
Assembly of First Nations

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Annual General Assembly
July 5, 6, 7, 2022, Vancouver, BC

Resolution no. 01/2022

TITLE: **A Renewed Framework Providing Strategic Direction and Action Toward Evolutionary and Positive Change**

SUBJECT: Canada-AFN/Intergovernmental Relations

MOVED BY: Dwight Sutherland, Proxy, Taykwa Tagamou First Nation, ON

SECONDED BY: Chief Robert Nakogee, Fort Albany First Nation, ON

DECISION Motion passed; 191 for, 24 opposed, 14 abstentions

WHEREAS:

- A. In June 2017, the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism (PBM) also known as the AFN-Canada Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and Canada.
- B. The main purpose of the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism/ AFN-Canada Memorandum of Understanding (PBM/MOU) is to advance joint priorities between the AFN and Canada.
- C. The PBM/MOU's processes are not working effectively; as a result, the AFN is experiencing challenges and setbacks when working to advance identified priorities through this process.
- D. Considering the recent change in AFN leadership, the recent federal election, and the Liberal Party of Canada's commitment of "As set out in our permanent bilateral process, we commit to meet regularly with the Assembly of First Nations to make progress on First Nations priorities" there is a great opportunity to change the way that the PBM/MOU on joint priorities proceeds or changes.
- E. Not all of PBM/MOU's current commitments are being honoured, nor are regional needs recognized.
- F. The PBM/MOU needs to be renewed and refocused to:
 - i. address an overloaded priorities list,

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- ii. reflect and incorporate current priorities, and,
 - iii. and speak to regional diversity needs via the development of relevant processes and best practices.
- G.** In a Briefing Note created in September 2021, it was recommended that National Chief's Office determine one of three possible pathways for the PBM/MOU in order to realize the AFN's goals:
- i. Continuing on with current priorities,
 - ii. Creating a new list with removal/addition of priorities but still operating within the current system, and,
 - iii. Overhauling the current PBM/MOU process with possible changes.
- H.** In November 2021 at an AFN Executive Committee Meeting, the current sitting National Chief presented a draft framework entitled The Healing Path Forward Accord (The Accord) with the goal of renewing the 2017 AFN-Canada Permanent Bilateral Mechanism (PBM/MOU) agreement and relationship. The Accord was created as a draft for discussion document and comes from the current sitting National Chief's recent election document The Healing Path Forward.
- I.** In November 2021, the draft framework generated dialogue from the Regional Chiefs for purposes of getting their input into a revised draft of the Accord.
- J.** In March 2022 at an Executive Committee Retreat, a subsequent draft of the Accord was presented.
- K.** An opportunity to reset the direction and improve the current PBM/MOU, the Executive Committee was tasked in March 2022, to undertake consultations within their regions on the Accord, with the intent of providing feedback before the next AFN Executive Committee meeting.

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

1. Support the implementation of the renewed Permanent Bilateral Mechanism/Memorandum of Understanding framework entitled the Healing Path Forward Accord (The Accord), that includes input and feedback from each region.
2. Support the creation and implementation of a workplan that includes a steady timeline and ensures an approach that is inclusive and informative before bringing it forth for negotiations. Some of the steps include:

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- a. Regional Chiefs to bring the Accord back to their respective regions with the intent of providing feedback, and,
 - b. AFN Secretariat to do more research, assess the considerations and technicalities, and compile information to begin the formal development of the Accord.
 - c. Once the second draft is developed and agreed upon by the Executive, a motion will be passed that will result in the signing of the Healing Path Accord.
3. Support the establishment of an ad hoc technical advisory committee comprised of governance specialist, Chiefs from each region, and legal counsel to support the work mentioned above and in turn, will report back to the Executive Committee.
 4. Direct the Executive Committee to issue a final report of the Accord and a suite of recommended structural changes to ensure the Accord includes political processes that will focus on action, continue to advance national priorities while also respecting regional diversity and promoting First Nations regionally led processes.
 5. Support the current sitting National Chief to push the Prime Minister and his Cabinet to agree to renew the PBM/ MOU as outlined in the final draft of the Healing Path Forward Accord document.

