

Subject: "Noondaagaazwin" (listening to the voice of the People), Revised Ten (10) Year Strategic Plan

WHEREAS in 1997, the Union of Ontario Indians' Board of Directors developed and approved a strategic plan, "Wedokdodwin", that identified eight (8) areas of priority to guide the direction of the organization; and

WHEREAS Wedokdodwin facilitated the development of our organizational capacity and our continued growth as a strong and relevant political advocacy organization; and

WHEREAS it has been identified that a strategic plan with short, medium and long term goals that provides tangible solutions to the issues that are faced by the Anishinabek Nation is now required.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs in Assembly support the development of a new strategic plan to be called "Anishinabe Noondaagaazwin" (listening to the voice of the People), that will be based on the framework and successes of Wedokdodwin; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs in Assembly ensure that the strategic plan adheres to the following key principles:

- establishes relevancy to our communities and citizens;
- reflects a cooperative strategic approach to our rights based agenda;
- looks at governance, economy and treaty rights from a territory wide perspective; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this revised strategic plan include mechanisms to evaluate our past and current challenges and to provide recommendations on how to move forward; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this revised strategic plan look at implementation of priorities over the next ten years and include an evaluation framework based on tangible social indicators; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that this revised strategic plan include community-based participation in its development and implementation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the draft strategic plan be presented to the Chiefs in Assembly at the next Grand Council Assembly.

Moved By:	Chief Wilfred King, Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek
Seconded By:	Chief Pat Madahbee, Aundeck Omni Kaning
Status:	Passed by Consensus
In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None


John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief


Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief

Subject: Political Support for First Nation Candidates

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs in Assembly recognize the importance of actively participating in the forthcoming federal election as well as encouraging their membership to also participate.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly support First Nation candidates in the next federal election; and


BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly direct the Grand Council Chief and the Deputy Grand Council Chief actively lobby and support First Nation candidates in the next federal election.

Moved By:	Chief Wilfred King, Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek
Seconded By:	Chief Joe Buckell, Michipicoten First Nation
Status:	Passed by consensus

In Favour:	Thirty-One
Opposed:	One
Abstentions:	None



John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief



Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief

**Anishinabek Nation Special Assembly
Sault Ste Marie, Ontario
November 16 and 17, 2005**

Resolution No. 2005/25

Subject: Anishinabek First Nation Band Employees' Entitlement to the Canada Pension Plan

WHEREAS the Canada Pension Plan Act was originally enacted in 1965 as part of the overall social safety net for the people of Canada and it required all employed individuals to contribute to the Canada Pension; and

WHEREAS from 1965 to 1988 the Canada Pension Plan Act specifically excluded First Nation Band employees from contributing to the Canada Pension Plan; and

WHEREAS in 1988 the Canada Pension Plan Act was amended to comply with the *Charter* to enable First Nation Band employees to elect to contribute to Canada Pension under certain conditions. However, First Nation bands were not provided with funding to enable them to make the employer contribution; and

WHEREAS many long term Anishinabek First Nation Band employees are now reaching retirement age and are not able to access the Canada Pension Plan which is held out by Canada to be an key component of Canada's social safety net for Canadian seniors; and

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly are of the view that the Canada Pension Plan Act violates section 15 of the *Charter* which provides that each individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to equal benefit and protection of the law without discrimination based on race.


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly direct that the Grand Council Chief advocate, at the upcoming First Minister's Meeting and with the Minister responsible for the Canada Pension Plan, the need to resolve the outstanding grievances concerning First Nation Band employee entitlements to Canada Pension Plan retroactive to 1965; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly direct the Assembly of First Nations to address nationally the need to resolve the outstanding grievances concerning First Nation Band employees' past entitlements to Canada Pension Plan.

Moved By:	Chief Robert Corbiere, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve
Seconded By:	Chief Patrick Madahbee, Aundeck Omni Kaning
Status:	Passed by Consensus

In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None


John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief


Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief

Subject: Agenda for Restoring and Improving First Nations Health (formerly referred to as the Aboriginal Health Blueprint)

WHEREAS the Ontario First Nations Chiefs-in-Assembly carried Resolution 05/30 resolving to continue involvement in the process of engagement and development of a Health Blueprint, conditional upon alleviating nine (9) specific concerns; and

WHEREAS the Ontario First Nations Chiefs Resolution 05/30 stipulates "That any conditions identified through a careful legal review by a First Nations law firm must be met by external governments prior to the work being finalized" (condition number 7); and

WHEREAS such a legal review has not been conducted by the Chiefs Of Ontario; and

WHEREAS a legal opinion on the interests of the Anishinabek First Nations would involve a comprehensive analysis of the following: Anishinabek law, including Mnaamadzowin: a good way of life for the free and sovereign Anishinabek Nation; the Anishinabek traditional governance model, treaties and historical agreements signed by the Anishinabek; various federal and provincial government policies, transfer agreements and contribution agreements; and draft legislation regarding the establishment of LHINs – Local Health Integration Networks throughout Ontario to be introduced, on or before December 8, 2005; and

WHEREAS the political representatives and technicians of the Anishinabek Nation and the Anishinabek Health Commission have participated in the drafting of the Ontario Regional Submission – National Blueprint for Aboriginal Health FINAL – October 3, 2005, on behalf of the Anishinabek Nation and they report persistent resistance on the part of provincial officials to deviate from a pan-aboriginal approach; and uphold and advance the government to government relationship between First Nations and Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Chiefs-in-Assembly carried Resolution 2005/16 directing the Ontario Regional Chief to develop and implement a First Nations – Provincial Crown Political Accord ("*Accord*") on the Recognition and Implementation of First Nation's Health Governance in Ontario.

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Grand Council Chief denounced in writing to the Ontario Regional Chief the Ontario Regional Submission – National Blueprint for Aboriginal Health FINAL – October 3, 2005; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Ontario Regional Chief expedite the development of the *Accord* as contemplated in the *Accord* Resolution, 2005/16, following the development of and on the basis of the aforesaid legal analysis; and

Anishinabek Nation Special Assembly
Sault Ste Marie, Ontario
November 16 and 17, 2005

Resolution No. 2005/26

Subject: Agenda for Restoring and Improving First Nations Health (formerly referred to as the Aboriginal Health Blueprint)

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs-in-Assembly communicate to the Ontario Regional Chief the urgency to establish an Ad Hoc Committee comprised of Health technicians, political representatives and First Nations lawyer(s) for the purposes of expediting the development of a legal analysis that can be used as a basis for developing the *Accord*; analyzing the Ontario Regional Submission – National Blueprint for Aboriginal Health FINAL – October 3, 2005 and any subsequent drafts; and in response to provincial legislative and policy initiatives, including the pending legislation on the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs);

Moved By:	Chief Patrick Madahbee, Aundeck Omni Kaning
Seconded By:	Chief Keith Knott, Curve Lake First Nation
Status:	Carried by consensus

In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None


John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief


Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief

SUBJECT: Relationship between Resolution 2005/09 concerning Comprehensive Self-Government Negotiations and Resolution 2005/16 concerning First Nation Provincial Crown Political Accord on the Recognition and Implementation of First Nations Health Governance in Ontario

WHEREAS Resolution 2005/09 concerning Comprehensive Self-Government Negotiations did not provide for the jurisdiction of health; and

WHEREAS the spirit and intent of Resolution 2005/09 includes health or Mnaamaadzowin: a good way of life for the free and sovereign Anishinabek Nation; and

WHEREAS by resolution 2005/16 the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly resolved to expedite the development of the First Nation Provincial Crown Political Accord in response to the jurisdictional threats and opportunities posed by the Agenda for Restoring and Improving First Nations Health (formerly referred to as the Aboriginal Health Blueprint) and Ontario's pending legislation on Local Health Integrated Networks (LHINs); and

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly want to coordinate resolution 2005/16 and 2005/09 and the resources and expertise associated with both; and

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly want to further coordinate resources, expertise and opportunities that may exist within the Intergovernmental Relations Forum.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly hereby amend the wording of Resolution 2005/09 to specifically include health as an enumerated sector within the Gimaakinidizowin Resolution 2005/09; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly directs the Chiefs Committee on Governance to consider the matter of the development of an Accord in conjunction with the Anishinabek Noondaagaazwin Working Group on Health and the Anishinabek Health Commission, at the earliest opportunity; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly direct that the matter of Health be included in discussions at the Intergovernmental Relations Forum.

Moved By:	Chief Shining Turtle, Whitefish River First Nation
Seconded By:	Chief Wilfred King, Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek
Status:	Carried by consensus
In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None


John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief


Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief

Subject: Harvesting Rights Based Test-Case Strategy

WHEREAS Anishinabek First Nations have managed the natural resources within their traditional territories since time immemorial and have never relinquished these rights and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS as part of the management of our traditional territories, Anishinabek First Nations have considered requests from First Nations people from other traditional and treaty territories to hunt and fish within their territory and, on occasion, have granted permission to these requests; and

WHEREAS numerous Anishinabek First Nation members are being charged under provincial law when exercising their aboriginal or treaty right to harvesting in other First Nation territories; and

WHEREAS Anishinabek Grand Council Resolution 2005/14, directed the Anishinabek Grand Council Chief to advocate for the Ontario government's recognition of Inter-Treaty harvesting; and

WHEREAS Anishinabek Grand Council Resolution 2005/14, directed the Government of Ontario to make change to the legislation and regulations that affect First Nations to exercise their rights; and

WHEREAS Anishinabek Grand Council Resolution 2005/14, directed the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief to affirm the commitment of the Minister of Natural Resources regarding Inter-Treaty harvesting; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Natural Resources' response has been unsatisfactory with regard to the recognition of our right to Inter-Treaty harvesting; and

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Grand Council Chief has made numerous attempts to have the Ontario government, as represented by the Minister of Natural Resources, recognize the Anishinabek First Nation's right to Inter-Treaty harvesting; and

WHEREAS the Chiefs in Assembly have expressed their support to move forward with a rights based test-case strategy; and

WHEREAS the Chiefs in Assembly have expressed a commitment to pool resources such as financial and/or administrative to support a rights based test-case strategy; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly direct that the Union of Ontario Indians develop a test case strategy in order to assert our treaty and aboriginal right to inter-treaty harvesting. This strategy shall include but not limit to historical research and seek suitable test-case candidate and other relevant legal preparation that may be required; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly direct that the Union of Ontario Indians report to the Chiefs in Assembly at the Next Grand Council Assembly on progress with respect to the strategy.

Subject: Harvesting Rights Based Test-Case Strategy

Moved By:	Chief Mike Esquega, Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek
Seconded By:	Chief Wilfred King, Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek
Status:	Carried by consensus
In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None



John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief



Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief

Subject: Poplar Point First Nation and Casino Rama Funding

WHEREAS the Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership was created to distribute Casino Rama revenues amongst Ontario First Nations to improve community development and members social well being; and

WHEREAS Poplar Point First Nation is currently receiving Casino Rama funds yet has no land base, no infrastructure and is not recognized under the *Indian Act*; and

WHEREAS in addition to based funding, Poplar Point First Nation is receiving funding based on remoteness yet is located in the City of Thunder Bay; and

WHEREAS other First Nations that are more remote then Poplar Point First Nation do not receive funding based on remoteness.


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly direct that Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership undertake an investigation on the Casino Rama funding of Poplar Point First Nation and in the interim that the Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership immediately hold Poplar Point First Nation funding pending completion of the investigation; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that in the event that the investigation shows that the funding was not allocated, distributed or expended as required under the Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership, that Poplar Point First Nation be required to repay past funding and that past and future funds be redistributed amongst the remaining Ontario First Nations or other such corrective measures as deemed appropriate by the Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly request a full report on this matter as soon as possible.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly direct that the Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership immediately implement the Remoteness Study and report back to the Ontario Chiefs at the AOCC meeting.

Moved By:	Chief Robert Corbiere, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve
Seconded By:	Chief Wilfred King, Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek
Status:	Carried by consensus
In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None


John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief


Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief

Subject: First Nation Members of Parliament

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation has never been effectively represented in either the federal or provincial legislatures; and

WHEREAS the elected members of the federal and provincial legislatures do not represent the interests of the Anishinabek Nation nor have they been responsive to the needs of our Nation's people; and

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation does not receive representation that is proportional to its population at any level of government.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs in Assembly direct the Union of Ontario Indians to develop a framework that would provide for representation of the Anishinabek Nation within the current Canadian electoral system; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs in Assembly direct the Union of Ontario Indians to lobby for the implementation of an Anishinabek electoral system that would provide proportional representation of the Anishinabek body politic within the federal legislature; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs in Assembly direct the Union of Ontario Indians to lobby for the implementation of the Anishinabek electoral system that would provide proportional representation of the Anishinabek body politic within the provincial legislature; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs in Assembly direct the Union of Ontario Indians to lobby for the financial resources to undertake this initiative; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the negotiations for proportional elected representation within the federal and provincial legislatures be included as part of the new, comprehensive self-government framework and/or final agreement.

Moved By:	Chief Isadore Day, Serpent River First Nation
Seconded By:	Chief Dan Couchie, Ojibways of the Pic River First Nation
Status:	

In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None


John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief


Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief

**Anishinabek Nation Special Assembly
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
November 16 and 17, 2005**

Resolution No. 2005/31

Subject: Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centre Memorandum of Understanding

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres (OFIFC) in June, 2005; and

WHEREAS there is increasing uncertainty and inequities with respect to the funding and representation of First Nations members residing both on and away from reserves as a result of the pan-Aboriginal approach to First Nations – Government relations; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Grand Council Chief and the Chiefs Committee on Governance work with the OFIFC to establish necessary protocol and ancillary technical agreements that will provide greater certainty with respect to the funding of services and the jurisdiction and representation of the First Nations members residing on or away from reserves.

Moved By:	Proxy Ron Manitowabi, Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve
Seconded By:	Chief James Robert Marsden, Alderville First Nation
Status:	

In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None


John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief


Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief

SUBJECT: LOCAL HEALTH INTEGRATION NETWORKS (LHINs)

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has expended extensive financial and human resources in the research, development and establishment of the fourteen (14) Local Health Integration Networks ("LHINs") throughout Ontario, since early 2003; and

WHEREAS the integration and devolution of health care services by the Province of Ontario will have profound adverse impacts on First Nations health and the existing First Nations health care jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS the First Nations were entirely disregarded until February, 2003 when the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care invited First Nations technicians to an information session on the establishment of the LHINs; and

WHEREAS the Terms of Reference of the First Nations Task Force on the LHINs, as approved by the Ontario Chiefs Committee on Health in September, 2005, mandates the Task Force to submit a report to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC), on anticipated impacts of health service integration; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario is finalizing legislation for the establishment of LHINs with the intention of introducing it in the Legislative Assembly, on or before December 8, 2005; and

WHEREAS the Deputy Minister invited members of the First Nations Task Force to review and provide First Nations-specific feedback on the proposed LHINs legislation; on November 4, 2005; and

WHEREAS the Deputy Minister simultaneously invited First Nations PTOs, Aboriginal Health Care Service Providers and various other Aboriginal health organizations to review and provide feedback on the proposed LHIN legislation on November 7, 2005; and

WHEREAS the First Nations Task Force members and representatives of the First Nations PTO's advised the Deputy Minister to speak with the First Nations leadership; and

WHEREAS the Chiefs of Ontario prepared a number of draft legal recommendations that has been circulated to the First Nations Task Force on the LHINs and is under consideration by the PC of the Chiefs of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the nature and impact of the draft legal recommendations is not widely understood by the Anishinabek Nation and the Anishinabek Health Commission; and

WHEREAS the draft legal recommendations on the elements of the LHINs indicate that First Nation's jurisdictions could either be enhanced or diminished; and

WHEREAS throughout the establishment of the LHINs the rights and interests of the Anishinabek First Nations have not been considered or upheld, and are inconsistent with the Honour of the Crown in Right of the Government of Canada and the Honour of the Crown in Right of the Government of Ontario.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly establish immediately a government to government roundtable forum with Premier McGuinty; Minister of Health Smitherman; Deputy Minister Sapsford, to discuss all issues inherent in the passing of provincial legislation regarding the LHINs (Local Health Integration Networks);

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Anishinabek Chiefs in Assembly hold a conference, as soon as possible, on the issue of Health jurisdiction, governance of the Anishinabek Nation's Health; Healing; and Wellness;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an invitation be extended to the Ontario Regional Chief to attend the conference.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that discussions will be directed to the representatives of the Ontario Government that we the Anishinabek will be opposing the unilateral establishment and the enactment of the Local Health Integration Networks.

Moved By:	Chief Patrick Madahbee, Aundeck Omni Kaning
Seconded By:	Chief Keith Knott, Curve Lake First Nation
Status:	Carried by consensus

In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None



John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief



Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief

Subject: Elementary and Secondary School Tuition Funding

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation communities purchase services from provincial school boards for elementary and secondary education; and

WHEREAS the provincial school boards charge tuition rates based on provincial funding guidelines; and

WHEREAS First Nations are bound through tuition agreements with the provincial school boards from whom they purchase educational services; and

WHEREAS Indian and Northern Affairs Canada provides the funding for these tuition agreements; and

WHEREAS the First Nations are not in receipt of these funds when the provincial boards submit bills for the educational services; and

WHEREAS First Nations are being charged late penalty fees and/or interest charges that are not covered by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada; and

WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation requests Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to release the education funds prior to or to coincide with the school board billing dates therefore eliminating late penalty and/or interest charges.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Chiefs of the Anishinabek Nation request that Indian and Northern Affairs Canada change the release date of educational funding to First Nations to occur prior to or to coincide with provincial school board billing dates; and

FURTHER BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that any further late penalty and/or interest charges be covered by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and that it is not the responsibility of the First Nations.

Moved By:	Chief Isadore Day, Serpent River First Nation
Seconded By:	Chief Teresa Migwans, Whitefish Lake First Nation
Status:	

In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None


John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief


Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief

SUBJECT: Elementary and Secondary School Tuition Funding Rates

WHEREAS the First Nation purchases educational services from the provincial school boards to educate its elementary and secondary school students; and

WHEREAS the First Nation pays the tuition rates set by the Ministry of Education; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education is a provincially funded body; and

WHEREAS the additional funding that the provincial government contributes to the provincial school boards directly increases the tuition rates charged to the First Nations; and

WHEREAS Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's inflationary factor may not increase sufficiently to meet the annual increase in the school board tuition rates.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that any increase in tuition over the inflationary index is paid as a non-core item in multi-year agreements by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

Moved By:	Chief Isadore Day, Serpent River First Nation
Seconded By:	Chief Teresa Migwans, Whitefish Lake First Nation
Status:	

In Favour:	All
Opposed:	None
Abstentions:	None



John Beaucage
Grand Council Chief



Nelson Toulouse
Deputy Grand Council Chief