

SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ANISHINABE NATIONS

OF THE

UNION OF ONTARIO INDIANS

NOVEMBER 25, 26 & 27, 1980

RAMADA INN
SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ANISHINABE NATIONS
OF THE
UNION OF ONTARIO INDIANS
NOVEMBER 25, 26 & 27, 1980

BANDS REPRESENTED:

LAKE SUPERIOR REGION

Fort William
Gull Bay
Lake Helen
Long Lac #58
Michipicoten
Pays Plat
Pic Heron Bay
Pic Mobert
Rocky Bay
Whitesand

ROBINSON-HURON REGION

Dokis
Garden River
Henvey Inlet
Magnetawan
Mississauga
Nipissing
Parry Island
Serpent River
Shawanaga
Sheguiandah
Sheshegwaning
Spanish River
Sucker Creek
Thessalon
Wahnapiatae
West Bay
Whitefish Lake
Whitefish River
Wikwemikong

SOUTHEAST REGION

Alderville
Curve Lake
Golden Lake
Mississaugas of Scugog

SOUTHWEST REGION

Chippewas of Georgina Island
Chippewas of Nawash
Chippewas of Rama
Chippewas of Sarnia
Chippewas of the Thames
Kettle & Stony Point
Moose Deer Point
Muncey of the Thames
Saugeen

GUESTS:

Del Riley, President, National Indian
Brotherhood
Robert DeBassige, Special Assistant to
the President, National Indian
Brotherhood
Joe Miskokomon, Executive Director,
Chiefs of Ontario
Eugene Harrigan, Regional Director,
Ontario Region, D.I.A.N.D.
Ava Sutherland, Executive Assistant,
Ontario Region, D.I.A.N.D.
Dick Pine, Garden River
Union of Ontario Indians' Health
Steering Committee:
Sharon Douglas, Rama
Elizabeth Ritchie, Saugeen
Edith Zack, Garden River
Phyllis Bannon, Fort William
Allan Towegishig, Long Lac #58
Jean Andrews, Whitefish River
Sandra Sylvester, Moose Deer Point

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

LAKE SUPERIOR REGION

Ben Wawia, Vice-President
Stan King, Board Member
Roy Michano, Board Member
Louis Kwissiya, Elder

ROBINSON-HURON REGION

Chief Camille Chiblow, Vice-President
Chief Norman Aguonie, Board Member
Chief Flora Tabobondung, Board Member
William Meawasige, Elder

SOUTHEAST REGION

Chief Aubrey Coppaway, Vice-President
Dan Simpson, Board Member
Fred Simpson, Alternate - Board Member
Elsie Knott, Elder

SOUTHWEST REGION

Chief Norman Stinson, Vice-President
Ether DeLeary, Board Member
Roger Jackson, Board Member
Chief James Mason, Elder

UNION OF ONTARIO INDIANS'
STAFF :

Patrick Madahbee, President
Ray Martin, Executive Director
Paul Williams, Rights & Treaty Research
Richard Powless, Indian Act Liaison
Alan Roy, Director of Environment
Lorraine Big Canoe, Director of Health
Noella Toulouse, Director of Recreation
Donna Whetung, Director of Education
Jan Bourdeau, Director of Social Services
Carol Nadjiwon, Consultant - Social
Development
Charles Recollet, Director of Housing
Dennis Martel, Editor, Ontario Indian
Lila Jones, Bookkeeper
Janice King, Assistant Bookkeeper
Rita Bomberry, Secretary, Development
Programs
Carol White, Secretary, Rights & Treaty
Research
Naomi Longboat, Secretary, Health and
Environment
Shirley Ense, Secretary, Housing and
Economic Development
Patsy Wells, Secretary, Social Services
Andrea Chrisjohn, Secretary, Administration
Myra Wabegijig, Recording Secretary

MOTION # 1: Chief Ron Wakegijig, Wikwemikong
Chief Norman Aguonie, Sheguiandah

THAT all Candidates for the Presidency of the Union of Ontario Indians will have the right, as delegates, to speak to any issue on the floor.

CARRIED.

MOTION # 2: Chief Phillip Goulais, Nipissing
Chief Wilmer Noganosh, Magnetawan

THAT we adopt the Agenda as amended.

CARRIED.

MOTION # 3: Chief Norman Aguonie, Sheguiandah
Leo Bouchard, Long Lac #58

THAT we accept the minutes of the last Union of Ontario Indians' General Assembly held July 1, 2 & 3, 1980 in Sault Ste. Marie.

CARRIED.

MOTION # 4: Ether DeLeary, Chippewas of the Thames
Chief Wilmer Noganosh, Magnetawan

THAT we accept the Resolutions Committee as recommended; that is, Carol Nadjiwon, Richard Powless and Roger Jackson.

CARRIED.

MOTION # 5: Chief Ray Rogers, Chippewas of Sarnia
Chief Camille Chiblow, Mississauga

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the following amendment be accepted and incorporated into the Union of Ontario Indians' Constitutional By-law Handbook as By-law #1, Section 31:

"In order to be eligible for election to the Office of President; a person must an Indian, must be 21 years of age or older and must be

MOTION # 5
CONTINUED : a member of a Band having official membership
in the Union of Ontario Indians."

CARRIED.

MOTION # 6: Chief Ron Wakegijig, Wikwemikong
Howard Bannon, Fort William

THAT Elsie Knott be accepted as Election
Officer for the November 25th, 1980 By-
Election for the Presidency of the Union
of Ontario Indians.

CARRIED.

MOTION # 7: Ben Wawia, Lake Helen
Chief Aubrey Coppaway, Curve Lake

THAT we accept the amendments to the Election
Rules as recommended by the Board of Directors.

CARRIED.

MOTION # 8: Howard Bannon, Fort William
Ernie Edgar, Mississaugas of Scugog

THAT we accept the Election Rules as read,
with noted amendments.

CARRIED.

MOTION # 9: Linda Boyer, Mississauga
Chief Bea Sandy, Moose Deer Point

THAT we accept the Election Procedures as
read.

CARRIED.

MOTION #10: Ether DeLeary, Chippewas of the Thames
Chief Ron Wakegijig, Wikwemikong

THAT nominations for the position of President
of the Union of Ontario Indians be closed.

CARRIED.

MOTION #11: Chief Norman Aguonie, Sheguiandah
Dolphus Toulouse, Spanish River

THAT the ballots be destroyed.

CARRIED.

MOTION #12: Ben Wawia, Lake Helen
Chief James McGregor, Whitefish River

THAT we adjourn.

CARRIED.

MOTION #13: Chief Ron Boissoneau, Garden River
Chief Camille Chiblow, Mississauga

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada is in the
process of patriating the Constitution;

AND WHEREAS, such patriation will not recognize
and protect the rights of our Anishinabe Nations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chiefs of the
Anishinabe Nations assembled here today,
November 27, 1980, do wholeheartedly endorse and
ratify the Position Paper (with noted amendments)
as developed by the Constitution Committee;

AND FURTHER THAT this document shall be used in
representing the position of our Anishinabe
Nations in any negotiations or presentations
attempting to secure and protect our rights.

CARRIED.

MOTION #14: Chief Aubrey Coppaway, Curve Lake
Ernie Edgar, Mississaugas of Scugog

WHEREAS, the present activities of the Canadian
Government surrounding the patriation of its'
Constitution seriously endangers the survival
of the Anishinabek;

AND WHEREAS, this situation has caused the Chiefs
and members of our Nations to clarify and state
our position and our rights as Nations in Canada;

MOTION #14

CONTINUED : AND WHEREAS, this situation has further caused us to state our unity and singleness of purpose in stating and supporting our position;

THE Chiefs of the Anishinabek assembled at this Special All Chiefs Constitutional Meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, November 25, 26 & 27, 1980, do hereby resolve that we will attempt to have our "Position Paper" endorsed and adopted by each Band through Band Council Resolution.

CARRIED.

MOTION #15:

Chief Wilmer Noganosh, Magnetawan
Chief Flora Tabobondung, Parry Island

WHEREAS, the Chiefs and Delegates of the Anishinabek assembled at a Special All Chiefs Meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, November 25, 26 & 27, 1980, have endorsed and adopted the Position Paper developed by their Constitution Committee.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT to further show our support for the paper, we will affix our signatures on attached pages to the Position Paper.

CARRIED.

MOTION #16:

Fred Simpson, Alderville
Chief Reno Dokis, Dokis

WHEREAS, the actions necessary to secure and protect our rights as the Anishinabek will be costly;

AND WHEREAS, we do not have the available funds to meet such costs;

WE THEREFORE RESOLVE THAT an Ontario Lottery be established to help offset the said costs.

MOTION #16

CONTINUED : WE FURTHER DIRECT the staff of the Union of Ontario Indians' Office in Toronto, Ontario, to make available such necessary resources to develop and implement the establishment of the Ontario Lottery.

CARRIED.

MOTION #17:

Lucille Rice, Parry Island
Chief Toussant Michano, Pic Heron Bay

WHEREAS, at an All Chiefs Assembly of the Union of Ontario Indians held in Sault Ste. Marie, July 1, 2 & 3, 1980, the Chiefs established a Constitution Committee to develop their position with respect to their rights;

AND WHEREAS, this Committee has completed this position paper and presented it to the Chiefs at an All Chiefs Assembly, November 25, 26 & 27, 1980, for ratification;

AND WHEREAS, it is recognized that the recognition and protection of our rights as stated in the position paper will not come without further work by the Constitution Committee.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chiefs of the Anishinabek assembled at a Special All Chiefs Meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, November 25, 26 & 27, 1980, do hereby support the continued work of the Constitution Committee to act on our behalf in securing the recognition and protection of our rights as stated in the position paper.

CARRIED.

MOTION #18: Leonard Dokis, Dokis
Aileen Irons, Curve Lake

WHEREAS, we the Anishinabe Nations affirm our identity and traditions;

AND WHEREAS, we hold strongly that our spiritual beliefs and practices are the foundation and strength of our Nations;

AND WHEREAS, our rights and way of life as Nations are seriously being threatened.

WE the Chiefs of the Anishinabe Nations hereby resolve, at this Special Assembly, November 25, 26 & 27, 1980, that our spiritual advisors be involved in our efforts to secure and protect our rights.

CARRIED.

MOTION #19: Chief Flora Tabobondung, Parry Island
Leonard Dokis, Dokis

WHEREAS, our Nations have always recognized the need and importance of joining with the other Nations for peace, strength and unity of purpose;

AND WHEREAS, we have communicated to the Chiefs of all Nations of this land, through a letter from Chief Norman Stinson, our desire to form a First Nations Confederacy, to join together with those Nations;

AND WHEREAS, the Chiefs of the Nations shall meet again in Ottawa on November 30 and December 1 and 2, 1980;

NOW THEREFORE WE RESOLVE THAT at the Assembly of First Nations, we shall propose the formation of a First Nations Confederacy;

THAT our Chiefs who attend this Assembly shall have the authority to act on our behalf and to bind our Nations in the formation of this Confederacy.

MOTION #19

CONTINUED : THAT the following principles shall govern the Confederacy:

- All Nations in the Confederacy are equal. No Nation shall see itself as more important than any other;
- Each Nation shall speak through Chiefs or other persons it shall appoint as Speakers;
- Decisions in the Assembly of Chiefs shall be through consensus, not majority rule;
- The Assembly of Chiefs shall be the body that makes the laws of the Confederacy;
- In this Assembly, the Chiefs shall sit in the Councils of their Nations;
- A Government of the Confederacy shall be formed. It shall have those powers which the Chiefs will agree to give it and shall act as Speakers for the Confederacy;
- The Speakers shall have the power to speak for and act for the Chiefs on those matters which they have been given the power to do so. They shall not act or speak without authority;
- Nations do not lose their sovereignty or national identity upon joining the Confederacy. The Confederacy has only those powers which the Nations agree to share.

CARRIED.

MOTION #20: Chief Camille Chiblow, Mississauga
Chief Toussant Michano, Pic Heron Bay

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada has committed many violations of our rights in the past;

AND WHEREAS, we have no trust in the Government of Canada and feel that it will not recognize and protect our rights in good faith;

AND WHEREAS, our rights must be recognized and protected within the Constitution of Canada;

THEREFORE WE RESOLVE THAT we prefer the recognition and protection of our rights to be placed in an Act of the Parliament of Great Britain, which will continue to be binding on Canada.