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Annual General Assembly
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Resolution no. 02/2022

TITLE: Addressing AFN Governance Gaps

SUBJECT: Requesting a Governance Review of AFN Governance

MOVED BY: Chairperson Khelselim, Squamish Nation, BC

SECONDED BY: Chief Andrew Victor, Cheam First Nation, BC

DECISION Motion passed; 131 for, 5 opposed, 2 abstentions

WHEREAS:

- A. Established in 1982, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) is an assembly of First Nations in Canada represented by their chiefs or elected leaders and modelled on the United Nations General Assembly. The AFN emerged from the National Indian Brotherhood, which dissolved in the late 1970s.
- B. The AFN's purpose is to:
- i. To be a national delegated forum for determining and harmonizing effective collective and co-operative measures on any subject matters that the First Nations delegate for review, study, response or action;
 - ii. To be a national delegated forum of First Nations which, by virtue of their sovereignty, are the sole legitimate source for what it is, does or may become in the future;
 - iii. To be a national delegated forum for the purpose of advancing the aspirations of First Nations and to remain subordinate in strength, power and resources to the First Nations jurisdiction for which it is established to serve;
 - iv. To perform and adhere strictly, as a sacred trust and duty, to the nature, scope and extent of the delegation granted from time to time by First Nations;

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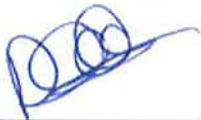
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- v. To seek, utilize and distribute resources for the greater benefit of all First Nations in endeavours that are truly in form and substance national or international in nature and scope and for which delegation has been granted by First Nations.
- C. The political, economic, and social landscape has changed dramatically since the organization's early days, and as a result, the AFN would benefit from a governance review to ensure it maintains its effectiveness and ability to respond to First Nation issues.
- D. Governance includes:
- i. Roles and responsibilities;
 - ii. Stakeholders engagement; and
 - iii. Decision-making processes.
- E. The United Nations Development Program's (UNDP) principles of good governance include:
- i. Legitimacy and Voice;
 - ii. Direction;
 - iii. Performance;
 - iv. Accountability; and
 - v. Fairness.
- F. Article 3 of the AFN Charter sets out the following rules for Chiefs' Committees:
- i. Article 3: The First Nations-in-Assembly shall, by way of resolution, establish a Chiefs' Committee from time to time that will lead work or take action on a specific subject.
 - i. Chiefs' Committee members shall be appointed by Regional Chiefs following each region's formal rules, policies and procedures for the operation of the regional AFN offices.
 - ii. The Chiefs' Committee shall draft a terms of reference at its first meeting to guide the work and forward the terms of reference to the Executive Committee for approval. The terms of reference shall include, at a minimum standard, the authority, accountability, mandate, objectives, composition, reporting structure and timeline for the work by the Chiefs' Committee.

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- iii. The National Chief shall be an ex officio member of all Chiefs' Committees and shall assign, in a collaborative process with the Executive Committee, a member of the Executive Committee as the appropriate portfolio holder to act as the Chair of the Chiefs' Committee.
- iv. The portfolio holder shall select a Co-Chair from the members of the Chiefs' Committee and the Co-Chair shall support the Chair and chair all meetings in the absence of the portfolio holder Chair.
- v. At no time does a Chiefs' Committee have the authority to pass motions that bind the Executive Committee or First Nations-in-Assembly, but instead, the Chiefs' Committee shall provide recommendations to the Executive Committee and the First Nations-in-Assembly for voting purposes.

G. Chiefs' Committees are:

- i. Using many different standards for their respective Terms of Reference;
- ii. Include different Committee composition definitions, including definitions which include up to ten Committee members to form a Committee;
- iii. Often using a definition of quorum as "50%+1 of the total number of available positions on a Chiefs Committee." This means six Committee members must be present in order for the Committee to formally meet, even if there are only six positions filled and four positions vacant on a Chiefs' Committee;
- iv. Finding challenges to officially meet to work on the various Chiefs' Committee goals and objectives set by the Chiefs-in-Assembly, as many Committees have less than ten members officially appointed, and quorum is often not achieved;
- v. Grown in the number of Committees over the years with a sometimes overlapping focus and purposes.

H. In-Camera is a Latin term literally meaning "in chambers" but carrying the meaning "in private". In-camera sessions of a meeting can refer to portions of a meeting that are held in private and treated as confidential to not be disclosed to the press and the public. During these meetings, independent board members are free to challenge each other and speak their mind freely because minutes are generally not taken. Such meetings could be held to discuss and clarify the board's position on issues that may produce opposing views between

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management and the board or to deal with issues that could involve conflicts of interest with management, such as CEO compensation.

- I. An in-camera session of an organization's meeting is sometimes required when the discussion or deliberation of a meeting if made public, could harm the organization. This may include:
 - i. Personnel matters, including leadership succession planning, executive performance reviews and executive compensation;
 - ii. Securing the safety of assets, personnel or property of the company;
 - iii. Litigation or potential litigation involving the firm;
 - iv. Proposed or pending transactions of the company or its subsidiaries;
 - v. Matters involving commercial business and confidentiality agreements with third parties;
 - vi. Personal matters relating to directors, officers, employees or other individuals connected to the firm.
- J. Without clear guidance on the use or process for using in-camera sessions, they can sometimes be used to avoid good governance principles of accountability and transparency.
- K. There is a lack of policies that outline the requirements for meeting minutes, rules for in-camera, and reporting of meeting minutes for Chiefs Committee, Executive Committee, and Advisory Council meetings.
- L. The Chiefs-in-Assembly understand:
 - i. There is a lack of continued and consistent Chiefs Committee meetings that are habitually cancelled or postponed due to a lack of quorum. As a result, much of the work required to achieve outcomes of passed resolutions are not being completed;
 - ii. The inability of Chiefs Committees to meet and achieve its goals is creating a feeling of frustration and risk to funding support and opportunities for priorities established by the Chiefs-in-Assembly (considering a lot of the AFN work is proposal driven);
 - iii. Chiefs Committees, Executive Committee, and Advisory Council meetings are not required to make meeting minutes available to the Chiefs-in-Assembly;

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- iv. Chiefs Committees, Executive Committee, and Advisory Council meetings are not required to follow any rules for the use of in-camera sessions of a meeting; and
 - v. There is a need for good governance policies for Chiefs Committee, Executive Committee, and Advisory Council meeting minutes, reporting, and rules for calling in-camera.
- M. The AFN governance structure includes the:
- i. First Nations-in-Assembly;
 - ii. Confederacy of Nations (currently inactive);
 - iii. Executive Committee;
 - iv. Secretariat (also known as the National Indian Brotherhood); and
 - v. Advisory Councils (Knowledge Keepers, Women, LGBT2QIA+).
- N. Due to the urgent need to address the inability for Chiefs' Committees to formally meet, the Chiefs-in-Assembly need urgent action to enable the Chiefs' Committees to meet their goals and objectives.

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

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and the AFN Executive Committee to take all steps necessary and implement effective immediately the following definition of quorum for all current and future Chiefs-Committees, which can be amended from time to time in a policy or resolution passed by the Chiefs-in-Assembly:
 - a. "50%+1 of the total number of members officially appointed to a Chiefs' Committee."
2. Direct the AFN Chiefs' Committee on Charter Renewal to lead a Governance Review of the AFN.
3. Direct the AFN to provide technical support & seek funding to support the Chiefs' Committee on Charter Renewal in undertaking the Governance Review.
4. Define the following for the Governance Review:
 - a. Purpose: Seek input and feedback on the effectiveness and performance of the AFN's governance structures in achieving the purpose of the AFN.
 - b. Objectives:

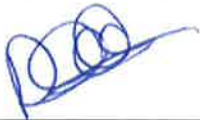
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- i. Seek input and feedback from the AFN Executive Committee members, AFN staff, AFN Chiefs' Committees members, Advisory Council members, and any First Nations interested in providing feedback.
- ii. Collect feedback on what is working well and what is not working well in AFN governance structures to achieve the AFN's purpose.
- iii. Report on findings of the feedback and recommend potential charter, bylaw, or policy changes needed to address the Governance Review findings.
- iv. Process: The process will use digital and paper surveys, a series of focus group meetings to collect feedback, a final written report, and a verbal report to the First Nations in Assembly.
- v. Report & Planning: Charter Renewal Chiefs' Committee will collect data, analyze the results, and provide a detailed report for the First Nations members of the AFN, and provide a verbal report at an Assembly within 180 calendar days of the passing of this resolution. The Committee will prepare recommendations for the Chiefs-in-Assembly on the next steps for addressing feedback in the Governance Review report.

