ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
JULY 17, 18 & 19, 2012, TORONTO, ON

Resolution no. 13/2012

TITLE:	Support for Recognizing Archaeology Day
SUBJECT:	Archaeology
MOVED BY:	Chief Gayle Strikes With A Gun, Piikani First Nation, Treaty 7, AB
SECONDED BY:	Chief Fred Rabbit Carrier, Siksika First Nation, Treaty 7, AB
DECISION:	Carried by consensus as part of an Omnibus Motion, Moved by Chief Maureen Chapman, Skawahlook First Nation BC & Seconded by Chief Marcel Head, Shoal Lake First Nation, SK

WHEREAS:

A. Archaeology is an academic discipline that includes a focus on the heritage of First Nation peoples and cultures in archaeological sites across Canada.

B. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) recognizes the right of Indigenous peoples to protect and maintain "archaeological and historical sites" in Article 11(1).

C. The ancestors of modern First Nation peoples form a significant part of the archaeological record in Canada.

D. The Canadian Archaeological Association's (CAA) "Statement of Principles for Ethical Conduct Pertaining to Aboriginal Peoples" promotes / acknowledges:
   a. cultural and spiritual links between Aboriginal people and the archaeological record;
   b. partnerships with Aboriginal communities in archaeological research, management and education.

E. The actions of some land owners and developers, and inaction by public officials, can threaten the existence and preservation of archaeological sites in Canada.

F. First Nation communities possess a duty of stewardship with respect to their ancestors and the archeological record.

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G. Public awareness and education with respect to archaeological sites can help to encourage an ethic of heritage conservation.

H. The United Nations recognizes August 9 as the International Day of Indigenous People.

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

1. Recognize August 9 as Archaeology Day to be observed annually in an effort to raise awareness about the heritage of First Nation peoples and cultures present in the archaeological record and in archaeological sites across Canada.

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