

Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly
Alderville First Nation
June 27 & 28, 2007

Resolution No. 2007/03

Subject: Anishinabek Nation Citizenship Law

WHEREAS Anishinabek First Nations have dealt with citizenship and other related issues since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly recognize jurisdiction over citizenship being an essential function of First Nation governments; and

WHEREAS Anishinabek First Nation jurisdiction regarding citizenship is a practice, custom, and tradition integral to our distinctive culture and as such it is an Aboriginal right; and

WHEREAS the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights guarantees that all peoples have the right of self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development; and

WHEREAS the determination of Indian status and membership arbitrarily set out in the Indian Act is contrary to the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of which Canada is a signatory to.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Chiefs in Assembly reject the Government of Canada's unilateral definition and control over the definition of "status Indian" and assert that our Aboriginal rights include jurisdiction of Anishinabek Nation citizenship, which rests solely with the Anishinabek Nation; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly direct the Grand Council Chief to secure resources and prepare a draft citizenship law that could be used by member First Nations to determine their own citizenship in accordance with historical practice and in accordance with the rights guaranteed by the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Moved By:	Chief James Robert Marsden, Alderville First Nation
Seconded By:	Chief Keith Knott, Curve Lake First Nation
Status:	Passed by Consensus

In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None


John Beausage
Grand Council Chief


Glen Hare
Deputy Grand Council Chief

Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly
Aamjiwnaang First Nation
June 8, 9, 10, 2009

Resolution No. 2009/05

SUBJECT: Final Report of the Anishinabek Nation Citizenship Commissioner and Draft Anishinabek Nation E-Dbendaagzijig Naaknigewan

WHEREAS by Resolution 2007/09 the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs in Assembly directed the Grand Council Chief to secure resources and prepare a draft citizenship law to be used by First Nations to determine their own citizenship; and

WHEREAS Jeannette Corbiere-Lavell of Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve was appointed by the Grand Council Chief as the Anishinabek Nation Citizenship Commissioner; and

WHEREAS Citizenship Commissioner Jeannette Corbiere-Lavell conducted 16 consultation sessions across Anishinabek Nation Territory and received input from Anishinabek citizens on the creation of a draft Anishinabek Nation E-Dbendaagzijig Naaknigewan and has tabled her findings in a final report; and

WHEREAS a draft Anishinabek Nation E-Dbendaagzijig Naaknigewan has been prepared and tabled by Legal Counsel of the Union of Ontario Indians; and

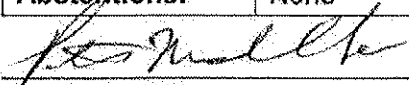
WHEREAS the Anishinaabe Anokiiwin Aanokiitoojig/Chiefs Committee on Governance and the Citizenship Commissioner recommend that an implementation plan be developed by the Citizenship Commissioner and that a community awareness initiative be carried out in the member First Nations to garner support for the draft citizenship law.

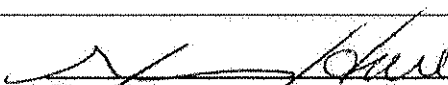
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs in Assembly accept the final report of the Citizenship Commission and the draft Anishinabek Nation E-Dbendaagzijig Naaknigewan as presented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs in Assembly accept the recommendations of the Anishinaabe Anokiiwin Aanokiitoojig/Chiefs Committee on Governance and the Citizenship Commissioner; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs in Assembly direct the Grand Council Chief to secure resources and to engage the Citizenship Commissioner to implement the First Nation community awareness initiative to garner support for the Anishinabek Nation E-Dbendaagzijig Naaknigewan.

Moved By:	Chief Isadora Bebamash, M'Chigeeng First Nation
Seconded By:	Chief Hazel Fox-Recollet, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve
Status:	Carried
In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None


Patrick Madahbee
Grand Council Chief


Glen Hare
Deputy Grand Chief



Anishinabek Nation Government
“E-dbendaagzijig” – Those Who Belong
Anishinabek Nation Citizenship Law

Short Title

1. This law may be cited as the ‘Anishinabek Nation Citizenship Law’.

Anishinabek Citizenship

2. Every citizen of an Anishinabek First Nation is an Anishinabek Nation citizen.
3. A person is entitled to be an Anishinabek Nation citizen provided that the person:
 - (a) can trace their desendancy through at least one parent to the original people of an Anishinabek First Nation; or
 - (b) has at least one parent who is a member currently registered with an Anishinabek First Nation; or
 - (b) the person can trace their desendancy through at least one parent to a status Indian who is registered or entitled to be registered with an Anishinabek First Nation.

Loss of Citizenship

4. A person ceases to be an Anishinabek Nation citizen if the person:
 - (a) who is at least eighteen years of age, provides written notice to the Board of Anishinabek Citizenship that they renounce their citizenship; or
 - (b) The Board of Anishinabek Citizenship determines, after appropriate notice to the affected person and consideration of all relevant information and documentation, that a person was registered on erroneous or fraudulent grounds and would not have otherwise qualified as a citizen. Such a person shall be deemed to never have been a Citizen.
 - (c) The Anishinabek First Nation provides written notice of the removal of a citizen from their citizenship list.

Registrar

5. The Anishinabek Nation Citizenship Registrar shall be appointed by resolution of the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council.
6. The Anishinabek Nation Citizenship Registrar shall:
 - (a) maintain the Anishinabek Nation citizenship list;
 - (b) receive and acknowledge receipt of applications from persons applying for citizenship;
 - (c) ensure that the applicant provides all necessary information and documentation before forwarding such application to the Board of Anishinabek citizenship;
 - (d) notify each applicant of the decision of the Board of Anishinabek citizenship;
 - (e) advise the applicant in writing of the appeal process if his/her application is not approved by the Board of Anishinabek citizenship; and
 - (f) place the name of the applicant on the Anishinabek Nation citizenship list if his/her application is approved by the Board of Anishinabek citizenship.

Board of Anishinabek Nation citizenship

7. There shall be a Board of Anishinabek Nation citizenship composed of four representatives. Each of the regions of the Anishinabek Nation shall, according to its own procedure, appoint one representative to sit on the Board of Anishinabek Nation citizenship.
8. The term of the members of the Board of Anishinabek Nation citizenship shall be two years. The members may be reappointed to the Board of Anishinabek Nation citizenship.
9. The Board of Anishinabek Nation citizenship shall:
 - (a) provide fair and confidential hearings of applications for Anishinabek Nation citizenship;
 - (b) publicize and provide information in respect of the eligibility process and requirements;

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- (c) shall review and determine applications within three months of receiving the application;
 - (d) notifying the registrar in writing of its decisions;
 - (e) record all the minutes and motions and filing such with the registrar; and
 - (f) provide written reasons to any applicant whose application is not approved.
10. The Board of Anishinabek Nation citizenship shall have the power to make regulations for the conduct of its meetings, proceedings and hearings.
11. The Board of Anishinabek Nation citizenship may seek the advice of the Anishinabek Elders Council on any issue.

Certificate of Citizenship

12 Subject to any regulations made under paragraph 10, the Registrar shall issue a certificate of Anishinabek Nation citizenship to any person who has made application for Anishinabek Nation citizenship and whose application has been approved by the Board of Anishinabek Nation citizenship.

Anishinabek First Nation Citizenship Regulations

13. An Anishinabek First Nation may adopt and amend Anishinabek First Nation Citizenship regulations not inconsistent with Anishinabek Nation Citizenship Law.

Appeal

14. Any person whose has made application to the Board of Anishinabek Nation Citizenship shall have a right to appeal any decision made by the Board of Anishinabek Nation Citizenship.

This law is enacted on_____.

Signed by _____.
Grand Chief of Anishinabek Nation