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Annual General Assembly
July 5, 6, 7, 2022 Vancouver, BC

Resolution no. 03/2022

TITLE: Investigation and Audit of AFN's Financial and Management Policies

SUBJECT: Governance & Management Review of AFN

MOVED BY: Chief Wendy Jocko, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation, ON

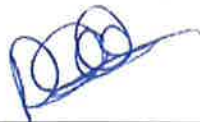
SECONDED BY: Chief Lance Haymond, Kebaowek, QC

DECISION Motion passed; 148 for, 50 opposed, 18 abstentions

WHEREAS:

- A. Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National Chief RoseAnne Archibald was duly elected on July 8, 2021, by the Chiefs in Assembly (205-144) after the remaining candidates conceded defeat.
- B. On that day, the National Chief RoseAnne Archibald made history as the first female National Chief since the creation of the AFN National Indian Brotherhood (NIB).
- C. A major plank in the election campaign of the National Chief was to advance accountability and transparency measures.
- D. The AFN Executive Committee attempted to suspend the National Chief on June 17, 2022.
- E. Chiefs-in-Assembly affirmed on July 5, 2022, that National Chief RoseAnne Archibald was not suspended from her role, and that her AFN email, phone and other benefits be re-activated immediately.
- F. The Chiefs in Assembly seek to establish a path forward built on reconciliation, accountability and mutual respect.
- G. There is a serious problem that exists within the AFN that is causing serious reputational harm to the organization created to reflect the voices of the Chiefs-in-Assembly.

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

1. Direct the National Chief, the Executive Committee, the Chief Executive Officer, and the Chief of Staff to come together and begin a process of reconciliation, guided by our traditional customary ways, and informed by the National AFN Councils, to heal these relationships.
2. Direct the National Chief and the Executive Committee to actively cooperate in the ongoing human resources investigation, being led by the independent investigator, to respond to and resolve the staff complaints in good faith, and to refrain from making any public comments to the media, in the interim, until the investigation has been completed and reported on to the Chiefs-in-Assembly.
3. Direct the AFN to ensure that the agenda for the 2022 Special Chiefs Assembly includes a Report from the HR Investigator and hold an additional Special Chiefs Assembly if required.
4. Direct the Chiefs Committee on Charter Renewal to identify and dedicate resources to fully implement AFN Resolution # 13/2020: *Becoming a Role Model in Ending Sexual Orientation and Gender-Based Discrimination within the Assembly of First Nations*, in conjunction with an independent third-party investigation into the climate of toxicity, bullying, and lateral violence at the AFN.
5. Direct the Chiefs Committee on Charter Renewal to conduct a review, informed by Resolution 11/2021 *Improving Assembly of First Nations Financial Procedures to reinforce transparency and accountability and advance First Nations jurisdiction, priorities, and interests to:*
 - a. conduct a review of AFN financial policies and practices (the "Review") and provide a report with recommendations to the AFN Executive Committee with the intent of implementing the recommendations in the 2022/2023 fiscal year. This Review will have, at minimum, the following scope:
 - i. Identify how the current practice and process of awarding contracts is exercised;
 - ii. Review any concerns, past or present, with conflicts of interest with respect to the National Chief's Office, AFN Executive Committee members, and AFN Secretariat;
 - iii. Make recommendations to strengthen financial policies and procedures with respect to conflict of interest;

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- iv. Review policies and processes with respect to transparency, accountability and reporting to the AFN Executive Committee on contracts awarded, regardless of value;
 - v. Make recommendations on potential amendments to the financial policies and procedures on how to ensure greater transparency and accountability, compliance and consistency with other governance tools and processes; and
 - vi. Make recommendations with respect to potential governance models which distinguish and clarify political versus administrative roles and responsibilities.
6. The Chiefs Committee on Charter Renewal, whose mandate includes governance review, shall also make recommendations regarding the scope and nature of a forensic audit not be limited in time to anything less than 10 years.
7. Direct the Chiefs Committee on Charter Renewal to hire an independent auditor consistent with the recommendations as to nature and scope, and if it is necessary, as determined by the Chiefs Committee on Charter Renewal:
- a. conduct an independent, third-party forensic audit into the previous ten years of financial activity of the AFN, with particular attention to recent AFN salary payouts and contracts; and
 - b. conduct a digital investigation into alleged breaches of communication at the AFN.
8. Direct that the Chiefs Committee on Charter Renewal return to the Chiefs-in-Assembly (otherwise known as the First Nations in Assembly) with updates and a final report by end of fiscal year 2022.

