coverage is being arranged to ensure the message is conveyed to the public.

Spirit Wind Position on Residential School Issue

Spirit Wind strongly feels that it is imperative that the concerns of survivors are taken into account anytime any discussions or arrangements or deals are being made pertaining to residential school claims. No substantive agreements should be made until the input of survivors and their legal counsel is received to prevent the making of any decisions that may be to the detriment of survivors or their families. Many survivors were victimized and traumatized at a very early age by their experiences in the Residential School System and they should not be re-victimized by a process, system and government that is unsympathetic and unwilling to recognize the pain, suffering and losses they incurred.

On May 7, 2003, at a meeting in Winnipeg, Manitoba Spirit Wind officially presented and tabled its mission statement resolution with the Deputy Minister of Indian Residential School Secretariat of the Government of Canada. The resolution (attached) was also presented to lawyers representing the Catholic Church, the Government of Canada and claimants at a April 23, 2003 meeting held in Winnipeg to discuss the tentative deal between the Catholic Oblates Order and the Claimants to provide compensation for those survivors who attended residential schools operated by the Oblates in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and northwestern Ontario. This resolution was the same resolution passed by the Assembly of First Nations in May 2003.

Key positions advocated by Spirit Wind on behalf of residential school survivors include:

1. Compensation must be considered and provided for emotional/psychological abuse, cultural and language genocide as well as the sexual and physical abuse currently being considered by the Government of Canada.
2. Everyone who attended a residential school should be entitled to some compensation for being taken away from their families and First Nations culture and way of life. The amounts should be provided individually with a minimum amount provided to everyone in consultation with legal counsel for the survivors.
3. The current proposals for the Alternative Dispute Resolution Process (ADR) must include compensation for all forms of abuse identified in point number 1 and not have any requirement (or waiver provision) that will limit or eliminate any legal rights of survivors for entering into this process.
4. The announced \$1.7 billion total to settle the estimated potential 12,000 claims across Canada is totally inadequate. There should be no cap on total or individual amounts provided unless agreed to by survivors and their legal counsel as, in the opinion of Spirit Wind, no real potential value has been determined for the claims and this should not be arbitrarily set by the Government of Canada.
5. A maximum amount of options, including individual rights to legal action, class actions and out of court options such as the ADR process must be provided to survivors for their choice. This is why Spirit Wind passed and presented a resolution in support of the National Class Action in Ontario commonly known as the Baxter Class Action Suit in February 2003.
6. All claims are individual claims of survivors, and any money or compensation provided for their pain, suffering and losses is to be provided directly to claimants and their families. The Government of Canada should provide funding for First Nations cultural, social and languages as part of normal government funding as it does for French Canadians inside and outside of Quebec. Funding initiatives such as the support for First Nations languages announced by the Government of Canada in December 2002 must not be considered as fair and just settlement of language and cultural abuse suffered by survivors and the funding for these programs must not be taken from money earmarked for the settlement of individual survivor claims. This was the approach taken in compensating Japanese Canadians and their families interned during World War II by the Mulroney Government in

- the mid 1980's even though the government was not legally obligated to provide compensation but did it because it was "moral and right thing to do according to then Prime Minister Brian Mulroney".
7. Second generation claims, filed on behalf of survivors by descendants must be recognized for compensation as the impacts of residential school abuses extend far beyond individuals to the families of survivors. This is especially true for those claimants who have, and unfortunately may die, before their claim is considered and settled. The Government of Canada and the Churches who operated the residential schools must not be allowed to avoid their responsibility for compensation by being allowed to delay and avoid the fair and just consideration of claims.
 8. Coordinated and sustained political pressure must be placed on the Government of Canada to deal with survivor claims fairly, justly and expediently taking into account the concerns and wishes of survivors across Canada.
 9. All administrative costs incurred by the Government of Canada, including legal fees and the administrative costs of the federal Indian Residential School bureaucracy, must be separate from the total funding of settlements. For example, the estimated \$750 million administrative costs in the recently announced \$1.7 billion ADR proposal, is totally unacceptable as it represents approximately 45% of all program costs. Reasonable compensation should also be provided to cover legal costs of the survivors.
 10. The Government of Canada must ensure that all steps are taken to ensure that any process put in place to settle residential school claims does not re-victimize, humiliate or put undue stress on survivors and that the actions and tactics of the lawyers and others used to work on behalf of the Government of Canada and the Churches reflect this position.

Spirit Wind Strategy/Plan of Action

Spirit Wind, in support of the goals and objectives outlined in its founding resolution, its mission statement resolution (endorsed by the AFN) and the key positions stated in the above is developing a strategy and plan of action to start immediately. The intent is to develop a consistent and coherent strategy for all residential school survivors, complementing and supplementing the work currently being done by survivor's legal counsel, First Nations political organizations, individual First Nations and various residential school healing associations providing counseling and support to survivors. Spirit Wind recognizes that if these organizations and associations advocate "too loudly or strongly" they will be subjected to retaliation by the Government of Canada and may have important funding cut "often sold as saving taxpayer money or to improve the efficiency or effectiveness of government programming". Spirit Wind, being independent and not reliant on government funding will be able to put the concerns of survivors forward strongly and vocally without fear of retribution from the Government of Canada.

Spirit Wind's overall strategy and plan of action will be evolving, incorporating input from a variety of stakeholders and flexible to respond to changing events. Specific emphasis will be placed to counteract the divide and conquer tactics of the federal government. The goal is to pressure the Government of Canada to have the political will to consider and resolve the residential school claims quickly, fairly and justly.

Since 1993, it is clear that the Government of Canada's strategy has been to frustrate and control the legal process using unlimited taxpayer funds. The current Alternative Dispute Resolution Process (ADR), as mentioned earlier, is unsatisfactory and only deals with sexual and severe physical abuse, as these are the only categories of abuse that the Government of Canada will recognize to date. Spirit Wind has passed a resolution in support of the national class action lawsuit on behalf of survivors across Canada for compensation for sexual, physical, psychological/emotional, cultural and language abuse. In February 2003 Spirit Wind presented the resolution and spoke in support of the suit during the judicial certification hearing in Toronto.

As stated under its key positions, Spirit Wind strongly feels that all residential school survivors should have the maximum amount of options either inside or outside the courts for the fair and just resolution of their claims and not have to solely rely on a process that is arbitrarily controlled and dictated by the Government of Canada. It is

important that the unfair position of the government and counter-position of survivor groups are clearly articulated and communicated to the Government of Canada; the Churches; the national and international media; provincial governments; opposition political parties and individual politicians; the general public; and residential school survivors.

To carry out its goals and objectives the following have been identified by Spirit Wind as priorities:

I. Spirit Wind Coordination Support

Currently all activities of Spirit Wind are being done by a volunteer Steering Committee. With the scope and importance and urgency of the work that needs to be done full-time special events and fundraising coordination is required immediately. Spirit Wind has developed a proposal for the employment of a full-time fundraiser/special events coordinator (proposal is attached).

II. Communication Support

There is a pressing need to provide accurate, consistent and timely information on the myriad of developments, issues and concerns related to the settlement of Residential School Claims to survivors across the Province. This must include factual information through newsletters, regular information and meeting information spots through NCI and other media outlets, interviews with major media outlets, and support in setting up press conferences etc. Spirit Wind is also planning to tape meetings held and make available edited videotapes to First Nation communities across Manitoba. Estimated costs and budgets for communication will be determined in the near future.

Technical support and assistance in the development and circulation of Spirit Wind Communication material, developed by Spirit Wind, for circulation to First Nations throughout Manitoba and the media will be required. The proposed position of Fundraiser/Special Events Coordinator will take the lead in developing and distributing the newsletter working closely with AMC, MKO and the Southern Chiefs Organizations.

III. Meetings/Rallies

The February 14, 2003 and March 14, 2003 meetings in Winnipeg and The Pas were successful. Interest and requests have been received to hold similar meetings in centers across the Province as soon as possible (e.g. Thompson, Brandon, Portage la Prairie). Spirit Wind is also receiving requests to meet and talk with residential school survivors in smaller gatherings. These meetings will be coordinated with Spirit Wind legal counsel to ensure that accurate and up to date legal information is provided at these meetings. Funds will be required to cover Spirit Wind transportation, accommodation and meal expenses associated with these meetings. The parties requesting the meetings will be expected to make and cover expenses associated with the meetings (e.g. meeting room rental, lunches and refreshments). Rallies and protest marches in support of residential school survivors are being planned. This includes the "run" to Parliament Hill in Ottawa and highly publicized demonstration. Individual First Nations will be expected to provide support for their people but additional organizational and support funds will be required. Fundraising, event coordination and detailed budget preparation will be done by the Spirit Wind Fundraiser/Special Events Coordinator subject to funds being found for the position. Spirit Wind will also require support to cover its costs and out-of-pocket expenses for its internal meetings and meetings with other First Nations survivor organizations and associations. These costs will be covered by the proceeds from fundraising events.

