TITLE:	Addressing the Policing Crisis at the Northlands Denesuline First Nation, Lac Brochet, Manitoba
SUBJECT:	Justice
MOVED BY:	Chris Henderson, proxy, Barren Lands First Nation, MB
SECONDED BY:	Chief Ron Evans, Norway House Cree First Nation, MB
DECISION:	Carried by Consensus

WHEREAS:

A. The United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states, at Article 7, that Indigenous individuals have the rights to life, physical and mental integrity, liberty and security of person.

B. Under Section 92(14) of the British North America Act, 1867, the province of Manitoba is responsible for the administration of justice, including policing.

C. The RCMP delivers policing services as the Manitoba Provincial Police under contract with the province through the Manitoba Provincial Police Service Agreement (MPPSA) in those First Nation communities without a self-administered First Nation police force. Under the terms of the PPSA, Manitoba pays 70 percent of the costs of policing services and Canada pays 30 percent of the costs, including the cost of policing services in First Nation communities.

D. There is no permanent RCMP Detachment at the Northlands Denesuline First Nation, which is served from the Thompson Detachment located several hundred kilometres southeast of the community.

E. The role of First Nation Special Constables appointed under Part 8 of the Manitoba Police Services Act is recognized by the RCMP and First Nations as an essential part of the delivery of policing in those First Nation communities without a self-administered First Nation police force.

F. There is no federal or provincial funding provided for First Nation Special Constables with peace officer appointments and First Nations must fund the activities of Special Constables through funding identified for other purposes.

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G. There is no longer any Special Constable with a peace officer appointment at the Northlands Denesuline First Nation, with the result that Northlands no longer has access to the RCMP cell block during those periods when the RCMP are not in the community, including in cases where there is a need to temporarily detain an individual for the safety and security of the individual or the community.

H. There is an ongoing crisis in public safety as a result of the province of Manitoba and the RCMP leaving the Northlands Denesuline First Nation with no policing services whatsoever for extended periods of time, the lack of Special Constable services and the lack of access to temporary detainment facilities.

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

1. Direct the National Chief to call on the Minister of Public Safety, as a party to the Manitoba Provincial Police Service Agreement to ensure public safety, security, and to provide necessary policing at the Northlands Denesuline First Nation.

2. Call on the Minister of Public Safety to specifically:

a. insist that Manitoba and the RCMP take immediate steps to place a permanent RCMP presence on the ground at the Northern Denesuline First Nation at least until such time as secondary policing services by First Nation Special Constables supported by adequate resources and equipment can be established;

b. recognize that the secondary policing services provided by First Nation Special Constables with peace officer appointments under Part 8 of the Manitoba Police Services Act are an essential part of the policing services delivered under the Manitoba Provincial Police Service Agreement (MPPSA);

c. agree to include all of the costs of training, salaries, insurance and equipment for First Nation Special Constables as part of the expenditures and under the 70-30 cost-sharing arrangement between Manitoba and Canada under the MPPSA.

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