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**Annual General Assembly
July 5, 6, 7, 2022 Vancouver, BC**

Resolution no. 04/2022

TITLE: First Nations Determination of the Reforms to the First Nations Child and Family Services Program and Jordan's Principle Ordered through the 2022 Canadian Human Rights Tribunal Ruling 8

SUBJECT: Child and Family Services

Moved BY: Chief, Duke Peltier, Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory, ON

SECONDED BY: Kevin Hart, Proxy, Mosakahiken Cree Nation, MB

DECISION Motion passed by consensus

WHEREAS:

- A.** The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (the UN Declaration) should be the framework for improvement to child welfare law and policy in order to address the harmful legacy of Residential Schools, such as the forceful removal of children, the disproportionate number of First Nations children in care, the consequences of involvement in child welfare systems, and the related loss of language and denial of culture and human rights.
- B.** The UN Declaration states that:
- i. Article 2: Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity.
 - ii. Article 22 (2): States shall take measures, in conjunction with Indigenous peoples, to ensure that Indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination.
 - iii. Article 23: Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development. In particular, indigenous peoples have the right to be actively

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- involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programmes affecting them and, as far as possible, to administer such programmes through their own institutions.
- C. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) Calls to Action # 1 to # 5 call on federal, provincial, and territorial governments to take actions to improve First Nations child and family services.
- D. The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) has passed several resolutions on child and family services reform and First Nations determination over child and family services:
- i. Resolution 01/2015, *Support for the Full Implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action*;
 - ii. Resolution 62/2016, *Full and Proper Implementation of the Historic Canadian Human Rights Tribunal Decisions in the Provision of Child Welfare Service and Jordan's Principle*;
 - iii. Resolution 83/2016, *National Advisory Committee on INAC's Child Welfare Reform Engagement Strategy*;
 - iv. Resolution 40/2017, *Call on Canada to Comply with the 2016 Canadian Human Rights Tribunal Orders*;
 - v. Resolution 11/2018, *Federal Legislation on First Nations Child Welfare Jurisdiction*;
 - vi. Resolution 53/2018, *Federal Legislation on First Nations Child Welfare Jurisdiction*; and
 - vii. Resolution 16/2019, *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis children, youth and families - Transition and Implementation Planning*.
- E. In 2016, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) ruled that Canada was discriminating against First Nations children and families in its funding of the First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Program on-reserve and in the Yukon. The CHRT ordered Canada to completely overhaul the FNCFS Program and cease its discriminatory funding.
- F. By way of consent motion, on March 24, 2022, the CHRT ordered that several immediate measures be taken to reform the FNCFS Program and Jordan's Principle. These measures are intended to begin to alleviate the discrimination faced by First Nations children and families, while work continues toward the full reform of the FNCFS Program and Jordan's Principle.

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- G.** The immediate measures include that:
- i. Canada will provide prevention funding in a per capita amount of \$2,500 to First Nations and/or FNCFS agencies.
 - ii. Canada will fund post majority care supports for First Nations young adults aging out of care and formerly in care, up to their 26th birthday, at actual costs for the 2022-23 fiscal year.
 - iii. Canada shall consult with the Parties to implement mandatory cultural competency and anti-racism training and performance commitments for Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) employees.
 - iv. Canada shall assess the resources required to provide services to high-needs Jordan's Principle recipients past the age of majority.
 - v. Canada will fund the IFSD to conduct needs assessments related to Jordan's Principle and First Nations not served by an agency. Canada will also fund the IFSD's Phase 3 study.
- H.** On November 16, 2021, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) issued 2021 CHRT 41 calling on Canada to fund the purchase and construction of capital assets for the delivery of FNCFS and Jordan's Principle.
- I.** Investments in child and family services and Jordan's Principle should be available to all First Nations, whether they are pursuing the path of self-governance under *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families*, or for as long as they choose to remain under the FNCFS Program.

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

1. Call on Canada to honour its relationship with First Nations by immediately recognizing First Nations' Inherent Right to care for their children and families regardless of whether they reside on or off reserve.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), to make a submission to the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) requesting that they support First Nations right to self-determination by ordering that all funding provided through the 2022 CHRT 8 ruling be disbursed to First Nations and self-governing First Nations in the Yukon in order for them to determine how to allocate this funding between their governments and FNCFS agencies, and support the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada to make their submission.

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3. Call on Canada to redirect Provincial and Territorial funding for First Nations children living off-reserve to First Nations reclaiming jurisdiction over their children and families.
4. Call on Canada to ensure that any First Nations exercising jurisdiction over child and family services will not receive less funding than they would have received had they remained under the reformed First Nations Child and Family Services Program following the implementation of 2022 CHRT 8.

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Annual General Assembly
July 5, 6, 7, 2022 Vancouver, BC

Resolution no. 05/2022

TITLE: **Support for the Assembly of First Nations Women's Council Mandate and Funding**

SUBJECT: Assembly of First Nations Women's Council

MOVED BY: Chief Constance Big Eagle, Ocean Man First Nation, SK

SECONDED BY: Chief Allan Polchies, St Mary's First Nation, NB

DECISION Motion passed; 141 for, 3 opposed, 3 abstentions

WHEREAS:

- A.** The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UN Declaration) states:
- i. Article 7 (1): Indigenous individuals have the rights to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security of person.
 - ii. Article 7 (2): Indigenous peoples have the collective right to live in freedom, peace and security as distinct peoples and shall not be subjected to any act of genocide or any other act of violence, including forcibly removing children of the group to another group.
 - iii. Article 22 (2): States shall take measures, in conjunction with Indigenous peoples, to ensure that Indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination.
- B.** Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Resolution 16/2001, *Amendment to Charter Re: Establishment of a Council of Women as Recognized and 'Principal Organ'*, under Article 5 of the AFN Charter, established the AFN's Women's Council as a principal organ of the AFN and affirmed the importance of building and strengthening partnerships between men and women in all levels of decision-making within the AFN, as an integral step in achieving an equitable society.

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- C. The AFN Charter Article 24(a) states that, "The Council of Women may discuss any question on matter within the scope of the present Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any organs provided for in the present Charter, and make recommendations to the Executive Committee, the Confederacy of Nations, the First Nations-in-Assembly or to any subsidiary organ on any such question or matter."
- D. The AFN Women's Council Terms of Reference states that the purposes of the AFN Women's Council are to:
- i. Unify and create healthy, happy, and harmonious communities through cultural identity and cultural teachings based on respect, love, courage, wisdom, honesty, humility and truth; and
 - ii. Establish a gender-balanced perspective within First Nations communities within all entities dealing with First Nations, that honours the rights and aspirations of First Nations women.
- E. AFN Resolution 59/2019, *Strengthening and Supporting the Assembly of First Nations Women's Council*, directed that the role of the AFN Women's Council must be strengthened and supported by increased funding, resources and staff support to undertake the work of advocating for the implementation of the National Inquiry's Final Report *Calls for Justice* and the development and implementation of a National Action Plan.
- F. The AFN Women's Council provides a significant advisory role to the AFN Executive Committee and supports the work of the AFN Secretariat. The AFN Women's Council has contributed greatly to advancing issues relating to First Nations women, girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people, which is evidenced in the work done to develop the National Action Plan.
- G. As an organ of the AFN, as explicitly contained in the AFN Charter, and in recognition of the many contributions the AFN Women's Council provides to advancing First Nations women's issues, the AFN Women's Council should be fully consulted with respect to any changes to its role, mandate, scope of the work it does, and advice it provides.
- H. AFN Resolution 46/2021, *Reaffirming Support for the Role and Mandate of the Assembly of First Nations Women's Council*:

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- i. Reaffirms Resolution 59/2019 and directs the AFN to prioritize obtaining appropriate funding, including government grants and private donorship, to ensure that the AFN Women's Council is properly resourced and at the forefront of advocacy for all First Nations women's issues;
- ii. Reaffirms that the AFN Women's Council will remain an independent, principal organ of the AFN, as currently constituted in the AFN Charter; and
- iii. Directs that any changes to the scope, role, and mandate of the AFN Women's Council be undertaken in full consultation with the AFN Women's Council members and must be approved by a majority of the AFN Women's Council.

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

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to take the appropriate steps as recommended by the AFN Women's Council, to ensure that any newly created organs, committees, caucuses, or advisory bodies will not duplicate or usurp the role, mandate, and responsibilities of the AFN Women's Council.
2. Direct the AFN to ensure that the AFN Women's Council and First Nations women's groups across the country is properly resourced and at the forefront of advocacy for all First Nations women's issues as directed by AFN Resolutions 59/2019, *Strengthening and Supporting the Assembly of First Nations Women's Council*, and 46/2021, *Reaffirming Support for the Role and Mandate of the Assembly of First Nations Women's Council*, as well as direct that the AFN Women's Council receives and oversee all funding allocations relating to First Nations women's issues, including but not limited to, MMIWG2S+, gender-based analysis plus (GBA+), gender-based violence (GBV), and the National Caucus of Elected Women's Leaders (NCEWL).

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