AND THAT this Act be amended only upon agreement between the federal government of Canada and our Nations;

AND THAT this, our preferance, not be understood or construed to mean that other forms of recognition and protection are not acceptable to us.

CARRIED.

MOTION #21: Ben Wawia, Lake Helen
Chief Norman Aguonie, Sheguiandah

WHEREAS, the activities surrounding the attainment of the recognition and protection of our rights will be expensive in financial terms;

AND WHEREAS, the present funding available is inadequate to offset these costs;

AND WHEREAS, this work is a high priority of the Chiefs of the Anishinabe Nations;

MOTION #21

CONTINUED : AND WHEREAS, in the past when priority issues have arisen, the Bands who are members of the Union of Ontario Indians have contributed to fund those issues;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chiefs, Delegates and Staff assembled here today will contribute personally to the Union of Ontario Indians' Constitution Fund.

AND FURTHER THAT the Chiefs will work at their Reserves to raise money to contribute to the Constitution Fund.

CARRIED.

MOTION #22: Chief Reno Dokis, Dokis
Chief Norman Stinson, Chippewas of Rama

WHEREAS, there is the need for unity within Canada among the Aboriginal Nations;

AND WHEREAS, there is a need to work with all groups and organizations to further our goals of the recognition and protection of our rights;

AND WHEREAS, the National Office, National Indian Brotherhood, needs a show of support for their work on our behalf;

AND WHEREAS, certain forces within the Indian political framework may be working to create disunity and separation at the First Nations Constitutional Assembly in Ottawa, November 30, December 1 and 2, 1980;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chiefs of the Anishinabe Nations assembled here in Sault Ste. Marie on November 27, 1980, do hereby restate their support for our National Office, National Indian Brotherhood, and we further restate our intention of continued participation and co-operation in working with our National Office.

MOTION #22

CONTINUED : FURTHERMORE, we restate our support for the leadership of the National Office, Del Riley and Sykes Powderface.

CARRIED.

MOTION #23: Roger Nakanagis, Rocky Bay
Chief Flora Tabobondung, Parry Island

WHEREAS, a Constitution Committee was formed by resolution at an All Chiefs Assembly of the Union of Ontario Indians held in Sault Ste. Marie, July 1, 2 & 3, 1980;

AND WHEREAS, this Committee has developed, distributed and presented a detailed accounting of their activities and recommended directions in the form of a document entitled Plan for Action presentation to the General Assembly of Chiefs, November 25, 26 & 27, 1980;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT we the Chiefs of the Anishinabek do hereby accept the Action Plan as presented.

CARRIED.

MOTION #24: Chief Joe Thompson, Rocky Bay
Chief Reno Dokis, Dokis

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Union of Ontario Indians have examined and given their support to two actions intended to create unity among the different Aboriginal Nations in North America;

AND WHEREAS, the Board has passed motions on these two directions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT we the Chiefs of the Anishinabe Nations do hereby support and adopt these resolutions as read.

The resolutions read as follows:

MOTION #24

CONTINUED : "That Walt Bressette be approached to co-ordinate a Council of the Chiefs of the Nations on both sides of the Lakes next summer in the Sault or Mackinack, contingent on funds available."

"That we the Board of Directors approve of renewing our relations and Treaties with the Six Nations Confederacy and that a meeting in Toronto be co-ordinated to identify areas in which we can work in unison.

And that we give our approval of presenting presents to the MicMac Grand Council and the possible co-ordination of a joint meeting.

And that in looking at the future of the Union of Ontario Indians in the context of the Anishinabek, we approve the new letterhead using the Thunderbird symbol and government by Grand Council of the Chiefs of the Nations."

CARRIED.

MOTION #25: Chief Ron Wakegijig, Wikwemikong
Chief Joe Thompson, Rocky Bay

WHEREAS, the Union of Ontario Indian Chiefs and Councils consider the improvement of Indian health and Indian health services, within the Union of Ontario Indians' territory, a priority issue;

AND WHEREAS, the Federal Government has provided consultation funds and the Union of Ontario Indian Chiefs and Councils wish to continue consultation on an on-going basis;

AND WHEREAS, the Union of Ontario Indian Chiefs and Councils recognize that it is necessary to develop new health strategies to supercede present health policy;

MOTION #25

CONTINUED : BE IT RESOLVED THAT this assembly of Chiefs and Delegates of November 27, 1980, support and endorse the continued work of the Union of Ontario Indians' Health Steering Committee.

