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

Resolution no.83/2011

TITLE:	Housing as a National Priority
SUBJECT:	Housing
MOVED BY:	Chief Bill Montour, Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, ON
SECONDED BY:	Chief Madeleine Paul, Eagle Village First Nation-Kipawa, QC
DECISION:	Passed by the AFN Executive Committee

WHEREAS:

A. Article 21 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states "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 ".

B. In the circular philosophy of life, housing is considered one of the major socio economic factors of the well being of our peoples and First Nations communities

C. Many First Nation communities have been and continue to experience serious and increasing backlogs of new and renovated housing needs, both at home and away from home and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC) priority matrix for funding has not set new housing construction for growth as a high priority.

D. Canada has moral and fiduciary responsibility to protect the health and safety and well being of our First Nation citizens.

E. The government's policy on housing support for First Nations has failed to address the outstanding need for 85,000 new homes. A significant number of communities in Canada, such as Attawapiskat, Shamattawa, and Pikangikum, have suffered and continue to suffer for decades.

F. The upcoming First Nations - Crown Gathering planned for January 2012 will provide an opportunity to include housing as a priority in the discussions and as such this paramount issue must be added to the agenda.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 19th day of December, 2011 in Ottawa, Ontario

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF

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

1. Direct the National Chief and Executive Committee to ensure that the issue of housing rises to the forefront as a National First Nations priority;
2. Direct the National Chief to include housing on the agenda at the First Nations - Crown Gathering in January 2012 in the priority status it deserves;
3. Direct the AFN to allocate the appropriate level of funding to the AFN Housing and Infrastructure Secretariat to support and fully engage the Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure (CCOHI), and the Technical Committee on Housing in this important work.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 8th day of December, 2011 in Ottawa, Ontario

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF