



ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

**AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT  
ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES**  
*in Canada's Action Plan*



# AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES *in Canada's Action Plan*

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This document provides a list of the resolutions and mandates that support the essential elements/measures the AFN is calling on Canada to include in the UNDA Action Plan.

## **SELF GOVERNANCE, SELF-DETERMINATION AND THE RECOGNITION OF TREATIES**

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### **Jurisdiction and Control over First Nations Lands, Territories and Resources**

#### **Resolution 25/2019: Support for a First Nations Led Engagement Process on Nation Building**

1. Re-affirm our rejection of Canada's Comprehensive Land Claims Policy (CLCP) and the Inherent Right to Self-Government Policy (IRSG) and all associated policies and processes.
2. Re-affirm Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Resolution 37/2016, *Establishing a Crown-First Nations process on Land, Peoples and Governance*, AFN Resolution 08/2018, *Implementing Canada's Recognition and Implementation of Indigenous Rights Framework and clarifying the role of the AFN*, AFN Resolution 39/2018, *First Nations Determination of the Path to Decolonization*, and AFN Resolution 67/2018, *Rejection of the Recognition and Implementation of Indigenous Rights Framework and Associated Processes*, which collectively:
  - a. Reject federally imposed processes and approaches to the recognition of Indigenous Rights, Title and Jurisdiction.
  - b. Recognize, elevate, and support Indigenous self-determination and decision-making processes.
3. Reiterate our call for a First Nations-led process to develop new federal policies and/or legislation to address the recognition and implementation of our inherent Rights, Title and Jurisdiction.
4. Reiterate our expectation that any policy or framework which may affect the Title, or Rights of any First Nation, irrespective of whether that First Nation is currently engaged in negotiations with the Crown, requires the free, prior and informed consent of all First Nations potentially impacted by such a policy or framework.



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5. Direct the AFN, through coordinated action, to implement the common elements of these inter-related resolutions (08/2018, Implementing Canada's Recognition and Implementation of Indigenous Rights Framework and clarifying the role of the AFN, 39/2018, First Nations Determination of the Path to Decolonization and 67/2018, Rejection of the Recognition and Implementation of Indigenous Rights Framework and Associated Processes) through a national engagement process.
6. Direct the AFN to advocate for adequate federal funding to support meaningful First Nations engagement at the local, regional, and national levels on nation building.
7. Direct the AFN to provide an update on progress at the December 2019 Special Chiefs Assembly.

## **Resolution 47/2015: *Develop a Federal Comprehensive Land Claims Policy Based on the Full Recognition of Aboriginal Title***

1. Call upon the Government of Canada, on a Nation-to-Nation basis, in direct consultation with Aboriginal Title First Nations, to undertake a process to replace the federal Comprehensive Claims Policy (CCP) with a policy that recognizes and respects Aboriginal Title and Rights in accordance with Canada's Constitutional obligations, the Tsilhqot'in Nation decision, and consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
2. Call on the Government of Canada to forgive all outstanding loans incurred by First Nations as a result of negotiating under the federal CCP.
3. Call on the Government of Canada to exclude all areas that are subject to overlapping Aboriginal Title and Rights claims from Comprehensive Land Claims Agreement -in -Principle negotiations and to assist, where possible, and when requested by First Nations, the negotiation of shared territory agreements between First Nations.

## **Resolution 30/2015: *Rejecting Canada's Process for Comprehensive Claims Policy Reform***

1. Call on the federal government to dispense with processes that aim to generate an " optics of engagement", and rather, commence a dialogue with all First



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Nations about how a fundamental overhaul of the Comprehensive Claims Policy (CCP) can be jointly carried out with three classes of Aboriginal title First Nations – First Nations that have entered in final comprehensive claims agreements, First Nations that were or have been in comprehensive claims negotiations, and First Nations that have never agreed to negotiate under the federal CCP – to develop a new policy framework for implementing and addressing Treaty rights, First Nations' inherent rights, title and jurisdiction, the Tsilhqot'in Nation decision, as well as international legal norms, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

## **New Fiscal Relationship**

### **Resolution 24/2019: *Engage Extensively with First Nations on the Report of the Joint Advisory Committee on Fiscal Relations***

1. Affirm, acknowledge, and support the diversity of each First Nation.
2. The Spirit and Intent of the relationship between First Nations and Canada requires a fiscal arrangement that honors all agreements.
3. Call on the Joint Advisory Committee on Fiscal Relations (JACFR), the Assembly of First Nations, and Indigenous Services Canada to engage extensively with First Nations across the country on the report and its recommendations.
4. Call on the JACFR to report back to Chiefs-in-Assembly with the findings from those engagements at the Annual General Assembly in July 2020.

### **Resolution 17/2017: *Support for Principles to Guide a New First Nations-Crown Fiscal Relationship***

1. Support, in-principle, the document, Principles for a new First Nations-Crown Fiscal Relationship, as a minimum starting point to guide discussions of a new First Nations-Crown fiscal relationship.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) representatives on the AFN-Canada Fiscal Relations Working Group to review and consider these principles in its work on fiscal issues.
3. Encourage First Nations to:



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- a. Review and discuss the principles for a new First Nations-Crown Fiscal Relationship within their respective communities.
- b. Amend or refine the principles as necessary to meet the unique needs and circumstances of each community.

## **Resolution 66/2017: AFN-Canada Joint Report on Fiscal Relations**

1. Acknowledge receipt of the joint report entitled: A New Approach: Co-Development of New Fiscal Relationship between Canada and First Nations.
2. Call on the Government of Canada to fund work toward the development of a new fiscal relationship, including increased discussions at the individual First Nation, treaty group, tribal council and regional level to augment national discussions and apply the work and knowledge developed by regions to date.
3. Demand that the Government of Canada implement the key actions recommended in this joint report.
4. Call for the Government of Canada to coordinate all dialogues on fiscal relations in order to ensure clarity and transparency.
5. Call on the Prime Minister to meet his personal promise of "sufficient, predictable and sustained funding"
6. Direct the Chiefs Committee on Fiscal Relations to report to the Chiefs on a quarterly basis.

## **Data Sovereignty**

Resolution 60/2019: The Protection of First Nations Intellectual Property Rights and Traditional Knowledge, Cultural Expressions and Genetic Resources

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate both domestically and internationally for changes to the intellectual property regime, which includes adequate legal protections for traditional knowledge, cultural expressions, genetic resources and accommodates First Nations interests and ownership over their intellectual property rights.
2. Direct the AFN to engage with Canada on strategies to improve legal protections for First Nations intellectual property rights, which incorporates a First



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Nations approach and respects First Nations customary laws.

3. Direct the AFN to develop legal options on the protection of intellectual property rights for consideration of First Nations and to develop materials that outline what First Nations intellectual property rights are under the current intellectual property regime.

## **Resolution 18/2019: *Proper Funding for Digital Health Tools Required to Support Health System Transformation***

1. Call upon Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to authorize a funding envelope to support First Nation health organizations' adoption and sustained use of digital health tools.
2. Call upon ISC to ensure that this funding be an ongoing augmentation to existing community-level contribution agreements or funding mechanisms.
3. Call upon ISC to ensure that this new funding acknowledges the reasonable costs associated with the adoption and use of digital health tools (e.g. implementation, training and change management, information technology infrastructure, ongoing licensing costs, clinical workflow integration, etc.) as identified in the First Nations Digital Health Framework.
4. Call upon ISC to ensure that this new funding is made available within the next 12 months through an approach that does not introduce unnecessary administrative or bureaucratic processes and burdens on First Nations health organization administrators.
5. Direct ISC to address funding inequities between provincial health agencies, First Nation health organizations and communities who continue to face challenges with care coordination due to their lack of digital health infrastructure and create funding solutions that are meaningful and sustainable.

## **Resolution 42/2018: *Data Sovereignty***

1. Reassert that First Nations living in Canada maintain ownership and control over data that relates to their identity, their people, language, history, culture, communities and Nations, both historic and contemporary, and that each Nation will establish regulations to govern their data, determining how it will be managed, accessed and shared with other governments, organizations and/or individuals.