AND THAT IT THEREFORE designates this Health Steering Committee as a Sub-Committee of the Union of Ontario Indians' Board of Directors and charges this Sub-Committee with the responsibility for developing a document on achieving "Indian control of Indian health."

CARRIED.

MOTION #26: Gertrude Lewis, Serpent River
Chief Norman Aguonie, Sheguiandah

THAT we adopt and use the following spelling, "ANISHINABEK" in all future correspondence and references to our Nations.

CARRIED.

MOTION #27: Chief William Antoine, Sheshegwaning
Elsie Knott, Curve Lake

WHEREAS, since earliest times we have been wrongfully referred to as Indians;

AND WHEREAS, we wish to correct this mistake and restate our true identities to the world;

AND WHEREAS, in our language we refer to ourselves as Anishinabek;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT we wish to be called Anishinabek by the other governments in any future dealings or relations between ourselves and those governments.

CARRIED.

MOTION #28: Chief Ray Rogers, Chippewas of Sarnia
Chief Flora Tabobondung, Parry Island

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we the Chiefs of the Anishinabek advise the Union of Ontario Indians to move immediately to establish a separate and distinct fund to be known as the Constitution Fund. The responsibility for the administration of the fund will be with the Constitution Committee.

FURTHER, all monies donated towards the Constitution Fund other than Government funds will be deposited in this Fund.

CARRIED.

MOTION #29: Leonard Dokis, Dokis
Chief Camille Chiblow, Mississauga

THAT we adjourn.

CARRIED.

SIGNED ON NOVEMBER 27TH, 1980

AT THE SPECIAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
ANISHINABEK

NAME

BAND

James Mason Chief	Saugee no 29.
Camille Chiblow Chief	Muiriranga # 8
Flora Sabobondung Chief	Parry Island Res # 16
Ernest Bisailon Chief	Thessalon
Norman Recollet Chief	Wahnapitae
Joe Wakegijig - Chief	Wik-wemikong theeded Ind. Res.
Philip Saulais Chief	Nipissing NO. #10
Rene Pops Chief	Dokis
William Antaine Chief	Sheshequasing Band # 20
James McHugher - Chief	White Fish River Band # 4
Wendell Jacobs Councillor	Serpent River Band # 7.
Christopher Owl Chief	Spanish river Band # 5
Embry Poppaway Chief	Curve Lake. Ont
Arnold Goose Chief	Seigog
George Timlayson Chief	Long Lac # 58
Norman Aquonie Board Member + Chief	Sheg. # 14
Quadr Buchard Chief	Paup. Ont
Howard Bannou Coun rep Chief Fort William	

● Francis Stone chief Michipicota Band
 Bee Sandy chief Moose Deer Point Band
 Norman v. Stinson Chief Same band.
 Ray Jeger Chief Chippewas of Sarnia
 Leslie Dobson Chief Muncy of the Thames
 Ethel Leary Board Member Southwest

Hewan Sibens Dele. Whitesand
 Milton Wawia Chief Red Rock 53A

● Judy Wawia Councillor Red Rock 53A
 Helen Holson Delegate Muncy of The Thames
 Larry Warshawsk Delegete Whitesand
 Gertrude Lewis Delegete Serpent River Reserve.
 Lucille Rice Councillor Parry Island Band

Ted Jeger Delegete Parry Island
 George H. Hummer Councillor Rama
 Arthur Sandy Delegete Moose Deer Point
 Wats Warshawsk C. Rap Rapids

● Joan Simcoe Councillor Chippewas of Rama
 Tom Pelletier Councillor Fort William Indian Band
 Muriel Recollet Councillor Wahnapitae # 11.
 Leonard Dohis Councillor Dohis Band

Justin Shamaa councillor Wifwenkpaq
Dolphus Toulouse councillor Spanish River

Wangli councillor Quin Bay

Linda Boyer Councillor Mississauga

Doddy McGeer Councillor White Fish River

Dery Boyer councillor Mississauga

Ivin George Councillor Kettle and Stony Point

Maryann George councillor Kettle and Stony Point

Toussant Michel chief Pictou Heron