



NATIONAL CHIEF
SHAWN A-IN-CHUT
ATLEO

STANDING UP FOR FIRST NATION GOVERNMENTS

**It's Our Time to ACHIEVE
change TOGETHER**

December 2011

Two and a half years of progress

- ▣ Clear national strategic plan adopted in 2009 – ‘affirming our place in Canada and internationally’ with specific action and outcomes achieved on each:
 1. Supporting First Nation families and communities
 2. Affirming our rights
 3. Implementing First Nation governments
 4. Advancing First Nation economies and environmental responsibility

- ▣ Aligning AFN work with First Nation interests NOT Government programs



Two and half years of progress...

- ▣ AFN financially sound – significant deficit overcome completely through reductions in spending / consultants and costs
- ▣ At the same time, AFN increasing support and communications with First Nation governments:
 - Enhanced parliamentary advocacy through weekly updates on all parliamentary activity
 - 4 advocacy days on the Hill with engagement across party lines and hundreds of direct meetings between First Nations and Parliamentarians
 - greater attendance and engagement at Assemblies
 - Enhancing opportunity for focused discussion and resolution

Two and half years of progress

- ▣ Strengthening relationships internationally through:
 - Joint Executive meetings with National Congress of American Indians;
 - Meetings with key ambassadors;
 - receptions organized for FN leaders with international delegations and first china trade mission



**Anticipating and Leading on key domestic and global issues –
ENERGY, trade with ASIA, CLIMATE CHANGE**

Raising profile of First Nations issues and interests

- ▣ Through full engagement in all parliamentary activities – witness to every committee and taking forward First Nation direction and resolutions
- ▣ Increased recognition of the importance of First Nation representation in key events – Olympics, state and ceremonial functions
- ▣ Pressing for change with every audience:
 - corporate Canada,
 - media
 - major NGOs and
 - foundations

Raising the profile of our interests

- ▣ Ensuring First Nation voices are heard in Parliament and across Canada



- ▣ Engaging youth in all efforts - Youth Advocacy AWARD, 3 national virtual summits with students putting their voices first on pse and their needs
- ▣ Youth participation and leadership on key initiatives – such as INDIGENACTION

Focused Plan = Focused results

Clear First Nation rights and First Nation government agenda:

- ▣ Starting right away in 2009/ 10 focused effort to deliver AFN's first ever National Treaty strategy:
 - supporting Treaty Nations – development of key concepts such as Treaty Tribunal
 - working with Treaties 1-11
 - as well as specific focus on pre-confederacy Treaty and, implementation issues of modern Treaties
 - Endorsed by all Chiefs-in-assembly

Focused Plan = Focused results

- ▣ EDUCATION – December 2009 – Chiefs make education a priority
 - through early 2010 – establishing clear strategic plan with CCOE
 - AFN NC June 2010 – National Call to Action on the priority of FN education through media, speaking engagements and full pressure
 - Fall meetings with senior members of government and the Prime Minister
 - December 2010 – Cabinet mandate for first time ever to work with First Nations – report to go to Cabinet and First Nations on decisive plan forward
 - Engagement process with all regions completed – report to be tabled at end of January 2012 for full discussion of First Nations

Focused Plan = Focused results

FIRST NATION GOVERNMENTS:

▣ AGA 2010 – call to support First Nation governments affirming rights and responsibilities:

- Step one: priority on UNDRIP endorsement = achieved November 2010
- Step two: support for capacity building and tools for FN governments = AFN hosts specific planning forums w/out government funding to focus on FN government solutions and strategies
- Step three: re-setting relationship with Canada – FN-Crown Gathering = January 2012

Focused Plan = Focused Results

- ▣ Policy reform working groups on key policy barriers: additions to reserve policy, comprehensive policy
- ▣ Clear Joint work plan with Health Canada on priority First Nation issues on Health
- ▣ Joint work plan with INAC to advance broad agenda specifically building on UN Declaration and Apology.
- ▣ More engagement of all First Nations through Assemblies, and national forums including:
 - International Indigenous Summit on Energy and Mining
 - National Health Forum
 - National Dialogue on First Nation citizenship
 - upcoming forums on key issues: Water and Justice

AFN focused on advocacy and support

- ▣ AFN clearly national advocacy body – NOT national FN government making decisions for First Nations – **but rather supporting all First Nation governments**
- ▣ Major advocacy efforts on resource developments, international environmental issues, water, taxation and community safety including focus on ending the tragedy of murdered and missing women and supporting survivors through compensation process and TRC
- ▣ Opening doors for FN governments through parliamentary advocacy days and receptions, support for delegations in Ottawa

Standing up for First Nation Governments

- ▣ Work is well underway – bridging and supporting First Nation unity through FULLY RESPECTING DIFFERENCES
- ▣ Engaging on every issue to STAND UP for and support every First Nation government
- ▣ Together, we will deliver on full respect for our rights, investment in our communities and we will achieve a BETTER FUTURE for our children.

WATCH for UPDATES at SCA 2011 and into
2012