
Assembly of First Nations

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Assemblée des Premières Nations

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SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
December 5, 6 & 7, 2017, Ottawa, ON

Resolution no.96/2017

TITLE: Support Six Nations of the Grand River's Intent to Host the 2020 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG)

SUBJECT: Health, Sport

MOVED BY: Chief Byron Louis, Okanagan Indian Band, B.C.

SECONDED BY: Chief Charles Morven, Gitwinksihlkw Village Government (Nisga'a), B.C.

DECISION: Carried by Consensus

WHEREAS:

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

- i. Article 24 (2): Indigenous individuals have an equal right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. States shall take the necessary steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of this right.
- ii. Article 31 (1): Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of their sciences, technologies and cultures, including human and genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual performing arts. They also have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions.
- iii. Article 31 (2): In conjunction with indigenous peoples, States shall take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of these rights.

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- B.** The North American Indigenous Games (the NAIG) is a multi-sport, multi-disciplinary event involving Indigenous youth from Canada and the United States of America. The NAIG is governed by the NAIG Council as the International Governing Body that promotes and encourages holistic individual development that assures mental, physical, emotional and spiritual growth.
- C.** The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada's Call states:
- i. Calls to Action 88: We call upon all levels of government to take action to ensure long-term Aboriginal athlete development and growth, and continued support for the NAIG, including funding to host the games and for provincial and territorial team preparation and travel.
 - ii. Calls to Action 90: We call upon the federal government to ensure national sports policies, programs, and initiatives are inclusive of Aboriginal peoples, including, but not limited to, establishing:
 - iii. Calls to Action 90 (1): In collaboration with provincial and territorial governments, stable funding for, and access to, community sports programs that reflect the diverse cultures and traditional sporting activities of Aboriginal peoples.
- D.** The Chiefs-in-Assembly passed resolution 12/1996 *North American Indigenous Games* that calls upon the Assembly of First Nations to fully endorse and support any future North American Indigenous Games, and resolution 108/2016 *North American Indigenous Games Residency Rule* that calls upon the federal and provincial governments to provide funding to ensure long-term Indigenous athlete development and growth, and continued support for the NAIG.
- E.** Consistent with resolutions 12/1996 and 108/2016, TRC Calls to Action 88, 90, 91 (1) and the NAIG Council's mandate, having the NAIG hosted on First Nations territories will:
- i. Build off the success of the previous NAIG 2017 competition that was hosted in the Greater Toronto Area.
 - ii. Support the expertise and knowledge within communities to execute large platforms that display the athletic achievements of Indigenous peoples, such as the NAIG 2020.
 - iii. Align with the cultural, spiritual and traditional values of First Nations that view the NAIG as an opportunity for cultural sharing and renewing of bonds spirituality between all indigenous people.

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

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to write a letter of support regarding the Six Nations of the Grand River's intent to Host 2020 North American Indigenous Games (NAIG).
2. Call upon the federal and provincial governments to provide stable and increased funding to the 2020 NAIG and future NAIG's.

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