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2. Call on the First Nations Information Governance Centre (FNIGC) to coordinate (with support from the federal government, Statistics Canada, and the Assembly of First Nations) regional processes to engage First Nation Chiefs and leaders in each province and territory to discuss improving the quality of or access to data or statistical information related to their people and Nation.
3. Call on the Government of Canada to allocate funding to the FNIGC to align engagement processes related to First Nations data, statistics, and information management, and to expedite the development of First Nations' controlled Regional Information Governance Centres as part of the National First Nations Data Governance Strategy.
4. Assert that in the future all federal, provincial, and territorial government investments in First Nations data governance and analysis, information management, statistics, and reporting must align with the objective of each First Nation achieving full data governance, building and maintaining across their government, the capacity to collect, store, protect, analyze, and utilize data in their decision-making and reporting, measuring their own progress towards the outcomes defined in their community development and nation rebuilding plans.

## **Resolution 57/2016: *Funding for Regional First Nations Information Government Centres***

1. Recognize Indigenous data sovereignty as a cornerstone of nation rebuilding and direct the federal government to fund the following:
  - a. Engagement on data governance between First Nations leadership within each respective region.
  - b. The establishment of a First Nation data governance champion in each region, identified by First Nations regions themselves.
  - c. The development of fully functional regional First Nations information government centres.
  - d. Coordination of First Nations regions, data governance champions and national partners to establish a national First Nations data governance strategy.



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## **ECONOMIC, HEALTH AND SOCIAL RIGHTS**

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### **Agriculture**

#### **Resolution 68/2019: *Establishing Support and Industry Platform for First Nations Food Security, Sovereignty and Economic Development***

1. Advocate for the development of funding and other industry support programs for First Nations to maintain and re-establish their food security and sovereignty; and
2. Promote food focused research to better understand the intersection of First Nations food security, sovereignty and sustainability.
3. Seek the guidance of the Chiefs Committee on Economic Development to establish a First Nations Food Security and Sovereignty working group to:
  - a. Draft a framework and develop a position paper(s) outlining First Nations' positions;
  - b. Develop and advocate for First Nations specific communication tools and workshops to raise awareness.
4. Direct the AFN to investigate advocacy opportunities regarding food security and sovereignty according to United Nations (UN) mechanisms relating to rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

#### **Resolution 47/2016: *First Nations to Access Economic Opportunities Through a First Nations Agricultural Strategy***

1. Call on the Ministry of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to invest adequate resources to support First Nations to facilitate economic growth through agricultural opportunities.
2. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to develop a First Nations agricultural strategy in collaboration with First Nation leadership and communities.



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3. Call on both the Federal and Provincial Governments of Canada to provide First Nations with mentorship programs, venture capital investments, and support to develop joint ventures, and lease agreements to rebuild the First Nations participation in the agricultural industry.

## **Aquaculture**

### **Resolution 33/2017: Aquaculture Legislative and Policy Reviews**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to engage with Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to provide the financial resources to the National Aquaculture Working Group that will address existing policy and regulatory reforms.
2. Call on the DFO to implement its engagement and consultation process with First Nations at the front end to assess the need for an Aquaculture Act.
3. Direct the AFN to request that DFO work with First Nations to co-draft any legislation regarding a proposed Aquaculture Act, as well as provide the funding required to allow First Nations to engage in technical and legal reviews.

## **Procurement/Labour Market**

### **Resolution 39/2019: Inclusion of Canada Summer Jobs to First Nations Labour Market Agreements**

1. Reaffirm First Nations jurisdiction over the governance of skills training and employment services and programs for their citizens, regardless of residency.
2. Call on the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour to work with the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to plan for reinstatement of Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) now under the Youth employment and Skills Strategy (YESS), for funding to flow under First Nations Labour Market Agreement (FNLMA) holders.
3. Direct the AFN Chiefs Committee on Human Resources Development (CCHRD) to continue to advocate for increased investments for First Nations youth training and employment.



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## **Resolution 40/2019: *First Nations Labour Market Agreement (FNLMA) holders and the First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative (FNICCI)***

1. Call on the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour, to acknowledge in written form, that the Chiefs of the First Nations in Canada retain jurisdiction for the governance of their citizens, regardless of residency.
2. Call on the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour to work with the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) First Nations Technical Working Group on Human Resources Development and the First Nations Labour Market Agreement (FNLMA) holders within each region/territory to plan for retention of the FNICCI through the ten-year agreement, 2021-2029, and any subsequent agreements.

## **Resolution 48/2021: *Traditional Occupations and Traditional Economies***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to include considerations for traditional economies and traditional occupations across its work on economic and social development initiatives, [particularly with respect to supporting traditional occupations and First Nations artisans in international trade].
2. Direct the AFN to explore domestic and international advocacy avenues for First Nations to consider for their own advocacy on supporting traditional occupations and raising public awareness on the importance of traditional economies.
3. Direct the AFN to explore international, national, and regional work undertaken on alternative models to economic growth which better reflect First Nations views on how best to integrate traditional and market economies.
4. Direct the AFN to explore research and data collection initiatives with a view to being able to provide quantification of traditional economies.
5. Direct the AFN to advocate for the development of a national plan to eliminate all forms of discrimination faced by Indigenous peoples exercising traditional occupations.

## **Resolution 49/2021: *Next Steps on First Nations and Procurement***

1. Direct the AFN to seek First Nations technical advice and policy input on First



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Nations procurement matters through the interim Technical Committee on First Nations Involvement in the Economy.

2. Direct the AFN, with the guidance of the Chiefs Committee on Economic Development (CCED), to communicate to the federal government that the approach to defining First Nations business must be First Nations-led and based on First Nations rights of self-determination.
3. Direct the AFN, with the guidance of the CCED, to explore the establishment of a national Indigenous supply institute to support regional and national structural and capacity needs of First Nations as identified by the Chiefs in Assembly in AFN Resolution 38/2019.
4. Direct the AFN Executive Committee Economic Development portfolio holder to provide an update at the July 2022 Annual General Assembly on the procurement developments with regards to defining Indigenous business and the establishment of a collaborative national Indigenous supply institute.

## **Resolution 85/2019: Support for A Proposed First Nations Training Institute on Emergency Management**

1. Support the creation of a First Nations Training Institute on Emergency Management which will focus on preparing First Nations for natural and man-made disasters.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to seek funding support from the Government of Canada to realize the creation of a First Nations Training Institute on Emergency Management that will benefit First Nations citizens and their communities and be Treaty/Nations-based and community-driven.

## **Connectivity**

### **Resolution 32/2018: Strengthening on-reserve connectivity**

1. Direct the AFN to work with First Nations in identifying current gaps and obstacles in information and communication technologies for First Nations.
2. Call on the federal government to work with First Nations to develop the necessary information and communication infrastructure to support First Nations access to the digital economy and digital information.



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3. Call upon Innovation, Science, and Economic Development Canada to develop a comprehensive rural broadband strategy in collaboration with First Nations, with dedicated First Nations broadband width.

## **Resolution 19/2020: Supporting First Nations with connecting to the Internet**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on Indigenous Services Canada to support high-speed internet solutions for First Nations using technologies such as Advintive (Advanced Interactive Canada Inc.) and First Nations -led and identified solutions.
2. Direct the AFN to call on the Government of Canada for First Nations specific funding and criteria as part of the Universal Broadband Fund program, and for investments into connectivity initiatives and training that will increase First Nations Information Communications Technology (ICT) capacities.
3. Direct the AFN to call on Indigenous Services Canada and Innovation, Science and Economic Development to support and work with First Nations to establish service -provider capacities, data and market information, spectrum access, a network of professionals and policy to enable affordable access to the internet.

## **Resolution 30/2021: Government Income Support Programs and First Nations Digital Connectivity**

1. Call upon the Government of Canada to identify and achieve measurable goals to ensure broadband connectivity for First Nations and that the current connectivity targets of connecting 95% of Canadians by 2026 and 100% of Canadians by 2030 include First Nations.
2. Call upon the Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments to make income assistance programs on reserves more responsive to the realities of the global digital economy by developing a full subsidy for First Nations receiving income assistance support to ensure they can access digital connectivity, both on- and off-reserve, and in urban, northern, rural and remote First Nations.
3. Call upon the Government of Canada to treat digital connectivity as an important element of building a strong economy to deal with the impacts of the pandemic, necessary to support First Nations emergency response and pre-



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paredness, and other global factors impacting First Nations social and economic development.

4. Direct the National Chief, the AFN Executive Committee and the AFN Secretariat to work with the Government of Canada to develop a comprehensive strategy with measurable deliverables to ensure broadband connectivity for all interested First Nations.
5. Direct the AFN to include connectivity as a consideration in the Income Assistance reform work underway, pursuant to AFN Resolution. 89/2019. Continuing First Nations Income Assistance Program Reform.

## Health

### **Resolution 18/2021: *Supporting Distinct First Nations Participation in Dialogue on Health Accessibility Legislation***

1. Call on Canada to honour its commitment to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by respecting First Nations autonomy to exercise their jurisdiction in the area of health, including the choice of whether to participate in health legislation discussions or to seek alternative approaches.
2. Call on Canada to seek direction from First Nations on how potential legislation will embed inherent, Treaty and International obligations, including direction about the non-derogation, non-abrogation and non-prejudicing of inherent rights and inherent rights protected by Treaty to health.
3. Direct the AFN to call upon Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to engage in a focused dialogue with First Nations to define and identify the protocols, elements and processes by which to enter into discussions on health legislation.
4. Direct the AFN to call upon ISC to ensure that the timelines for engagement on health legislation are reflective of First Nations' needs and capacities and not those of the federal government.
5. Direct the AFN to call upon ISC to ensure that provincial and territorial governments are included in the discussions related to health legislation and that any discussions need to consider First Nations' unique regional health landscapes.



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6. Direct the AFN to call upon ISC to ensure individual First Nations are fully and sustainably funded to allow for their full, direct, and unfettered participation in all legislative discussions.
7. Direct the AFN to advocate for regional engagement processes in relation to health legislation which promotes First Nations participation and lead national level dialogue and engagement.

## **Resolution 98/2017: *Distinct First Nations Accessibility Legislation***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to revise the resolutions template to address the diverse and unique needs of First Nations persons with disabilities across all work and policy areas. Disability is not an afterthought; and First Nations persons with disabilities deserve to receive the dignity and respect that is theirs.
2. Direct the AFN to work with Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) to develop distinct legislation to support First Nations unique accessibility needs.
3. Direct the AFN to continue to advocate and build awareness about First Nations persons with disabilities; and draft a policy paper to inform a Memorandum to Cabinet that will serve to establish meaningful and culturally safe programs and services for this population; and secure financial resources for this work from ESDC for post March 31, 2018.
4. Direct the AFN to advocate for regional level funding to support capacity building for First Nations' persons with disabilities for full and meaningful inclusion.
5. Direct the AFN Chiefs Committee on Human Resources Development to provide updates on activities and report back to Chiefs-in-Assembly.

## **Resolution 110/2019: *Funding for First Nations-Specific Programs, Services, and Supports for Adults with Disabilities in First Nations***

1. Recognize and affirm the rights of First Nations adults and youth with disabilities to access programs, services and supports, including sports, within their First Nations across Canada.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National Chief to call upon the



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Government of Canada, including Employment and Social Development Canada and Indigenous Services Canada, to provide equitable funding to First Nations for the necessary programs, services and supports to enable First Nations adults with disabilities to live in their First Nations with dignity, choice and independence.

3. Direct the AFN Chiefs' Committee on Human Resources Development and the Chiefs' Committee on Health to urge the Government of Canada to work with First Nations to develop a First Nations-specific policy and funding framework that guarantees the right to access prenatal and birth-to-death continuum of First Nations-based supports and services for all First Nations living with disabilities, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, and/or residency, and ensure this policy and funding framework is resourced and operationalized.
4. Direct the AFN to report to Chiefs-In-Assembly at the 2020 Annual General Assembly on progress towards implementation of the numerous resolutions calling for improved programs, services, and funding for First Nations with disabilities.
5. Direct the AFN Economic Sector Secretariat to immediately establish a national First Nations sub-working group on adults with disabilities, with a mandate to address improved programs, services, and funding for First Nations with disabilities.

## **Resolution 25/2021: *Strengthen First Nations Distinctions-Based Approaches on Accessibility/ Disabilities***

1. The Chiefs-in-Assembly and the Charter of the Assembly of First Nations confirm that the AFN review and update mandates where pan-Indigenous organizations may be holding instructions to represent First Nations on disability matters domestically and internationally.
2. The AFN call on the federal government to ensure that all Provinces and Territories work with First Nations to strengthen distinction-based approaches in all policies and processes on matters related to disabilities and accessibility moving forward.
3. The AFN advocate for First Nations-focused bi-lateral processes with Employment and Social Development Canada and other federal departments on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities where existing pan-Indigenous groups may otherwise be favored to lead developments.



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4. The AFN advocate for Employment and Social Development Canada and other federal departments to provide immediate sustained funding to meet the growing capacity needs of First Nations persons with disabilities that have been greatly impacted by the COVID 19 Pandemic and help to build fully accessible First Nations governments.
5. The AFN advocate in support of the AFN Women's Council's work to ensure the 2021 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People National Action Plan, funds a comprehensive intersectional plan that is inclusive of the lived realities of First Nations women and girls with disabilities.

## **Resolution 15/2022: Major Investments Needed to Build Fully Accessible First Nations**

1. Calls on the federal government for further engagement, and resources for all First Nations to be made fully accessible and to extend the Accessible Canada Act timeline of 2026 for implementation in First Nations.
2. Calls on the federal government for an agreement that provides multi-year commitments and a major funding envelope for First Nations governments and regions, as well as providing timely research/ data collection to determine the state of First Nations accessibility/disability. This includes consideration of First Nations persons with disabilities and to ensure that inclusion and access to programs, services, and facilities are built and modified for persons of all abilities.
3. Calls for investments and collaboration with a whole of government approach on accessibility to enable innovative systems changes and to address the critical costs of doing nothing.

## **Resolution 02/2017: Federal Response to the Crisis of Suicide**

1. Call on the federal government to recognize the First Nations suicide crisis as a priority of the highest order, and, as such, to develop a whole-of-government response, in partnership with First Nations, to support communities in all areas related to suicide including prevention/life promotion, intervention, postvention and crisis response.



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## **Resolution 64/2017: Increase trauma-informed mental wellness funding to First Nation communities**

1. Direct the National Chief to call upon the federal, provincial and territorial governments and their partners to increase funding to train and develop local community trauma-informed mental wellness teams and where required access to outside programs and services for men and boys, their families and/or caregivers, in order to:
  - a. Support communities' use of trauma-informed mental wellness funding in a more holistic way, informed by an essential continuum of services that recognizes the impact of the social determinants of health on mental wellness for men and boys, and their families and/or caregivers.
  - b. Support a shift away from fragmented, siloed programming toward a comprehensive system based on a continuum of trauma-informed care across the lifespan.
  - c. Support First Nations control of services and the self-determination of communities to design, deliver and evaluate their own culturally relevant, culturally safe, trauma-informed mental wellness programs that address their most pressing needs.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to advocate for increased funding to address trauma-informed mental wellness for men and boys, their families and/or caregivers, through a continuum of care across the lifespan, using the First Nation Mental Wellness Continuum framework as a lens, to ensure First Nation communities have access to trauma-informed resources to develop or expand life promotion, health and well-being initiatives.

## **Resolution 88/2018: Support the Development of Wholistic First Nations Wellness Facilities**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to commit sustainable, predictable and long-term funding for the AFN Regional Office of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, to support First Nations in their region in the development of a wholistic First Nations Wellness Facility that is grounded in culture, language and traditional practices with the intent of providing a model that other regions can learn from and model if they so choose.



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2. Direct the AFN to call on ISC to provide further funding to additional regions for similar initiatives should they choose to follow a similar model or develop their own.

### **Resolution 89/2018: *Response to the ongoing opioid and methamphetamine crisis***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on Indigenous Services Canada to commit immediate sustainable, predictable and long-term funding for First Nations to:
  - a. support the implementation of recommended actions identified in the First Nations Specific Opioid Strategy (Opioid Strategy)
  - b. expand on/or develop the recommendations and actions identified in the Opioid Strategy to address the use of non-prescribed drugs in First Nations
  - c. expand on/or develop the recommendations and actions identified in the Opioid Strategy to address the use of methamphetamines and other illicit drugs in First Nations
  - d. support First Nations in addressing the social determinants of health that contribute to the issues of addictions in First Nations
  - e. support First Nations in building capacity to for early intervention and prevention training that looks beyond the western medical models and utilizes traditional First Nations based methods
  - f. ensure First Nations can continue to practice traditional healing and medicinal approaches to support their well-being
  - g. support the AFN, in partnership with First Nations mental wellness organizations, to host a forum on mental wellness and addictions that will examine responses to opioid and methamphetamine addictions.
2. Ensure that the First Nations Specific Opioid Strategy and other relevant First Nations resources are disseminated to First Nations to support their efforts to respond to the opioid crisis.
3. Direct the AFN with partners to engage in research into opioid class actions in Canada and the United States to help inform First Nations to address the opioid crisis and report back to Chiefs-in-Assembly.



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4. Direct the AFN to work with partner organizations to facilitate First Nations access to training on the use of the First Nations Mental Continuum Framework.
5. Call on the Government of Canada to immediately provide full coverage for physiotherapy, chiropractic and other alternatives to opioids for pain management and treatment under Non-Insured Health Benefits to assist in the prevention of opioid addiction.

## **Resolution 91/2018: Action for Experimentation Survivors**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to advocate with the Government of Canada and the Canadian Medical Association for assistance to experimentation survivors.
2. Call on the Government of Canada and provincial and territorial governments to provide immediate assistance to deal with the resulting costs of these experiments, including counselling, transportation, medicines, health coverage, including alternative and traditional health care, as well as living expenses.
3. Call on the Government of Canada to initiate a First Nations survivor-led inquest to uncover the truth of these experiments in order to better inform the medical community on how to treat the resulting illnesses, to inform the Canadian public of the truth of what occurred, and to give some measure of peace to the survivors.
4. Call on the Government of Canada, the Canadian Medical Association and all medical practitioners to share information and coordinate services based on the information revealed by such an inquest.
5. Call on the Government of Canada, the Canadian Medical Association and medical practitioners for the repatriation of related historical and associated records, as well as the retention of these records by Indigenous peoples.

## **Resolution 51/2019: Support Fort Albany First Nation Treatment Detox Centre/ Mental Health Facility**

1. Fully support Fort Albany First Nation's request to construct a local Treatment Detox Centre/ Mental Health facility.
2. Call on Canada to provide funding to construct and develop a local Treatment Detox Centre/ Mental Health facility in Fort Albany First Nation.



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3. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to advocate for the federal government to identify emergency funding that would enable Fort Albany First Nations to respond to their declared state of emergency.

## **Resolution 24/2021: *Call for the Permanency of the Indian Residential Schools Resolution Health Support Program***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on the federal government to affirm its commitment to reconciliation by establishing a permanent and enhanced version of the Indian Residential Schools Resolution Health Support Program (IRS RHSP). The permanent IRS RHSP program would focus on enhanced capacity, sustainable funding and resources, ensuring its ability to meet the complex needs of Indian Residential School Survivors and their families, including the provision of appropriate healing supports to address the ongoing effects of intergenerational trauma.
2. Direct the AFN to call on the federal government to continually assess and document the roles of the IRS RHSP Cultural Support workers to ensure they are supported through the Indian Residential Schools (IRS) Survivors healing journeys to prevent burnout, compassion fatigue, and high turnover rates.
3. Direct the AFN to call upon the federal government to ensure that work towards a permanent version of the IRS RHSP retains its distinct focus in serving IRS-related needs and that the newly enhanced program maintains its mandate to support Indian Residential School Survivors and their families.

## **Resolution 62/2022: *Direct the AFN to advocate that the Governments of Canada increase funding for accessible First Nations mental health and addictions support***

1. Call on the Government of Canada at all levels to increase the funding and supports to equitable levels of service needed for mental health and addictions.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) call on Canada to establish more First Nations-led resources and programming to help address mental health and addictions crisis in our communities and neighbouring cities.
3. Call on Canada to affirm that First Nations' ways of addressing mental wellness and addictions healing, such as land-based programming, be respected and supported in any program funding criteria that is established by the Governments of Canada.



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## **Resolution 44/2022: Co-Development of Policy Options with ISC for a Memorandum to Cabinet on the Wholistic Long-term and Continuing Care Framework**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and the Technical Working Group on Social Development (TWGSD) to co-develop policy recommendations with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) for the reform of the Assisted Living and Home and Community Care Programs, with oversight from the Chiefs Committee on Health (CCOH).
2. Direct the AFN to seek funding from ISC for the TWGSD to co-develop policy recommendations for the reform of the Assisted Living and Home and Community Care Programs.
3. Direct the AFN Social Development sector to work horizontally with the AFN Health Sector in the co-development of policy options for the reform of the Home and Community Care and Assisted Living Programs into a Long-term and Continuing Care Framework.
4. Call upon ISC to report to TWGSD and the CCOH by July 2023 on interdepartmental progress on current and previous engagement related to a Seven Generations Continuum of Care within the federal government, including First Nations' recommendations on the Accessible Canada Act, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
5. Direct the AFN to seek validation of the proposed policy recommendations developed by the TWGSD for the reform of the Home and Community Care and Assisted Living Programs from the First Nations-in-Assembly in July 2023.

## **Resolution 22/2021: Community-based Indigenous-led Midwifery Education Pathways**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on the federal government to immediately and formally recognize midwives as essential primary health care providers.
2. Direct the AFN to call on the federal government to commit to sustained and comprehensive investments in midwifery as part of addressing anti-Indigenous racism in Canada.



# AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES *in Canada's Action Plan*

3. Direct the AFN to call on the Federal government to commit to investments in Indigenous-led, community-based midwifery education pathways in First Nations.
4. Direct the AFN to support opportunities for community-based Indigenous midwifery education in partnership with the National Aboriginal Council of Midwives (NACM) and First Nations, in order to restore, grow and sustain Indigenous-led sexual and reproductive health care within First Nations.

## **Resolution 19/2019: *Developing a Seven Generations Continuum of Care for First Nations, by First Nations of Health, Economic and Social Services***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call upon Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and other federal departments to support First Nations and the AFN to identify needs and gaps in supports and services, capacity, and infrastructure, that impact the Seven Generations Continuum of Care, and to develop options to move forward a wholistic Continuum of Care for First Nations, by First Nations.
2. Direct the AFN to call upon ISC to coordinate federal departments' cross-sectoral work on current and previous engagement related to a Seven Generations Continuum of Care, including First Nations recommendations on Bill C-81, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals to "Leave No One Behind."
3. Direct the AFN to urge the Federal Government to allocate part of the \$8.5 million in funding for First Nation and Inuit long-term care engagements from Budget 2019 to support work by First Nations and the AFN to identify needs and gaps in supports and services, capacity and infrastructure, as well as develop options to move forward on a Seven Generations Continuum of Care.

## **Resolution 61/2022: *Reforming Non-Insured Health Benefits Travel Policies***

1. Reaffirm support for the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to continue working with the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) to complete the Joint Review of the Non-Insured Health Benefits program (NIHB), as outlined in previous AFN mandates.
2. Direct the AFN and Chiefs' Committee on Health to:
  - a. Ensure the Joint Review of NIHB includes travel policies set by NIHB;  
and



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- b. Engage First Nations in isolated, northern, and remote areas, as part of this review, to fully understand the challenges they are facing with existing health policies.
3. Direct the AFN and Chiefs' Committee on Health to provide recommendations for reforming NIHB policies so First Nations people needing to travel outside their communities for medical attention receive the financial and personal supports they need to be adequately cared for.

## **Resolution 74/2018: *Non-Insured Health Benefits: Ongoing Commitment to a Joint Process***

1. Call on the Minister of Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) to continue to fully and meaningfully engage with the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and First Nations for the on-going improvement of the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program (NIHB) that is responsive to the high rates of illness and diseases in First Nations, changing health priorities, growing populations and on the ground realities.
2. Call on the Minister of Indigenous Services Canada and FNIHB to initiate a conversation with the AFN and First Nations on a pathway moving forward for health transformation, including a transformative approach to NIHB.
3. Call for a formalized process that is jointly determined by FNIHB, the AFN and First Nations in the spring of 2019 with a terms of reference that clearly states the purpose of the group, and its roles and responsibilities as part of a long-term approach beyond the joint review process, including considerations for supporting health transformation and the transformation of NIHB.
4. Call on the Minister of Indigenous Services Canada to commit resources to the AFN and First Nations to support the capacity required to ensure ongoing work related to NIHB is adequately resourced and to provide First Nations with the ability to seek independent advice and content expertise as required.

## **Resolution 49/2017: *Non-Insured Health Benefits Equitable Access to Health Services***

1. Call upon the federal government to fund the Non-Insured Health Benefits Program (NIHB) to ensure that First Nations have access to services which support First Nations attainment of an equitable level of health.



# AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES *in Canada's Action Plan*

2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Executive to develop resources to help support leadership in their political advocacy for equitable health services for First Nations.
3. Direct the AFN to demand from the federal government actions to implement changes to the NIHB program this fiscal year, including changes to vision benefits, dental coverage, and prescriptions in particular to diabetic medicine.
4. Direct the AFN to update the AFN 2005 NIHB Action Plan and conduct a risk/benefit analysis on both a class action lawsuit for failure to meet the health needs of First Nations, and the legislation of the NIHB program.

## **Resolution 126/2016: Ongoing Commitment for the Non- Insured Health Benefits Joint Review Process**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to seek ongoing commitment and resourcing from Health Canada for implementation of the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Joint Review recommendations.
2. Direct the AFN to call upon Health Canada to provide support and resources to communities and regions to explore alternative governance options for the delivery of the NIHB program based on First Nations self-determination in health, population growth, inflation, geography and demonstrated need.
3. Urge the AFN-First Nations Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) Joint Review Steering Committee to explore legislative and legal options to ensure NIHB delivery is based on Treaty and inherent rights.

## **Resolution 03/017: Medical Cannabis on NIHB formulary**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to call on the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada to provide open benefit coverage of medical cannabis through the Non-Insured Drug Benefit (NIHB) program to ensure that First Nations requiring such access do not face undue financial hardship.

## **Child and Family Services & Jordan's Principle**

### **Resolution 04/2022: First Nations Determination of the Reforms to the First Nations Child and Family Services Program and Jordan's Principle Ordered through the 2022 Canadian Human Rights Tribunal Ruling 8**

1. Call on Canada to honour its relationship with First Nations by immediately recognizing First Nations' Inherent Right to care for their children and families regardless of whether they reside on or off reserve.



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2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), to make a submission to the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) requesting that they support First Nations right to self-determination by ordering that all funding provided through the 2022 CHRT 8 ruling be disbursed to First Nations and self-governing First Nations in the Yukon in order for them to determine how to allocate this funding between their governments and FNCFS agencies, and support the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada to make their submission.
3. Call on Canada to redirect Provincial and Territorial funding for First Nations children living off-reserve to First Nations reclaiming jurisdiction over their children and families.
4. Call on Canada to ensure that any First Nations exercising their jurisdiction over child and family services will not receive less funding than they would have received had they remained under the reformed First Nations Child and Family Services Program following the implementation of 2022 CHRT 8.

### **Resolution 28/2022: *Final Settlement Agreement on Compensation for First Nations Children and Families***

1. Support compensation for victims covered by the proposed Final Settlement Agreement (FSA) on compensation and those already legally entitled to \$40,000 plus interest under the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) compensation orders to ensure that all victims receive compensation for Canada's willful and reckless discrimination.
2. Direct Canada to fund post-majority supports tailored to the specific needs of each child and young adult victims up to age 26 who are eligible for compensation until such time that community-based supports funded by Canada can adequately support all victims for the duration of the compensation period.
3. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to immediately seek a minimum of 12 months following the announcement of a revised Final Settlement Agreement for claimants to determine whether they will participate in the class action. Persons entitled to compensation shall determine whether they will participate in the class action based on complete information, including the terms of any settlement.
4. Call upon Canada to immediately place the minimum of \$20 billion earmarked for compensation in an interest-bearing account held by an independent and reputable major financial institution and immediately pay the compensation to all victims of Canada's discrimination, including those eligible under the class action and under the CHRT orders.



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5. Support the principles on which the FSA is built, including taking a trauma-informed approach, employing objective and non-invasive criteria, and ensuring a First Nations-driven and culturally-informed approach to compensating individuals.
6. Continue to support the Representative Plaintiffs and all victims of Canada's discrimination by ensuring that compensation is paid as quickly as possible to all those who can be immediately identified and to continue to work efficiently to compensate those who may need more time.
7. Ensure that the AFN returns to the First Nations-in-Assembly to provide regular progress reports and seek direction on any outstanding implementation issues.

## ***Resolution 40/2022: To Ensure Quality of Life to the First Nations Child and Family Services Program and Jordan's Principle***

1. Direct Canada to ensure that funding and other mechanisms related to long-term reform measures regarding child and family services enable First Nation Child and Family Services (FNCFS) Agencies and First Nation child and family service providers to deliver services based on substantive equality, best interests of the child, that is culturally appropriate and takes into full account the distinct circumstances of their communities.
2. Direct Canada to ensure that any interim and long-term reform measures, including the Reformed CFS Funding Approach, do not reduce or disrupt current funding levels and are sufficiently flexible to respect First Nations authorized service providers to deliver child and family services at a level that protects and promotes the best interests of their children in keeping with the principles of sovereignty, inherent jurisdiction, and nation-to-nation building.
3. Direct the Parties to develop evidence- and policy-based options for the long-term reform of Jordan's Principle that will include mechanisms to enable and support self-determination and to return to the First Nations-in-Assembly for review and approval.
4. Call upon Canada to extend the timeframes for signing the Final Settlement Agreement (FSA) on long-term reform. The First Nations-in-Assembly must approve the FSA on long-term reform.



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5. Call upon Canada to increase funding commitments above the currently allocated \$19.807 billion, over 5 years and beyond, that is needs-based to ensure substantive equality, the best interests of the child, and services that are culturally appropriate and reflective of the distinct needs and circumstances of individual First Nation communities.
6. Direct Canada to fund the Assembly of First Nations National Advisory Committee on First Nations Child and Family Services Program Reform and regional and other technical experts to inform the FSA.
7. Call upon Canada to ensure Chiefs shall be provided with all available options and related supporting financial resources and materials to ensure First Nations can exercise their Free, Prior and Informed Consent on long-term reforms.
8. Ensure that the FSA does not detract from the right of the Parties to the current complaint before the CHRT from seeking orders from the Tribunal to ensure that all First Nations children, youth, and families will be free from discrimination and its recurrence for all generations to come.
9. Call upon Canada to develop legislative protections to ensure that First Nations have sufficient liability coverage over the services they provide.
10. Call upon Canada to continue funding capital at actual costs for First Nations, FNCFS Agencies and First Nation Service Providers, pursuant to 2021 CHRT 41, until otherwise ordered by the Tribunal.

### **Resolution 15/2019: *Jordan's Principle Operations***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to complete a review of the Jordan's Principle Operations Committee and the Jordan's Principle Action Table to ensure the coordination of these two tables supports the long-term implementation goals of all regions.
2. Direct the AFN to ensure regional First Nation representatives are appointed to the Jordan's Principle Operations Committee in order to reflect and respect regional differences and concerns regarding Jordan's Principle implementation across the country.

### **Resolution 16/2019: *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis children, youth and families-Transition and Implementation Planning***

1. Call on Canada to adopt a human rights approach to the implementation of child welfare reform surrounding An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and



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Metis children, youth and families (the Act), including full implementation of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal's (CHRT) principles of: substantive equality, best interests of the child, needs based funding, respect for culture and language, and consideration of the distinct circumstances of First Nations children and services, as the foundation for any policies or coordination agreements entered into within the Act with Canada and the Provinces and Territories.

2. Call on Canada to fully implement the funding principle of predictable, stable, sustainable, needs-based funding consistent with the principle of substantive equality in order to secure long-term positive outcomes for First Nations children, families and Nations.
3. Call on the Governor in Council to issue an Order, without delay, to bring the Act into force by September 2019.
4. Call on Canada to immediately support and fund a First Nations led distinctions-based transition and implementation planning process for all stages of the comprehensive reform of child and family services, affirming the inherent rights and self-determination each First Nation has to decide what is most appropriate for their own peoples, without interference by Canada.
5. Call on Canada to ensure that as per section 32 (1) of the Act on regulations, Indigenous governing bodies are provided a meaningful opportunity to collaborate in the policy development leading to the establishment of both national and regional regulations.
6. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to establish a Chiefs Committee on Child and Family Services and Self-Determination to provide input, oversight and guidance during the national transition and implementation process and to report to the National Chief and Executive of the AFN and the Chiefs-in-Assembly.
7. Direct the AFN to establish a Technical Sub-Committee of the Chiefs Committee on Child and Family Services and Self-Determination called the "First Nations National Transition Planning Committee," comprised of representation from First Nations and technical experts from each region, such as members of the National Advisory Committee on Child Welfare (NAC), as determined by regional processes. The Technical Sub-Committee may establish additional action tables with approval of the Chiefs Committee.



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8. Direct the AFN, including the Chiefs Committee and the Technical Sub-Committee, to support First Nations self-determination in all matters relating to the Act, including the choice to not work within the Act by those Nations who have determined that they do not wish to do so, and to further conduct their work in a manner that affirms the inherent Aboriginal and Treaty rights of First Nations rights and title holders as the decision -makers for their own peoples, without interference from any organization, Canada, or Provincial/Territorial governments.
9. Direct the AFN to ensure all implementation activities conducted within the Chiefs Committee and Technical Sub-Committee do not restrict or limit the pace of implementation of the Act where First Nations are prepared to exercise their own jurisdiction, and that any national committee be explicitly directed that they do not have the mandate to speak for or alter the self-determination rights of each First Nation to determine their own pace of progress, nor should they hold back the actions of any First Nation as their work is supportive and should not be used by Canada or any Province/ Territory to limit or constrain the affirmation of inherent Aboriginal and Treaty rights.
10. Direct the AFN Chiefs Committee and Technical Sub-Committee to acknowledge and defer to regional or local committees that may be created to implement the Act where such committees have been established by the First Nations of the region and such First Nations have directed that such regional structures are the bodies they have freely determined should be the mechanism to support the implementation of the Act in relation to those peoples and territories, and further direct that the AFN Chiefs Committee and Technical Sub -Committee may collect and receive advice from any regional bodies or mechanisms but that the rights and title holders of the First Nations are the rightful decision -makers in relation to their children and families, including the First Nations governing bodies selected by such rights and title holders.

### **Resolution 27/2018: *Support for the long-term implementation of Jordan's Principle***

1. Call on Canada to continue to invest in, and implement, Jordan's Principle beyond March 31, 2019.
2. Call on Canada to immediately invest in capital costs required for the local delivery of health, social, and education programs and services for First Nations children and families.



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3. Support the work of the Jordan's Principle Action Table and the proposed policy options for supporting greater First Nations control over Jordan's Principle, as part of the long-term approach to implementing Jordan's Principle.

## **Resolution 53/2018: Federal Legislation on First Nation Child Welfare Jurisdiction**

1. Support the option for legislation prepared by the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Child Welfare Legislative Working Group (LWG) based on inherent rights, Treaties, self-determination and international human rights standards, and confirm this is the best option Chiefs support for further co-development. The legislation must affirm inherent and Treaty rights and must also uphold the standards in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other international human rights instruments.
2. Call upon the Government of Canada to table the draft legislation before the House of Commons rises on or before December 14, 2018, and include First Nations throughout the legislative process.
3. Call upon all Members of Parliament and Senators to ensure the legislation receives royal assent in advance of October 2019.
4. Call upon Canada to ensure the legislation reflects the position that First Nations laws take precedence over the laws of a province or territory, or occupy other forms of jurisdiction, or reflects the choice of shared jurisdiction, based on the decision of that First Nation government exercising its self-determination authority.
5. Call upon Canada to ensure a funding principle is included in any co-developed legislation based on substantive equality for First Nation children, children with disabilities, youth and families and provides for predictable, stable, sustainable and needs -based funding to secure long-term positive outcomes for First Nations, children, families and communities.
6. Demand, for greater clarity, adequate funding must be provided for the development, capacity-building, planning, operations, capital, transition and implementation of the co-developed legislation, Funding for actual costs of prevention, data management, legal costs and other areas covered as a result of the legal orders of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal must be extended to all First Nations governments and peoples.



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7. Request the AFN LWG develop materials for First Nations Chiefs and governments for a transition plan specific to First Nations based on clear distinctions between the First Nations, Metis and Inuit so that the distinct political and legal rights, cultures, languages, practices and laws of the First Nations peoples are reflected appropriately in the wording and implementation of legislation.
8. Support the development of political accords to guide transition and implementation of legislation co-developed with First Nations and Canada.
9. Reject any legislative proposal or drafting involving delegation models of authority from federal, provincial or territorial governments or any policy or approach based on denial or rights or requirements of extinguishment or limitation of the rights of the First Nations and Treaty First Nations or any other colonial imposed requirements inconsistent with self-determination.
10. Direct the AFN LWG ensure that co-developed legislation include a non-derogation clause to protect the inherent Aboriginal and Treaty rights of First Nations and the other rights and freedoms of First Nations from being abrogated diminished in any way.

## **Income Assistance and Poverty Reduction**

### **Resolution 07/2022: Reform of the On-Reserve Income Assistance Program**

1. Support the reform of the On-reserve Income Assistance Program as directed and determined by First Nations to address longstanding gaps and shortcomings in the IA program, including:
  - a. First Nation governance over the IA Program to meet IA client and family needs;
  - b. A provision of IA rates that account for the true cost of living on-reserve;
  - c. Wrap-around and comprehensive supports for IA clients and families with special and additional needs;
  - d. Increased resources and resourcing to support administration and case managers;
  - e. First Nations designed data strategies and collection;



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- f. Infrastructure investments to enable First Nations to administer their own IA program; and,
  - g. Strengthening wrap-around programming and services to support clients in a multi-faceted way.
2. Call on Canada to use First Nation-created policy recommendations for their Memorandum to Cabinet in the Fall of 2022 on IA Program reform, including recommendations developed through individual First Nations and their regional decision-making processes.
  3. Call on the Assembly of First Nations Technical Working Group on Social Development (TWGSD) to conduct and oversee an assessment of the long-term financial investments required to fill the gaps within the on-reserve IA Program.

## **Resolution 98/2019: *Poverty Reduction for All First Nations in Canada***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to urge the federal government to provide long- term and sustainable funding for Canada' s Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS),
2. Direct the AFN to seek funding for the Technical Working Group on Social Development (TWGSD) to investigate the applicability of the PRS to First Nations and to provide recommendations on how to address poverty.
3. Direct the AFN to seek funding to conduct a study on First Nation -specific indicators and measures of poverty.

## **Housing And Homelessness**

### **Resolution 59/2022: *Transformative Federal Investment Needed in First Nations Housing***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to urge the federal government to commit in its 2023 budget to invest the full \$135.1 billion from 2023-24 to 2029-30 to fulfill part of the Indigenous Services Minister's mandate to close the infrastructure gap by 2030 as it pertains to housing.
2. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to invest in the community



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infrastructure, especially serviced lots, water, wastewater systems, and any other public utilities required to support any new housing built through new and future investments to accommodate growth.

3. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to transition the insufficient federal housing and infrastructure investment commitment timeframes of 5 to 10 years to long-term commitments of 25 to 30 years or more to provide ongoing, predictable, and sustainable funding.
4. Direct the AFN to seek funds from the federal government to conduct research and engage First Nations to annually identify the cost estimates of additional housing needs, including those that have not yet been costed.

## **Resolution 60/2022: *First Nations Involvement in the Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to urge the federal government to ensure that the Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy (URN Strategy) aligns with the National First Nations Housing and Related Infrastructure Strategy and that it does not derogate from First Nations rights, jurisdiction and nationhood.
2. Urge the federal government to ensure the AFN, First Nations regional organizations, and individual First Nations are fully involved in the development of the URN Strategy in a distinctions-based process, and to commit adequate resources to support this involvement.
3. Urge the federal government to ensure First Nations can easily opt to control the use of funds directed to urban, rural and northern housing providers in relation to their members/citizens, and to ensure that First Nations have adequate resources to meet the housing needs of their citizens no matter where they live.
4. Urge the federal government and their partners in the development of the URN Strategy to accommodate the unique circumstances of Dene Nation communities and Yukon First Nations in a manner directed by them.

## **Resolution 31/2021: *Cost to Address Decades of Federal Housing Neglect***

1. Direct the AFN to advocate that the federal government announce no later than



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in its 2022 Federal Budget a guaranteed 10-year commitment of;

2. \$39 billion to close the housing gap in First Nations communities, including First Nations on settlement lands, and/or lands set aside, and adjusted annually to reflect cost-of-living increases; and
3. \$21 billion to build homes for 10% of First Nations citizens living away to migrate to their home communities.
4. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to continue the partnership in housing by co-developing a Memorandum to Cabinet or similar mechanism with the AFN, leading to a detailed federal First Nations housing policy that is consistent with the AFN's foundational housing documents.
5. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to recognize each First Nation's right to determine their own funding priorities to address the housing crisis, such as overcrowding, serviced lots, repairs/renovations, population growth, the creation of or addition to reserves including housing and infrastructure, or to attract citizens living away to migrate to their home communities.
6. Direct the AFN, with the collaboration of the regions, to continue to work with Canada to co-develop research into additional housing pressures and to report conclusions and recommendations to the Chiefs-in-Assembly to seek further direction.

## **Resolution 22/2020: Infrastructure Stimulus Funding for First Nations**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to urge the federal government to actively partner with First Nations in order to share in decision-making processes and the financial information relevant to closing the First Nations infrastructure gap.
2. Direct the AFN to support the closure of the infrastructure gap between First Nations and the rest of Canada.
3. Direct the AFN to support First Nation requests to replace current bi-lateral funding agreements with a direct funding institution.
4. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to make long-term funding commitments to First Nations community infrastructure, including but not



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limited to: housing, water, wastewater, operations and maintenance, education, health facilities, and emergency services.

5. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to co-develop with First Nations, the Chiefs' Committee on Housing and Infrastructure, and the AFN a new institution known as the Indigenous Infrastructure Bank that delivers the federal government's infrastructure stimulus funding directly to First Nations in a Nation-to-Nation relationship.

## **Resolution 79/2019: Action Plan for First Nations Homelessness On and Off-Reserve**

1. Call upon the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to identify resources to do research, with external partners where possible, to:
  - a. gather data to determine the number of First Nations people experiencing homelessness, and
  - b. analyze the data to determine the causes and the gaps in services, including the shortage of housing on-reserve that contributes to members leaving their communities and the reasons that prevent the homeless from accessing adequate shelter on and off-reserve.
  - c. Develop a mechanism to allow First Nations to access data collected for their own future utilization.
2. Direct the AFN to seek resources to develop a draft national First Nations Homelessness Strategy that is in alignment with the National First Nations Housing and Related Infrastructure Strategy. This strategy will identify comprehensive, multi-partner, short, medium and long-term solutions, and an advocacy plan for presentation to Chiefs-in-Assembly for their input, approval, and occasional updating as required.
3. Call upon the AFN to advocate for a multi-partner solution to address First Nations homelessness and its related causes.
4. Urge the federal government to immediately develop with First Nations, the Chiefs' Committee on Housing and Infrastructure, and the AFN measures to improve the delivery of federal government homelessness programs into the transition to First Nations care, control and management of First Nations



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housing and infrastructure.

5. Urge the federal government to work with First Nations and the AFN on immediately improving social programs and fiscal mechanisms to address homelessness.
6. Urge Employment and Social Development Canada to amend criteria to access the rural budget component to enable First Nations to build shelters and group homes on-reserve.

## **Resolution 28/2017: Restore Technical Services back to First Nations for CMHC Housing Programs**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to urge the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation not to renew the contract with OZHI First Nations Professional Services and re-negotiate the agency agreements with First Nations, Tribal Councils and First Nations Technical Service Providers (TSPs).
2. Direct the AFN to request that consultation begin immediately with First Nations and their organizations to develop an agreement for the future of this essential service that is respectful and recognizes the role and experience of the affected First Nations TSPs.

## **Resolution 57/2018: National First Nations Housing and Related Infrastructure Strategy**

1. Approve the National Housing and Related Infrastructure Strategy that includes full funding of housing and infrastructure needs.
2. Re-affirm the continuation of First Nations bilateral discussions with the federal government on housing and infrastructure policy reform regardless of the result of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN)-federal process to develop a National Housing and Related Infrastructure Strategy.
3. Urge Canada to fulfill its fiduciary obligations to First Nations in housing and infrastructure, thereby ending the competition for insufficient resources between First Nations regarding these matters.
4. Urge the federal government to immediately co-develop with the Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure and the AFN measures to remove barriers and



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otherwise improve the delivery of federal government housing and infrastructure programs and fiscal tools in the interim of the transition to First Nations care, control and management of First Nations housing and infrastructure.

5. Ensure reform considers capital for child welfare.
6. Call on Canada to be accountable for the mismanagement of housing through both Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada and the Canadian Housing and Mortgage Corporation processes(s). First Nations cannot inherit a broken and failed system as a result of a government housing policy and to substandard housing that has not improved the lives of our peoples.

## **Resolution 13/2015: Support for Collaborative Knowledge Building and Action for Visit Able Housing in First Nations Communities in British Columbia**

1. Support the First Nations VisitAble Housing project to improve housing accessibility including strategies to promote VisitAble Housing in First Nation communities among builders, policy makers, and other stakeholders.

## **Resolution 70/2015: Support for Housing, Water and Infrastructure**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to work with the Government of Canada to establish the proper new escalator to replace the 2% cap and to identify the catch-up funding required to address the shortfalls created by the 2% cap.
2. Direct the AFN to begin the dialogue with the relevant Government of Canada departments to establish a new fiscal framework and identify funding and programs to close the gap in housing, water, and infrastructure.
3. Direct the AFN seek funding support to conduct research in collaboration with the First Nation regions on devolution of programs to First Nation control such as housing and water management.
4. Direct the AFN to seek funding to support the facilitation of national dialogue sessions on housing, infrastructure and water, high-speed Internet connectivity, and housing for the specific purpose of ensuring the safety of our children and women.
5. Direct the AFN to report on progress of this resolution to the Chiefs-in-Assem-



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bly on an annual basis.

6. Direct the AFN to work with the Government of Canada to change income assistance policy which restricts shelter allowance to be applied to band-owned homes.

## Infrastructure and Drinking Water

### **Resolution 76/2015: *Safe Drinking Water for First Nations***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nation (AFN) to immediately advocate to all relevant Ministers and Departments the need to secure the necessary capital investments, operations and maintenance funding, personnel and training to eliminate drinking water advisories in all First Nation communities.
2. Direct the AFN to reiterate to the new federal Government the recommendations of the report of the Expert Panel on Safe Drinking Water for First Nations; domestic and international legal and human rights assessments of access to clean running water by First Nations in Canada; and respective First Nations' community-based analyses to allow for a comprehensive assessment and identification of the infrastructure, human resources, and training requirements for every First Nation in Canada to have access to clean running water.
3. Direct the AFN to immediately communicate to the Office of the Prime Minister and the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs that the Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act needs to be repealed.

### **Resolution 26/2017: *Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act (the Act)***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to immediately communicate to the Office of the Prime Minister and the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, to acknowledge AFN resolution 76/2015 Safe Drinking Water for First Nations that calls for the Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act (SDWFNA) to be repealed.
2. Direct the AFN to immediately communicate to the federal government that the engagement sessions for review of the SDWFNA must be terminated, and the federal government must work directly with First Nations to determine the appropriate next steps, developed in full partnership with First Nations, and respecting First Nations rights.



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3. Call on the federal government to develop, in partnership with First Nations, appropriate outcomes for the provision of safe drinking water that is respectful of First Nations rights. This includes the identification of necessary funds for capital investments, operations and maintenance funding, and personnel, and training for all First Nations communities, to improve the state of First Nations water systems while a new legislative framework is in development.
4. Reaffirm AFN resolution 29/2014 Right to Safe Drinking Water on Reserve and fully support the legal action by Ermineskin Cree Nation, Kainai First Nation (Blood Tribe), Tsuut'ina Nation, and Sucker Creek First Nation, against Canada for breach of its fiduciary duty and legal obligations under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms to ensure safe on-reserve drinking water.
5. Fully support efforts by First Nations, to establish, in Canadian law, the right to clean drinking water for all First Nations and encourage other First Nations with drinking water issues to join the legal action.

## **Resolution 88/2017: *First Nations led Engagement Process for Safe Drinking Water Legislation***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to establish a joint Working Group comprised of AFN, Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure and their regional technicians, federal representatives, legal counsel for AFN and the federal government, and other experts, as necessary, to co-develop a draft framework for new legislation.
2. Direct the AFN to call upon the federal government to commit to adequate multi-year funding for the co-development of a draft framework for new legislation and to support First Nations engagement sessions.
3. Direct the AFN to co-develop a framework for a First Nations Water Commission with First Nations and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, and to call on the federal government to secure funding for the design and implementation of a Water Commission.
4. Direct the AFN to ensure that the co-development of a draft framework for new legislation respects the following principles:
  - a. Is respectful of First Nations inherent rights and Indigenous laws.



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- b. Meets the spirit and intent of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

## **Resolution 26/2018: Support for a First Nations Safe Drinking Water Legislation - Preliminary Concepts**

1. Support the First Nations Safe Drinking Water Legislation Preliminary Concepts as a working document to support engagement with First Nations.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to proceed with national engagement with First Nations to develop the First Nations Safe Drinking Water Legislation Draft Framework.
3. Direct the AFN to advocate for co-development with First Nations and Canada, new First Nations safe drinking water and wastewater legislation in a manner that affirms and ensures First Nations rights, interests, aspirations, inherent rights and laws, standards, guidelines and processes are protected.

## **Resolution 14/2019: Endorsement of the Refined Preliminary Concepts for Repeal and Replacement of the Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act**

1. Hereby endorse the Refined Preliminary Concepts as a working document to inform an affirmation and assertion process with the Government of Canada to produce joint recommendations on a framework to repeal and replace the SDWFNA that will address the provision of First Nation safe drinking water and wastewater management.
2. Urge the Federal Government to participate in the affirmation and assertion process with the nations in a manner consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Calls to Justice in the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and the numerous commitments it has made to First Nations.
3. Call upon the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to declare that, as partners in reconciliation, provinces and territories must recognize that First Nations rights, interests and title to waters and waterbodies remain unextinguished and will not be encumbered by Provincial and Territorial assertions of jurisdiction.



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4. Direct the AFN to conduct follow-up engagement with First Nations throughout Canada throughout 2019 and 2020 on key issues, concerns and Regional or Local First Nations water initiatives that may be impacted or supported by the repeal and replacement of the Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act.
5. Direct the AFN to seek sufficient resources to support the follow-up engagement process with First Nations, including a future affirmation and assertion process with the Government of Canada.
6. Direct the AFN to return to the next Chiefs Assembly to present the results of the follow-up engagements and affirmation and assertion process to the Chiefs-in-Assembly.

## **Resolution 53/2019: *Human Right to Clean Drinking Water***

1. Call upon the federal government to immediately to remove bureaucratic barriers and systemic failures in guidelines and policies which lead to the denial of the basic human right to clean drinking water to the residents of Attawapiskat First Nation, and all other First Nation communities who are experiencing similar problems.

## **Resolution 27/2021: *Meaningful engagement and involvement in the co-development of the Canada Water Agency***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on Canada to immediately work in full partnership and meaningfully engage with First Nations regarding the potential structure and priorities of a CWA [Canada Water Agency], through a mutually collaborative process, that recognizes and affirms First Nations interests and rights to water.
2. Direct the AFN to urge Environment and Climate Change Canada to ensure that any upcoming outreach with First Nations on the development of the CWA include dedicated funds and resources, in addition to timelines that respect the ability of First Nations to participate.
3. Direct the AFN to work with relevant Chiefs and technical bodies to identify priorities, issues, synergies, and concerns as they relate to the establishment and implementation of the CWA.

## **Resolution 23/2022: *Re-Commitment to Co-Development of Replacement Legislation for Safe Drinking Water for First Nations***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on Canada to cease further



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development of its legislative drafting and release what they have developed thus far on safe drinking water.

2. Direct the AFN to withdraw from the Joint Technical Working Group (JTWG) unless Canada re-commits to the co-development of legislation in a meaningful partnership with First Nations in compliance with the original Terms of Reference of the JTWG and the confidentiality agreement.
3. Direct the AFN to co-develop legislation that includes at a minimum:
  - a. Recognition of First Nations rights and jurisdiction over lands and waters;
  - b. Mandatory requirements for Canada to provide water and wastewater treatment that meets minimum national standards (or where requested, the more stringent of the federal requirements or provincial standards governing residential water quality);
  - c. A commitment to adequate and sustained funding (including at a minimum, capital, operations & maintenance and inspections) to address water and wastewater;
  - d. Mechanisms to address transboundary waters;
  - e. Liability protection for owners and operators; and,
  - f. Governance structures that ensure First Nations are decision-makers in the provision of water and wastewater services.
4. Direct the AFN to call on Canada to ensure there are no criminal charges and/or penalties against the owner(s) or operator(s) of a public water system where Canada has failed to provide adequate funding for the operations, capital maintenance and independent inspection of their public water system.

## **Resolution 80/2017: Support for Review of Canada's Operations and Maintenance Policy**

1. Support the co-development of new Operations and Maintenance Policy Framework (O&M Policy Framework) with full involvement of First Nations and/or their organizations, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and the Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure.



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2. Direct the AFN to jointly develop a Draft Joint Work Plan with Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and report on progress to the Chiefs Committee on Housing and Infrastructure.
3. Direct the AFN to urge INAC to provide funding to support the Joint Work Plan and the development and implementation of the O&M Policy Framework.

## **Resolution 26/2021: Support for Closing the Infrastructure Gap by 2030**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to support regionally-led engagement and regional priorities, working in partnership with Canada to support meaningful First Nations participation in engagement sessions.
2. Direct the AFN to advocate to Canada for adequate funds to support sustained and meaningful engagement regarding closing the infrastructure gap with all First Nations.
3. Direct the AFN to call on Canada to work in full partnership and engage meaningfully with First Nations on First Nations-defined infrastructure needs, including a dedicated investigation into true housing and infrastructure needs and the co-development of an infrastructure plan to support closing the gap.
4. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to make long-term and sustainable funding commitments to First Nations community infrastructure and housing, including but not limited to: water, wastewater, modernized operations and maintenance funding with escalators, connectivity, roads, educational facilities, health facilities, community buildings, and asset management programs.
5. Direct the AFN to ensure that this initiative does not delay existing endeavors, including First Nations-led processes and advocacy on both the National First Nations Infrastructure Assessment and the National First Nations Housing and Related Infrastructure Strategy.

## **Resolution 22/2022: Post-Pandemic Support for National First Nations Assets Needs**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to ensure the federal government includes First Nations immediate infrastructure needs as part of Canada's post-pandemic recovery plan and have these infrastructure investments incorporated into its 2023 federal budget.



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2. Direct the AFN to call on Canada to work in full partnership with First Nations to ensure that First Nations perspectives and priorities are included in Canada's post-pandemic recovery plan.
3. Direct the AFN to ensure the federal government commits to making long-term and sustainable funding commitments to invest in First Nations infrastructure investment needs as defined by the National First Nations Assets Needs Study, including the use of the Study's findings to inform federal investments in growth, upgrades, and level of service standards improvements, and adequate operations and maintenance funding for all applicable First Nation assets.
4. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to improve capacity building programs available to First Nations for infrastructure planning and program delivery to enable First Nations to be stewards in the effective management of their own current and future infrastructure assets.
5. Direct the AFN to work with the Chiefs' