SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
DECEMBER 6, 7 & 8, 2011, OTTAWA, ON

Resolution no. 50/2011

TITLE:	Support for Ebb and Flow First Nation Development of First Nations Vocational Training
SUBJECT:	Education
MOVED BY:	Chief Nelson Houle, Ebb and Flow First Nation, MB
SECONDED BY:	Chief Cameron Catcheway, Skownan First Nation, MB
DECISION:	Carried by Consensus

WHEREAS:

A. The United Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states:

Indigenous peoples have the right to establish and control the educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning. (Article 14)

Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information. (Article 15)

Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security. (Article 21)

B. Over the past ten years, the leadership of Ebb and Flow First Nation, in consultation with Elders, educators and community members, have expressed a concern for the lack of quality, culturally-relevant career technical training programs for its First Nation Youth. Such programs become ever more critical as First Nations move towards the goal of self-determination and the exercise of First Nation jurisdiction on training and education.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 7th day of December, 2011 in Ottawa, Ontario

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C. The Ebb and Flow First Nation has created a Secondary Vocational Institute Implementation (EFRSVI) Committee to pursue the vision of creating a regional vocational high school.

D. The EFRSVI Committee has conducted a feasibility study that reinforces and confirms the need for a regional vocational high school.

E. The key elements of Ebb and Flow First Nation education include: language immersion, holistic and culturally relevant curricula, certified educators, focused leadership, parental involvement and accountability and safe and healthy facilities founded on principles that respect our jurisdiction on education.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs-in-Assembly:

1. Support the Ebb and Flow First Nation in its assertion of its inherent right to education and in its efforts to establish a centrally-located regional secondary vocational institute for the Ebb and Flow First Nation and surrounding First Nations and communities to accommodate the needs of present and future students and provide increased opportunities in a competitive workforce.
2. Direct the National Chief to write to the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development in support of this initiative and to encourage urgent action in achieving the goals of the Ebb and Flow First Nation.
3. Direct the AFN to work as a collaborative partner on moving forward on the creation of a First Nation Career Technical Institute with the Ebb and Flow First Nation, along with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs.

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