TITLE:	Development of a National First Nation Housing Strategy
SUBJECT:	Housing
MOVED BY:	Chief William Montour, Six Nations of the Grand River Territory, ON
SECONDED BY:	Chief Madeleine Paul, Eagle Village First Nation, QC
DECISION:	Carried by consensus

WHEREAS:

A. Article 21 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states: "Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security."

B. Article 23 states: "Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development. In particular, indigenous peoples have the right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programmes affecting them and, as far as possible, to administer such programmes through their own institutions."

C. The federal government must recognize its fiduciary responsibility and its obligation to respect the Treaty right to housing, including compliance with Supreme Court decisions such as Sappier and Grey.

D. First Nations have a right to determine, plan, implement and operate their own housing institutions.

E. First Nations have a right to an adequate standard of living including housing.

F. Chiefs-in-Assembly have consistently called for a comprehensive approach to housing and the full transition of housing programs, activities and initiatives including the management and administration of funds to First Nation control.

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G. Last December at the 2011 Special Chiefs Assembly, Chiefs-in-Assembly reiterated calls to make housing a national priority.

H. A draft National First Nation Housing Strategy that responds to resolutions has been developed for regional input and the consideration of Chiefs.

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

1. Commit to focused dialogue and priority setting through regional assemblies to contribute to the development of a National First Nation Strategy on Housing.
2. Direct AFN to facilitate the development of this strategy and provide technical support for regional dialogue where requested.
3. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to invest directly into a new approach that supports First Nation control, management and administration over all matters of First Nation Housing.
4. Direct that regional perspectives and priorities be incorporated into a draft National First Nation Housing Strategy, for further deliberation and endorsement at the 2012 Special Chiefs Assembly.

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