IV. Fundraising

To cover Spirit Wind expenses access to funds will be required to plan and carry out activities needed for the success of the Association. To maintain independence "no strings attached" donations will be relied upon. Spirit Wind has developed a proposal (attached) for a Fundraiser/Special Events Coordinator to develop and implement a fundraising campaign. It is hoped the position can be filled by July 1, 2003 or very soon after this date.

Bingos, raffles, and approaching all 62 First Nations communities to each donate \$500.00 have been suggested as possible fundraising activities to raise money.

V. Other Possible Initiatives

The possibility of pursuing a separate class action suit on behalf of Manitoba Indian Residential School Survivors and taking the issue of the Government of Canada's treatment of survivors and their compensation claims to the World Court at The Hague were raised at the meeting in The Pas on March 14, 2003. Spirit Wind will be exploring the possibility of pursuing these initiatives.

Education and communication with the public to publicize the individual and collective experiences of survivors to the public are priorities of Spirit Wind. The Churches, public schools and universities have been identified as avenues for promoting the history of residential schools and to ensure that the stories of survivors are passed from generation to generation of First Nations people. Spirit Wind has co-sponsored a proposal to the federal Healing Fund Initiative to record and publicize the experiences of individual residential school survivors across Canada. It is hoped that members of the Spirit Wind Steering Committee will be able to meet with and make presentations to interested parties. This will be coordinated with a media campaign to ensure that the media, including mainstream and aboriginal newspapers, are informed on the issues and concerns with how the residential school issue is being handled from the perspective of the survivors. Assistance from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and the Assembly of First Nations, especially through the Office of Vice-Chief Ken Young, will be required.

VI. Timelines

It is hoped that the Fundraiser/Special Events Coordinator can be in place by July 1, 2003 to work full-time on the above priorities under the direction of the Spirit Wind Steering Committee. A detailed plan and budget will be produced as soon as possible although due to timing some events may have to be started before a formal plan is developed.

VII. Next Steps

The Spirit Wind Steering Committee would like to meet no later than June 20, 2003 with the Grand Chiefs of Manitoba, AFN Vice-Chief Ken Young, and other individuals identified to discuss and finalize the following:

- a. Agreement on the contents, and endorsement, of the Spirit Wind strategy/plan outlined in this paper.
- b. The working arrangement between Spirit Wind and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, Assembly of First Nations, Tribal Councils and individual First Nations across Manitoba.
- c. Support and assistance that can be provided with no strings attached to Spirit Wind to carry out its work independently.

It is hoped that the meeting can be facilitated through the Grand Chiefs Office of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs and a resolution confirming this be passed at the May 2003 meeting of the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

Spirit Wind Mission Statement

Whereas; Spirit Wind, is a grassroots network that unites into one voice and cause all Aninciabe Survivors who attended Indian Residential Schools throughout Manitoba and Canada.

Whereas; the Indian Residential School System operated by the Government of Canada and the Churches of Canada inflicted and implemented severe physical, sexual, emotional, psychological abuse, as well as a deliberate policy of cultural genocide, on generations of First Nations children across Manitoba and Canada.

Whereas, Spirit Wind is guided by the Spirit and provides Aninciabe People the strength, courage and conviction to fight for dignity, respect and fair, just and expedient consideration and compensation from the Government of Canada and Churches for our pain and suffering.

Whereas, Spirit Wind is determined to gain justice and healing for all Residential School Survivors and families that have endured ongoing pain and suffering as a legacy of the Residential School System.

Whereas, Spirit Wind is on a journey to educate the public, media and politicians on the destructive effects and legacy of abuse and cultural genocide inflicted on First Nations people throughout Canada.

Whereas; the Government of Canada must recognize that everyone who attended an Indian Residential School is entitled to and will receive fair and just individual compensation for emotional, psychological abuse and cultural and language genocide as well as physical and sexual abuse.

Be it Resolved; Spirit Wind will continue to grow across Canada and, unite, and advocate for, all residential school survivors until justice and fairness are achieved as guided by our Spirit.

