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

Resolution no. 10/2012

TITLE:	Support for the Tsilhqot'in Nation in Opposing the New Prosperity Mine
SUBJECT:	Environment, Rights and Title
MOVED BY:	Chief Joe Alphonse, Tl'etinqox-t'in, BC
SECONDED BY:	Chief Marilyn Baptiste, Xeni Gwet'in First Nation, BC
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. The Tsilhqot'in Nation is dedicated to the protection of its lands and the integrity of these lands and waters is essential for the continued exercise of their Aboriginal rights.

B. The proposed New Prosperity Gold-Copper Mine will cause harmful alterations, disruptions and destruction to the land, waters, habitats, fish life and animals in the area of the ore deposit.

C. The Tsilhqot'in Nation, with the support of the Assembly of First Nations, Union of BC Indian Chiefs, and the First Nations Summit successfully defended their Aboriginal title, and has actively opposed attempts to develop the Prosperity Gold-Copper Mine.

D. The Government of Canada has rejected previous plans to build a gold and copper mine on the site due to the environmental harm that such a project would cause.

E. The laws, rules and regulations that governed the previous assessment, review and approval process for the Prosperity Mine have been significantly altered by Bill C-38, including standards for environmental protection under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, Canadian Environmental Protection Act, Fisheries Act, Species at Risk Act* and other pieces of federal legislation.

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F. The value and integrity of the Federal Government's commitment to work with First Nations, respect Aboriginal rights and title, and promote responsible natural resource development is at stake, and approval of the New Prosperity project will jeopardize the honour of the Crown.

G. The Tsilhqot'in have court-affirmed proven Aboriginal rights to the area of the proposed mine and are supported by domestic and international law, including the right to free, prior and informed consent as found in the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.*

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

1. Continue to fully support the efforts of the Tsilhqot'in Nation to protect their lands, waters, and rights from the proposed New Prosperity Gold-Copper Mine.
2. Call upon the Government of Canada to interpret the new *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* and the amendments within Bill C-38 in such a way as to promote the continued protection of lands, waters and First Nations rights and title to the fullest extent.
3. Call upon the Government of Canada to maintain its honor and integrity by rejecting the New Prosperity Project with prejudice and recognize the project as an example of irresponsible development.

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