

**SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
MAY 27, 2014, OTTAWA, ON**

Resolution no. 01/2014

TITLE: Advancing First Nations Control of First Nations Education

SUBJECT: Education

MOVED BY: Chief Ava Hill, Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, ON

SECONDED BY: Chief Delbert Wapass, Thunderchild First Nation, SK

DECISION: Carried; 60 abstentions

WHEREAS:

- A. First Nations' inherent and Treaty rights to self-determination includes the right to develop, manage and maintain our own education systems.
- B. First Nations fully respect regional diversity and each First Nations' right to exercise jurisdiction over education.
- C. The Assembly of First Nations Chiefs-in-Assembly passed Resolution 21/2013: *Outlining the Path Forward: Conditions for the Success of First Nation Education*, in December 2013, rejecting the Government of Canada's October 2013 proposal and outlining five conditions required to achieve success for First Nations children.
- D. On April 10, 2014, the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada unilaterally introduced Bill C-33: *First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act* into the House of Commons.
- E. First Nations across Canada have reviewed Bill C-33 and determined that it not only fails to meet our educational needs, but it also infringes on our inherent and Treaty rights to education.
- F. The magnitude of amendments required for the Bill to properly reflect the conditions set out in AFN Resolution no. 21/2013 would fundamentally require a new piece of legislation.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 27th day of May, 2014 in Ottawa, Ontario

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

1. Reject Bill C-33: *First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act* and demand the government withdraw it immediately.
2. Call on Canada based on the honour of the Crown to negotiate an agreement on a new fiscal framework and relationship for our education systems, in which Canada provides fiscal transfer payments to First Nations.
3. Call on Canada to provide the \$1.9B immediately with a 4.5% escalator to begin closing the funding gap for First Nations education until such time as a new fiscal framework is agreed upon.

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