Proposal for Fundraising and Special Events Coordination

Submitting Organization: Spirit Wind Association (Association for Manitoba Indian Residential School Survivors)

Purpose:

To employ, and provide support for, a qualified individual to fundraise and coordinate special events to assist Spirit Wind in meeting its goals and objectives in support of the efforts of survivors of the Canadian Indian Residential School System to obtain fair, just and timely resolution of their residential school claims.

Background:

The issue of the pain and suffering endured by First Nations individuals who attended Canadian Indian Residential Schools operated by the Churches of Canada on behalf of the government of Canada reached national prominence in 1991 when the experiences of the abuse suffered in the schools became public.

Frustrated with the federal government's inaction to deal with compensation claims in a fair, just and timely manner led to the establishment of Spirit Wind in January 2003. Spirit Wind is a grassroots non-affiliated association created to represent and support survivors in the quest to receive fair, just and timely compensation for the sexual, physical, emotional/psychological and cultural abuse they suffered while attending Political advocacy, education, public relations, communication and the facilitation and support of work being done by other local survivor organizations and associations are part of the mandate of Spirit Wind. Spirit Wind will work closely with First Nations political organizations and survivor legal counsel to provide a strong united voice for Indian residential school survivors. The Spirit Wind Resolution, endorsed by Indian Residential School survivors across Manitoba, which outlines the objectives and goals of the Association and the certified resolution of support from the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs are attached for reference. At its May 2003 Annual meeting the Assembly of First Nations passed a national resolution strongly supporting Spirit Wind. Individual First Nations and Tribal Councils in Manitoba have also strongly endorsed Spirit Wind. A volunteer steering committee plans and coordinates Spirit Wind's activities.

Two highly successful general meetings of Spirit Wind were held in Winnipeg on February 14, 2003 and March 14, 2003 in The Pas, Manitoba where strong support for Spirit Wind and its founding Resolution were received. Individuals from other provinces have contacted Spirit Wind to establish affiliated associations modelled on Spirit Wind. Spirit Wind has been contacted to hold additional large meetings in Brandon, Thompson and Winnipeg as the Association works to network with existing residential school groups throughout Manitoba and to meet and inform survivors across the province. A large-scale demonstration/march to publicize the issue and concerns of residential school survivors is one of many events that are being planned for the spring/summer of 2003. Plans are underway for a highly publicized march of survivors from across the Manitoba to meet in Winnipeg and continue to Parliament Hill in Ottawa for a national demonstration of residential school survivors across Canada.

It is critical that adequate fundraising and planning are undertaken immediately to ensure the activities and work required are carried out successfully.

Proposal

Spirit Wind is requesting financial assistance and support for the hiring and employment of a fundraiser/special events coordinator for an initial period of twelve months to raise required funds and coordinate special events such as the demonstration march. The person hired will also play a key role in liaising with the 62 First Nations in Manitoba and facilitating two-way communication and information sharing with survivors across Manitoba. Efforts will be closely coordinated with the work being done on the residential school issue by the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, the Southern Chiefs Organization, MKO and the various tribal councils and First Nations across Manitoba. With Spirit Wind being non-affiliated and independent and not reliant on federal grants, the Government of Canada will not be able to put financial or political pressure on the Association or threaten to reduce or terminate other program funding for First Nations people.

Due to the pressing need to raise funds and start planning events it is critical that the position be filled as soon as possible. It is hoped that an individual will be in place and starting work no later than July 1, 2003. A brief position description that includes desired personal qualifications are attached for review.

An outline of the proposed maximum estimated 12 month expenses associated with this proposal are as follows:

Costs (July 1, 2003- July 1, 2004)

Fundraiser/events coordinator salary (plus 12.5% commission) - \$14,400 (\$1,200 per month)

Office Space - In-kind contribution

Telephone, fax, photocopier service - In-kind contribution

Telephone costs (includes cell phone) - \$1,800 (\$150 per month)

Office supplies - \$6,000 (\$500 per month)

Personal expenses (gas, travel, meals etc. own vehicle provided) - \$12,000 (\$1,000 per month)

Total \$ 34,200 (not including in-kind contributions)

Spirit Wind Fundraiser/Special Events Coordinator Position Description

Position Summary:

The position will be responsible for fundraising and the planning and coordination of special events such as fundraising events, marches, protests, and general meetings on behalf of Spirit Wind. It will also play an important role in facilitating communication and cooperation with residential school survivors and the various First Nations Organizations across Manitoba. General and specific direction will be provided by the Spirit Wind Steering Committee. The position will report directly to the Chairperson of Spirit Wind or designate.

