

# Anishinabek Nation

## Grand Council Resolution Package

Chippewas of Georgina  
Island First Nation

June 4-6, 2019



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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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2019-01 - POLITICAL - OFNLP APPOINTMENT
2019-02 - POLITICAL - SOVEREIGN WEALTH REPRESENTATIVE
2019-03 - LABOUR MARKET DEVELOPMENT - SUPPORT FOR ABFPNEO
2019-04 - SOCIAL - CIRCLE PROCESS TO SUPPORT CWB
2019-05 - SOCIAL - CHILDREN & YOUTH BILL OF RIGHTS
2019-06 - HEALTH - LONG TERM CARE WORKING GROUP
2019-07 - HEALTH - DEMENTIA RESEARCH BETWEEN AN AND LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY
2019-08 - HEALTH - HEALTH TRANSFORMATION
2019-09 - SOCIAL - SUPPORT FOR INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF DEVON FREEMAN
2019-10 - POLICY&COMMS - RESCINDING AN HOUSING STRATEGY
2019-11 - LANDS - CANADA AND ONTARIO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS AND ADDRESSING THE REGULATORY GAP ON FIRST NATIONS
2019-12 - LANDS - SPECIES AT RISK SECTION 11 BOREAL WOODLAND CARIBOU
ANGCA - 2019-13 - LANDS - OPPOSITION TO THE REMOVAL OF CAMP 43 DAM, NORTHERN SUPERIOR REGION
2019-14 - LANDS - FUNDING CUTS TO AOFRC
2019-15 - LABOUR MARKET DEVELOPMENT - FN ASETAS AND FN INUIT CHILD CARE INITIATIVE
2019-16 - LABOUR MARKET DEVELOPMENT - INCLUSION OF CANADA SUMMER JOBS TO FN ASETAS
2019-17 - LANDS - OPPOSITION TO SMALL NUCLEAR REACTORS

Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019

RESOLUTION – #2019-01

**Subject:** ONTARIO FIRST NATIONS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP REPRESENTATION  
AND ONTARIO FIRST NATIONS (2008) LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

**Mover:** Ogimaa Shining Turtle, Whitefish River First Nation

**Second:** Chief Chris Plain, Aamjiwnaang First Nation

**Status:** Carried

**Opposed:** None

**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

The Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership (OFNLP) Agreement requires that a representative be nominated for the position of Director to represent the Anishinabek Nation for a one-year period; and

The annual process of confirming the Anishinabek Nation OFNLP representative is the decision and responsibility of the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Appoint **Patrick Madahbee** for a one year period from June 2019 to June 2020 to represent the Anishinabek Nation in the Ontario First Nations Limited Partnership Agreement and on the Ontario First Nations (2008) Limited Partnership Agreement Board of Directors.



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Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief



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James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019

RESOLUTION – #2019-02

**Subject:** SOVEREIGN WEALTH FUND BOARD REPRESENTATION  
**Mover:** Chief Melvin Hardy, Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek  
**Seconder:** Chief Roger Thomas, Munsee-Delaware Nation  
**Status:** Carried  
**Opposed:** None  
**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

The Anishinabek Nation is required to nominate a representative to the Ontario First Nations Sovereign Wealth Fund Board of Directors to represent the Anishinabek Nation for a one-year period; and

The annual process of confirming the Anishinabek representative for the Ontario First Nations Sovereign Wealth Fund Board of Directors is the decision and responsibility of the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Appoint **Patrick Madahbee** for a one year period from June 2019 to June 2020 to represent the Anishinabek Nation on the Ontario First Nations Sovereign Wealth Fund Board of Directors.

  
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Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief  
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James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

**Subject:** SUPPORT FOR THE WAUBETEK BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION'S CONTINUED DELIVERY OF THE ABORIGINAL BUSINESS FINANCING PROGRAM FOR NORTH-EAST ONTARIO

**Mover:** Chief Scott McLeod, Nipissing First Nation

**Seconder:** Chief Patsy Corbiere, Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation

**Status:** Carried

**Opposed:** None

**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

The Waubetek Business Development Corporation is currently celebrating 30 years of service and investing in the Indigenous business spirit through more than \$84 million in investments;

Waubetek has been delivering the Aboriginal Business Financing Program (ABFP) throughout North-East Ontario since 1992 to Indigenous entrepreneurs. Waubetek has also delivered the ABFP to First Nations and Indigenous entrepreneurs in Southern Ontario since 2013;

Waubetek has successfully delivered the program through investing all available ABFP funds every year in Indigenous businesses, with the business clients achieving a 94% business success rate, and with Waubetek successfully undergoing all program, financial and compliance audits with respect to the ABFP;

A recently-established organization known as the Aboriginal Investment Corporation comprised of the Metis Voyageur Development Fund, the Indian Agricultural Program of Ontario, and the Two River Community Development Corporation are seeking to take over the delivery of the ABFP in North-East and Southern Ontario; and

The decision of whether or not to transfer the delivery of the ABFP from Waubetek to the Aboriginal Investment Corporation rests with the Board of Directors of the National Aboriginal Capital Corporation Association.

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Support the Waubetek Business Development Corporation in their efforts to continue to deliver the Aboriginal Business Financing Program for North-East Ontario.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief



**Subject:** ANISHINABEK NATION CIRCLE PROCESS TO SUPPORT  
CHILD AND YOUTH WELL-BEING

**Mover:** Ogimaa Duke Peltier, Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory

**Seconder:** Marshall George (Proxy), Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation

**Status:** Carried

**Opposed:** None

**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

The Social Development Department's Child Well-Being Working Group (CWBWG) had recommended the development of an Anishinabek Nation alternative dispute resolution process to assist with child well-being matters;

During the spring of 2018, the Anishinabek Nation was able to secure funding from Indigenous Services Canada to develop this process;

Starting in the summer of 2018, there have been numerous engagements with the CWBWG to obtain recommendations on the development of this process;

The CWBWG has recommended that a circle process be used for child well-being matters;

The Circle Process to Support Child Well-Being (Circle Process CWB) is a voluntary process that will be available as a support to our Anishinabek children, families and communities to address conflicts that may arise in child well-being matters. The Circle Process CWB may be utilized at both prevention and protection levels, and may be utilized for matters involving the Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being Law, the Ontario *Child, Youth and Family Services Act* and inter-provincial child well-being laws;

The CWBWG has also recommended various principles and characteristics for the Circle Process CWB to ensure that the process is founded upon, and incorporates, Anishinaabe guiding principles and customs (ex. Anishinaabe teachings, ceremonies, medicines, etc.). A briefing note including details about the proposed process are included in the assembly toolkits; and

Implementation planning and negotiations for securing ongoing implementation funding remain ongoing. Having the Anishinabek Nation leadership's support for the Circle Process CWB will assist with securing ongoing funding for implementation.

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Support the further development and implementation of the Anishinabek Nation Circle Process for Child Well-Being;

Affirm that the Anishinabek Nation Circle Process for Child Well-Being does not impact any processes undertaken by First Nations;

Direct the Legal Department to collaborate with the Social Development Department to secure funding from the Ministry of Community and Social Services and Indigenous Services Canada for the training of facilitators and implementation of the Anishinabek Nation CWB Circle Process; and

Direct the Anishinabek Nation Social Services Department to provide updates on the further development and implementation of this process at the next Grand Council Assembly.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief  
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James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief



**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

**RESOLUTION – #2019-05**

**Subject:** ANISHINABEK CHILDREN AND YOUTH BILL OF RIGHTS  
**Mover:** Patrick Patabon (Proxy), Long Lake #58 First Nation  
**Seconder:** Chief Melvin Hardy, Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek  
**Status:** Carried  
**Opposed:** None  
**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

The Social Development Department initiated consultations with the Anishinabek First Nations, through the Child Well-Being Working Group, Youth Council, Getzidjig Advisory Council and Kwe Wuk Council;


The Social Development Department reviewed the input from the above councils and groups;

The Anishinabek Children and Youth Bill of Rights draft was reviewed by the groups and revisions were made; and

The final draft is being presented to the Anishinabek Chiefs-in-Assembly;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Hereby approve the Anishinabek Children and Youth Bill of Rights.

  
Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief

  
James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

**RESOLUTION – #2019-06**

**Subject:** ANISHINABEK NATION LONG TERM CARE (LTC) WORKING GROUP  
**Mover:** Chief Scott McLeod, Nipissing First Nation  
**Seconder:** Ogimaa Duke Peltier, Wiikwemkoong Unceded Territory  
**Status:** Carried  
**Opposed:** None  
**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

Chronic underinvestment by both Ontario and Canada persists despite recommendations of the 1993 report from the Ontario Advisory Council on Senior Citizens entitled *Denied Too Long*, which recommended increasing the availability of LTC for First Nation Communities;

During the last 25 years only the Oneida First Nation received an LTC license to build a 63 bed LTC facility;

Only 4 large First Nations in Ontario have a LTC facility;

First Nations have only 273 of 78,667 LTC beds in Ontario, representing less than 1% of the LTC beds in the province;

Anishinabek Nation citizens want to be near their loved ones in their own communities throughout their lives, and the vast majority of First Nations communities in the Anishinabek Nation territory do not have LTC homes nor adequate housing options for seniors, thus being forced to leave their communities to access appropriate housing and care, which can be traumatizing for seniors;

Previous government initiatives related to LTC may have included some infrastructure costs but did not include any operations and maintenance (O&M) for the ongoing costs needed to operate the facility for the long term nor did it guarantee any LTC beds for Anishinabek citizens; and

There is a need to conduct research, develop a strategic approach and secure necessary infrastructure and long term O&M supports for an LTC facility that maintains beds, is culturally appropriate and responsive to the needs of our Anishinabek citizens.

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

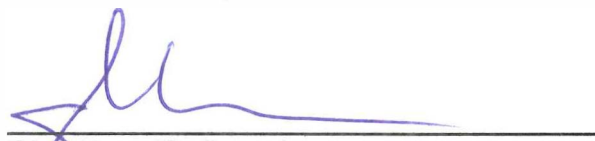
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Direct the Anishinabek Nation Health Secretariat to develop a Long Term Care (LTC) Working Group, which would consist of 1-2 representatives from each of the four Anishinabek Regions;

Direct the LTC Working Group to develop a terms of reference, conduct research, develop a strategic approach and provide recommendations towards securing infrastructure and long term O&M supports for a LTC facility to service our Anishinabek First Nation citizens;

Confirm that the LTC Working Group's objective is to secure an Anishinabek allocation of licensed beds for our citizens; and

Direct the LTC Working Group to provide regular updates on its progress, including recommendations to the Anishinabek Chiefs at Regional Chiefs meetings as well as at the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly.



Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief

  
James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019

RESOLUTION – #2019-07

**Subject:** DEMENTIA RESEARCH RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ANISHINABEK NATION AND LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY

**Mover:** Chief Peter Collins, Fort William First Nation

**Second:** Chief Chris Plain, Aamjiwnaang First Nation

**Status:** Carried

**Opposed:** None

**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

The Anishinabek Nation has seen an increase in the life expectancy of our citizens and acknowledge the need for better planning, coordination and implementation of programs and services to support our aging population;

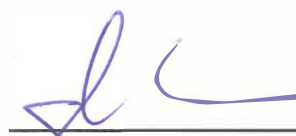
There is a lack of First Nation specific funding to support the long term care needs of individuals dealing with dementia as well as their families and caregivers;

The lack of First Nation specific dementia research has resulted in undetermined prevalence rates and a lack of capacity to meet the significant services needed; and

The Anishinabek Nation and Laurentian University endeavor to increase Anishinabek First Nation capacity and awareness to address dementia-related health needs through research, training and the development of an Anishinabek specific age-friendly community model to ensure optimum care.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Support the Anishinabek Nation to enter into a research relationship with Laurentian University within the confines of OCAP (Ownership, Control, Access and Possession) Principles which will study issues related to dementia prevalence rates, capacity development for service providers and the development of an Anishinabek age-friendly community development model.



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Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief



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James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

**Subject:** ANISHINABEK NATION HEALTH TRANSFORMATION  
**Mover:** Chief Peter Collins, Fort William First Nation  
**Seconded:** Chief Phyllis Williams, Curve Lake First Nation  
**Status:** Carried  
**Opposed:** None  
**Abstentions:** Ogimaa Shining Turtle, Chief Melvin Hardy, Chief Elaine Johnston, Chief Paul Syrette (4)

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**WHEREAS:**

The Anishinabek Nation Chiefs in Assembly passed Resolution #2016-07 *First Nation Local Health Integration Network (LHIN)*, directing the Anishinabek Nation Health Secretariat to engage in dialogue with the provincial government and develop a First Nation LHIN to provide services and funding for health to Anishinabek First Nations;

The Ontario government introduced *Bill 74: The People's Health Care Act, 2019* on February 26, 2019, which included a provision to dismantle the existing LHIN structure, replacing it with a model entitled 'Ontario Health';

A Tripartite Health System Transformation Relationship Document was signed in April of 2018 by the Anishinabek Nation, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and Indigenous Services Canada providing the forum to engage all three levels of government in the much needed changes to a health system that has historically not met the needs of First Nation citizens; and

Discussions have taken place between the three parties since the passing of Resolution #2016-07 on a new Health Transformation process wherein Anishinabek First Nations would take the lead in developing a system that is culturally appropriate, meets the needs and addresses existing gaps in the current health system.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Direct the Anishinabek Nation Health Secretariat to continue to engage in discussions on Health Transformation with Anishinabek First Nations, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and Indigenous Services Canada;

Direct the Anishinabek Nation Health Secretariat to ensure the process is First Nation driven, with leadership, front line workers and community members involved in the development of an Anishinabek Health Transformation model which is culturally appropriate, addresses the gaps in

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

existing services, improves the delivery of health services - including access to funding - and allows for the opportunity to improve Anishinabek citizens' overall health;

Direct the Anishinabek Nation Health Secretariat to provide regular updates on its progress to Anishinabek Chiefs at Regional Chiefs meetings and the Anishinabek Grand Council Assemblies, as well as updates to First Nation Health leaders on a regular basis. This is without prejudice or derogation to any existing initiative of any First Nation or First Nation organization in this regard; and

Ensure that the Health Transformation initiative respects existing First Nation, First Nation Organizations and Ontario Health team applications and existing Aboriginal and Treaty rights.

  
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Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief



**RESOLUTION – #2019-09**

**Subject:** SUPPORT FOR AN INQUEST INTO DEATH OF DEVON FREEMAN  
**Mover:** Chief Donna Big Canoe, Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
**Seconder:** Chief Rodney Noganosh, Chippewas of Rama First Nation  
**Status:** Carried  
**Opposed:** None  
**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

On October 7, 2017 Devon Freeman, a 17-year-old citizen of the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (Georgina Island), went missing from his group home just outside of Hamilton, Ontario. Devon was not found until April 12, 2018, when his body was discovered in a wooded area hanging from a tree on the property of his group home. His death is considered to be a suicide that took place 6 months prior to him being found. Devon was a Crown Ward of the Children's Aid Society of Hamilton (Hamilton CAS);

Devon's grandmother, Pamela Freeman, is a citizen of Georgina Island. She consented to the Crown Wardship order, believing that she was offering Devon more supports, services and a level of safety that she could not provide to him. Devon struggled as a teenager, grieving the death of his own mother, while grappling with his own mental health and thoughts of suicide;

Devon was unhappy in his placement, periodically running away throughout the spring and summer of 2017. In May of 2017, Devon reported to the group home staff that he had tried to take his own life by hanging himself from a tree. He reported that a friend cut him down. This information was not shared with Pamela or Georgina Island, even though Devon was not a Crown Ward at that time. No supports were offered to Devon, other than a suggestion that he call a helpline. Devon was not taken to the hospital, offered any adequate mental health supports or considered as a candidate for secure treatment;

When Devon left his group home on October 7, 2017, it was the last time anyone saw him. On October 8, 2017, the group home filed a Missing Persons Report with the Hamilton Police Services. No ground search was ever done of the group home property and the police were not made aware that Devon had previously tried to take his own life;

On November 7, 2017, the Hamilton CAS finally contacted Devon's grandmother Pamela. She organized a search for him and was provided with almost no information regarding the efforts of the police or the Hamilton CAS to search for Devon;



**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

Finally on November 27, 2017, a media release was issued for Devon Freeman as a missing child;

On April 12, 2018, Devon's body was discovered hanging from a tree on the group home property. On April 16, 2018, the Coroner's Office reported that the pathology indicated they were 100% certain that the remains belonged to Devon;

The Hamilton CAS never did advise the First Nation's Band Rep that Devon was missing since October 2017, nor was the First Nation ever informed of his death. The Band Rep did not learn of his death until mid-2018 when she received his death certificate in the mail from a family member;

Georgina Island is heartbroken and enraged that Devon's life was lost as a result of multiple systematic failures. These include:

- i. The failure to share Devon's history of suicidal ideation and suicide attempt with service providers;
- ii. The failure to meaningfully engage with Devon following his suicide attempt in May 2017; and
- iii. The Society's failure to work with and consult with the First Nation and his family.

Georgina Island believes that a bright light must be shone on Devon's life and death, in order to expose the failures of the system and protect other vulnerable First Nations' children from a similar fate. A Coroner's Inquest will provide for an opportunity to clearly underline the gaps in the system, as well as the blatant failure of the Hamilton CAS and later the police to work with First Nations;

While the Report of the Expert Panel on the Deaths of Children and Youth in Residential Placements in 2018 made many recommendations, it is missing a number of important areas for consideration including:

- (i) The involvement and rights of the First Nations for our children in care;
- (ii) The rights of First Nations children under both the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* and the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*; and
- (iii) The issue of public safety and communication protocols, as between the Children's Aid Societies, the police and First Nations.

A Coroner's Inquest is discretionary and a formal request must be made to the Chief Coroner.

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Collectively unite and support the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation in making a formal request to the Coroner's Office to call for an inquest into the death of Devon Freeman.