The position will involve frequent contact and liaison with various associations and organizations in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors. Close liaison and the development of close working relationships with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs, the Southern Chiefs Organization, MKO, Tribal Councils and First Nations in the coordination of special events will be required. The incumbent will be required to demonstrate initiative, develop needed ideas and activities, work with minimum supervision and be able to work with a variety of different individuals in a professional and diplomatic manner.

Experience and expertise in community fund-raising and the planning and coordination of special and or community events is essential. Sensitivity and experience in working with First Nations members, bands and organizations would be desired. Ability to speak one or more First Nations languages and interest and/or experience in the issue of Indian Residential Schools would be definite assets. Some travel throughout Manitoba will be expected.

Qualifications

Strong organizational, administrative, planning, coordination, entrepreneurial and interpersonal skills are essential for the position. Good written and verbal communication skills are required. Good budgeting, basic financial accounting and computer proficiency skills are also required. Ability to work independently with minimum supervision in sensitive and stressful situations is essential.

The position is a one-year term contract and may be extended or revised to meet the needs of Spirit Wind.

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.23

Moved by:

Chief Darren Audy
Wuskwi Sipiik First Nation

Seconded by:

Chief Phillip Buck
Mosakahiken Cree Nation

CARRIED

RE: ADDICTIVE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

WHEREAS, the Chief and Council of Wuskwi Sipiik First Nation have done a preliminary community assessment of the abuse, availability, and purchase of prescription drugs in their community and have found that a high number of addictive prescription drugs are being distributed, that are having a negative impact on the health and safety of their members and on health, social, child and family, and educational programs; and

WHEREAS, the Chief and Council of Wuskwi Sipiik First Nation, through a letter dated May 8, 2003 to the physicians in Swan River have requested that they restructure the process of distribution of addictive prescription drugs; and

WHEREAS, the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association and College of Physicians and Surgeons need to be consulted to address the restructuring of the process of distribution of addictive prescription drugs; and

WHEREAS, the Chief and Council of Wuskwi Sipiik First Nation are aware of prescription drug abuse and high distribution throughout First Nation communities in Manitoba.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the AMC staff, Cree Nation Tribal Health Centre and the Chief and Council of Wuskwi Sipiik First Nation to work with the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association and College of Physicians and Surgeons to develop a process for restructuring the distribution process of addictive prescription drugs for Manitoba First Nations and involve and consult all First Nations in finalizing the development of a restructuring process.

CERTIFIED COPY

of a Resolution Adopted

on May 20, 22 & 22, 2003

OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba



Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.24

Moved by:

Chief Morris Shannacappo,
Rolling River First Nation

RE: WEST NILE VIRUS EMERGENCY MEASURES

Seconded By:

Proxy John Meeches,
Long Plain First Nation

WHEREAS, the West Nile virus poses a serious health risk to the First Nations of Manitoba; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Province of Manitoba has undertaken drastic measures to ensure that mosquito breeding grounds and mosquito populations are controlled; and

WHEREAS, there are no provisions being undertaken to address the West Nile virus issue and the related mosquito control measures on the First Nations in Manitoba.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs Secretariat to take immediate action to ensure that the First Nations receive equal services on the issue as those that are being received by non-First Nation communities in Manitoba.

CERTIFIED COPY

***of a Resolution Adopted on
May 20, 21, & 22, 2003***

OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba


Grand Chief Dennis White Bird

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION
MAY 20, 21 & 22, 2003**

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

MAY-03.25

Moved by:

Chief Phillip Buck,
Mosakahiken Cree Nation

**RE: SWAMPY CREE TRIBAL COUNCIL - CORRECTIONAL /
HEALING CENTRE**

Seconded By:

Chief Ron Evans,
Norway House First Nation

WHEREAS, the Swampy Cree Tribal Council (SCTC) has been offered an opportunity to develop a correctional/healing centre to be located at Egg Lake; and

CARRIED

WHEREAS, the facility will be targeting the provision of co-ed services for 60 individuals who will receive services that will enhance their reintegration into the community.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Grand Chief to provide political support for the SCTC in their pursuit of developing this facility.

CERTIFIED COPY

of a Resolution Adopted on

May 20, 21, & 22, 2003

OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION, Manitoba


Grand Chief Dennis White Bird