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Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief



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James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

**RESOLUTION – #2019-10**

**Subject:** RESCINDING OF GRAND COUNCIL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS #2016-20, #2017-16 AND #2017-17 – ANISHINABEK NATION HOUSING STRATEGY

**Mover:** Ogimaa Shining Turtle, Whitefish River First Nation

**Seconder:** Chief Peter Collins, Fort William First Nation

**Status:** Carried

**Opposed:** None

**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

The Anishinabek Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly passed resolution #2016-20 at the November 2016 Grand Council Assembly directing the Anishinabek Nation to advocate for the implementation of the Anishinabek Nation Housing Strategy;

The Anishinabek Nation secured resources from Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) in 2016 for the completion of Phase 1 of a multi-phased approach to the development and implementation of the strategy;

Phase 1 included the creation of the Chiefs Committee on Housing (CCOH), the development of a terms of reference and communications protocol and the completion of an overall housing needs report for Anishinabek First Nations;

The Anishinabek Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly passed resolution #2017-16 at the November 2017 Grand Council Assembly supporting the establishment of the CCOH and approving the terms of reference and communications protocol;

The Anishinabek Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly passed resolution #2017-17 at the November 2017 Grand Council Assembly directing the Anishinabek Nation to engage Canada to secure the resources required for Phase 2 of the Anishinabek Nation Housing Strategy;

The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) has been mandated to develop a 10 year First Nations National Housing and Related Infrastructure Strategy which is currently underway;

The Chiefs of Ontario (COO) has been mandated to develop an Ontario specific First Nations Housing Strategy, supported by a Chiefs' committee and a technical team; and

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

As a result of the work currently underway at both the AFN and the COO, despite numerous attempts by the Anishinabek Nation to engage ISC for the continuation of support, ISC has discontinued its support for the Anishinabek Nation Housing Strategy, citing a perceived overlap in the work each organization is undertaking.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Rescind Grand Council Assembly Resolutions #2016-20, #2017-16 and #2017-17;

Direct the Anishinabek Nation to provide technical support to Anishinabek Nation Leadership who participate on the COO and AFN committees to ensure that the Anishinabek Nation is effectively represented;

Direct the Anishinabek Nation leadership who participate in the COO and AFN committees to provide regular updates to the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs and maintain the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs Committee on Housing;

Direct the Anishinabek Nation to continue to advocate that a pan-approach will not meet the needs of Anishinabek First Nations; and

Direct the Anishinabek Nation to advance this position and the work undertaken in Phase 1 to ensure this is accommodated within the National Housing Strategy.

  
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Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief  
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James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

**Subject:** CANADA AND ONTARIO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS AND ADDRESSING THE REGULATORY GAP ON FIRST NATIONS

**Mover:** Chief Melvin Hardy, Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek

**Seconder:** Chief Barron King, Moose Deer Point First Nation

**Status:** Carried

**Opposed:** None

**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

An Environmental Assessment (EA) is an environmental planning and decision-making process that studies, reviews and documents the potential environmental effects of a specific project with the objectives to minimize or avoid adverse environmental effects before they occur and incorporate environmental factors in decision making. Once complete, the applicant of the EA uses the information to make decisions and move on environmental permits and approvals required;

Both the federal and provincial governments are reviewing their EA processes. The Government of Canada is proposing new rules for major projects, through the proposed *Impact Assessment Act* (Act); and, identifying what types of projects may be subjected to impact assessments under the proposed Act, also known as the Project List. Information Requirements and Time Management Regulations are also being developed pursuant to the proposed Act;

Ontario's *Environmental Assessment Act* was created in 1975 and was amended in 1996. In April 2019, the Ontario Government proposed to review their environmental assessment program by focusing on projects that, "pose actual, real risk to the environment and communities, streamlining approval timelines and eliminating duplication". They also propose to exempt projects that are considered low risk activities such as snow plowing and de-icing operations, constructing roadside parks and adding bike lanes;

First Nations do not have the same level of environmental protection in comparison to other Canadians. First Nations have limited or no regulatory regime governing environmental protection on First Nations lands;

Canada has stated that First Nations should identify the need for adequate capacity and resources to develop, implement and enforce their own environmental regulations. However, there are some challenges that the Anishinabek First Nations are experiencing as they proceed



**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

through the *Lands Management Act*, and the process for ratification of *First Nation Land Codes*, the thresholds of which can be very challenging and difficult for First Nations to meet;

Both Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNA) are meeting with First Nations and organizations to discuss potential interests and collaborative approaches to address the environmental regulatory gap. Some examples include:

- The co-development of framework legislation that recognizes First Nation environmental laws;
- The co-development of options to strengthen existing federal legislative tools (e.g., the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*, 1999); or
- The co-development of flexible and comprehensive national First Nations environmental protection legislation, with or without the option of letting First Nations choose to have provincial environmental standards reflected in their laws.

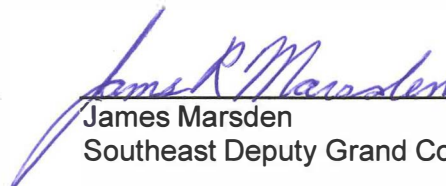
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Direct the Grand Council Chief to engage the federal and provincial governments responsible for the Environmental Assessment legislation and regulations reminding them of:

- a) Their fiduciary duty and their duty to fully and meaningfully consult and accommodate with Anishinabek First Nations; and
- b) The need for funds to support capacity for the Anishinabek Nation to fully understand the undertakings by the federal and provincial governments with regards to each's respective review of its Environmental Assessment process. Also to allow the Anishinabek Nation to provide our Anishinabek First Nations with technical advice and expertise with regards to these reviews and any proposed legislation and regulations amendments.

Direct the Anishinabek Nation to enter into funding agreements with federal and provincial governments to support the Anishinabek First Nations as follows:

- Provide technical advice and expertise in the federal and provincial reviews of Environmental Assessments and/or Impact Assessments; and
- Provide opportunities to share information and resources and discuss the proposed federal and provincial environmental assessment amendments and alleviating any environmental regulatory gaps on First Nations.

  
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Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief  
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James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

**Subject:** SPECIES AT RISK ACT, SECTION 11 CONSERVATION AGREEMENT FOR  
THE BOREAL WOODLAND CARIBOU IN ONTARIO

**Mover:** Chief Paul Syrette, Ojibways of Garden River First Nation

**Second:** Chief William Diabo, Magnetawan First Nation

**Status:** Carried

**Opposed:** None

**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

The Anishinabek First Nations of the Northern Superior Region rely on a balanced environment. First Nation rights are communal in nature, and are grounded in historical harvesting traditions and the practices of our people that have taken place long before European settlement;

Under Section 11 of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA), the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) can enter into conservation agreements with a province to benefit a species at risk or enhance its survival in the wild. These agreements commit the signing parties to undertake conservation measures;

The overarching goal of the conservation agreement between Ontario and Canada is to achieve and maintain self-sustaining populations of Boreal Woodland Caribou in Ontario, also known as the Woodland Caribou;

The Northern Superior Chiefs assert jurisdiction over the lands, water, and resources of their territories and that Aboriginal and Treaty rights must be recognized through environmentally, socially and economically responsible resource management; and

The Northern Superior First Nations have not been meaningfully consulted or accommodated in relation to Section 11 of the Conservation Agreement with Ontario under SARA.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Support the Northern Superior Region Chiefs in their demand for meaningful consultation and accommodation processes on the Woodland Caribou by both the federal and provincial governments;

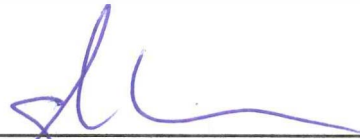


**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

Direct the Grand Council Chief to correspond in writing with the Environment Ministers of both the federal and provincial governments to:

- a. Remind them of their fiduciary duty to consult and accommodate with the Anishinabek First Nations on resource development matters such as the Woodland Caribou and others;
- b. Demand that the exemption of forestry operations related to species at risk continue until the Anishinabek First Nations have been consulted and accommodated on the Boreal Woodland Caribou and other land uses in their territories; and
- c. State that the Chiefs in the Northern Superior Region will not recognize SARA or Section 11 agreements until their rights and interests are recognized and reconciled with our Aboriginal and Treaty holders and neighboring governments; and

Direct the Anishinabek Nation Secretariat to develop a media communication strategy in line with this resolution.

  
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Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

**Subject:** REMOVAL OF CAMP 43 DAM (BLACK STURGEON DAM) IN THE  
NORTHERN SUPERIOR REGION

**Mover:** Chief Scott McLeod, Nipissing First Nation

**Seconder:** Chief Paul Syrette, Ojibways of Garden River First Nation

**Status:** Carried

**Opposed:** None

**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

Water related issues remain a high priority for political parties, the Government of Ontario and the Anishinabek Nation. Increasingly, we have come to understand the possible negative consequences of human water usage and manipulation. The construction and decommissioning of dams can be problematic for ecosystem health by altering the natural flow of water, transforming the biological and physical characteristics of river channels and flood plains as well as fragmenting the continuity of rivers;

All dams have a limited lifespan, and poorly maintained dams will eventually fail. The cost of dam maintenance has resulted in dam removal becoming a frequently used management tool. There can be a number of reasons for the removal of a dam, these include: safety, policy change, economic, or ecology;

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), tasked the Zone 9 Advisory Council to consider 5 different options for the Camp 43 dam, also known as the Black Sturgeon Dam, and Ontario has now advanced a plan to decommission the dam. The Black Sturgeon Dam would be partially removed to open the river system up for the movement of fish and reconnection of the river system to Black Bay and Lake Superior;

The MNRF plan assumes that the habitat in the Black Sturgeon River above the Black Surgeon dam is necessary for the recovery of the walleye population of Black Bay. There is however, little to no scientific evidence supporting this assumption and the connection between the recovery of walleye and the suitability of the habitat upstream of the dam;

Anishinabek First Nations have been adapting to their environment since the time of Creation and have adapted to the dammed area of the Black Sturgeon since construction of the dam in 1960. The creation of the dam created new land and waterscapes that brought about new hunting,

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

fishing, gathering and harvesting opportunities within the area surrounding the Black Sturgeon Dam; and

The removal of the dam will impact these opportunities to exercise rights as the land and waterscapes will change. There is also an associated loss of habitat for moose and other animals that rely on wetlands.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**


Support the Northern Superior Region Chiefs in their opposition to the Dam 43 removal on the Black Sturgeon River until further studies have been completed to fully understand the undertaking and ensure a proper decision can be made; and

Direct the Grand Council Chief to correspond with both the federal and provincial governments responsible for the proposed removal of Dam 43 to remind them of:

- a. Their fiduciary duty to consult and accommodate with Anishinabek First Nations on resource development matters such as the removal of dams within Anishinabek Nation territory; and
- b. The need for funds to support the capacity needed to complete a First Nation led impact study. The results of the study to be discussed before a final decision is made on the proposed removal of Dam 43.



Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief



James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

**RESOLUTION – #2019-14**

**Subject:** FUNDING CUTS TO THE ANISHINABEK/ONTARIO FISHERIES  
RESOURCE CENTRE (A/OFRC) AND A/OFRC PROGRAM

**Mover:** Chief Melvin Hardy Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek

**Seconder:** Tom Borg (Proxy), Red Rock Indian Band

**Status:** Defeated (4 in favor, 23 voted)

**Opposed:** 6

**Abstentions:** 10

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**WHEREAS:**

The Crown in Right of Ontario and the Anishinabek Nation signed the Anishinabek Conservation and Fishing Agreement in 1993 which included commitment to development of an independent Fisheries Resource Centre to act as a source of information in the Anishinabek Nation territories;

The Anishinabek/ Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre (A/OFRC) was founded in 1995 in fulfilment of that commitment;

The need for trusted source of information, independent of Provincial agencies, was the stated reason for the creation of the A/OFRC;

Ontario has unilaterally reduced A/OFRC funding to a level that makes meaningful, independent work impossible while stating that the A/OFRC is a duplication of the work of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry; and

The unilateral elimination of the A/OFRC's capacity to deliver the services agreed to in the Anishinabek Conservation and Fishing Agreement is a violation of the spirit and letter of the Anishinabek Conservation and Fishing Agreement.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Declare that the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources is not an independent, trusted source of information within the territories of the Anishinabek Nation;

Direct the Grand Council Chief to engage with the provincial government to advocate that funding for the A/OFRC must be immediately restored to at least the agreed level of \$860,000 per year for the remainder of the current 3-year Transfer Payment Agreement; and

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

Call on the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to expand the mandate of the A/OFRC and amend the A/OFRC program as previously requested by the Chiefs-in-Assembly and that these be addressed in good faith by the Crown in Right of Ontario before the expiry of the current Transfer Payment Agreement and acted on appropriately.

A stylized signature in blue ink, consisting of a large 'G' followed by a horizontal line.

Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief

A signature in blue ink that reads 'James R. Marsden' in a cursive script.

James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

**RESOLUTION – #2019-15**

**Subject:** FIRST NATION ASETAS AND THE FIRST NATION INUIT CHILD CARE INITIATIVE (FNICCI)  
**Mover:** Chief Myeengun Henry, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation  
**Seconder:** Chief Scott McLeod, Nipissing First Nation  
**Status:** Carried  
**Opposed:** None  
**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

Anishinabek First Nations have participated in national employment and training programs (Pathways, Regional Bilateral Agreements, Aboriginal Human Resource Development (AHRDS)-1, AHRDS-2, Aboriginal Skills Employment and Training Agreements (ASETAs)) since 1992;

Ontario First Nation ASETAs have delivered the FNICCI funds to their communities since 1999; Ontario First Nation ASETAs have participated in only one engagement session in July 2017 regarding the revamping of Early Learning and Child Care programs nationally;

The summary report from the July 2017 meeting concludes that “The need to address deficiencies is quite obvious and long-standing. An indigenous Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) framework that prioritizes an empowered FNICCI program will be able to produce substantial benefits practically immediately because the ASETS framework is already in place and working”;

The federal government has provided a ten-year national employment and training strategy; and

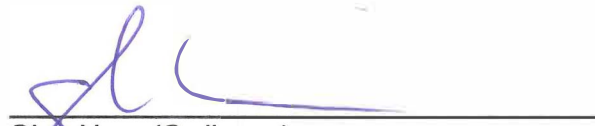
The ten-year contribution agreement includes only two years of funding of the FNICCI through the ASETAs.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Call on the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour to acknowledge that the Chiefs of the First Nations of Canada retain jurisdiction for the governance of their band membership, regardless of residency; and

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

Call on the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour to work with the Assembly of First Nations Technical Working Group and regional counterparts to plan for the retention of the FNICCI through the ten-year agreement and any subsequent agreements.



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Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief



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James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief



**RESOLUTION – #2019-16**

**Subject:** INCLUSION OF CANADA SUMMER JOBS TO FIRST NATION ABORIGINAL SKILLS, EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING AGREEMENTS (ASETAS)

**Mover:** Chief Barron King, Moose Deer Point First Nation

**Seconder:** Chief Myeengun Henry, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation

**Status:** Carried

**Opposed:** None

**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

Anishinabek First Nations have participated in national employment and training programs (Pathways, Regional Bilateral Agreements, Aboriginal Human Resource Development (AHRDS)-1, AHRDS-2, ASETS) since 1992;

Ontario First Nation ASETA's have delivered Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) for one year under ASETA and under predecessor programs since 1992;

First Nation administrations and employers have had to apply for summer student positions in competition with other employers in a Member of Parliament's riding;

First Nation administrations and employers have witnessed a great loss of funding for First Nation students since CSJ was removed from ASETA delivery; and

The federal government has espoused a commitment to youth training and employment, which includes First Nations youth.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Call on the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour, to acknowledge in writing, that the Chiefs of the First Nations of Canada retain jurisdiction for the governance of their First Nation citizenship, regardless of residency; and

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

Call on the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour to work with the Assembly of First Nations Technical Working Group and regional counterparts to plan for re-implementation of Canada Summer Jobs funding under First Nation ASETAs.



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Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief



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James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief

**RESOLUTION – #2019-17**

**Subject:** OPPOSITION TO SMALL NUCLEAR REACTORS (SNR'S)  
**Mover:** Chief Duncan Michano, Biigtigong Nishnaabeg  
**Seconder:** Chief Peter Mushquash, Pays Platt First Nation  
**Status:** Carried  
**Opposed:** None  
**Abstentions:** None

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**WHEREAS:**

The nuclear industry in Ontario is seeking support from the Government of Canada to conduct research to build, and to operate Small Nuclear Reactors (SNR's) in small communities in the North. Nuclear reactors regardless of size, produce bi-products and radioactive water material that is hazardous to the environment and human health;

Nuclear energy supplies approximately 58% of the energy within Ontario and remains the cheapest source of energy. The Ontario Energy Board claims that nuclear power is seven times cheaper than solar. The International Energy Agency (IEA) stated that nuclear power continues to grow and is an important part of a clean energy system;

The nuclear industry in Ontario includes more than 200 private sector companies who provide services to Canadian reactors. Nuclear reactors create radioactive waste that contains radioactive material that is hazardous to all forms of life and the environment, and is regulated by government agencies. The Nuclear Water Management Organization is searching for a site to bury all of Canada's highly radioactive fuel waste;

The Assembly of First Nations opposed the construction and operation of SNR's through Resolution No. 62/2018 which was moved by Chief Duncan Michano and seconded by Chief Melvin Hardy. The Anishinabek Nation has also passed various resolutions that oppose the transportation and disposal of nuclear waste in or through Anishinabek territories; and

Article 29, of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states that, "*States shall take effective measures to ensure that no storage or disposal of hazardous materials take place in the lands and territories of indigenous peoples without their free, prior and informed consent*".

**Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assembly  
Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation  
June 4 - 6, 2019**

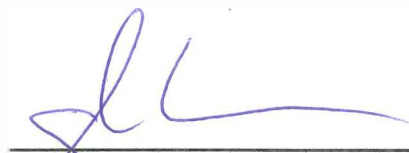

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY:**

Demand that the federal government immediately uphold article 29 of the UNDRIP and that they ensure that no storage or disposal of hazardous materials take place within Anishinabek Nation land or territories;

Oppose the construction, operation, movement or storage of SNRs within the Anishinabek Territory, including those in close proximity to bodies of water;

Oppose the replacement of existing energy supplies supplied by SNRs within the Anishinabek Territory; and

Direct the Grand Council Chief to correspond with the federal government and its agencies to remind them of the Anishinabek Nations position regarding nuclear energy and waste and the transportation of SNRs within Anishinabek territory.

  
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Glen Hare (Gwiingos)  
Grand Council Chief  
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James Marsden  
Southeast Deputy Grand Council Chief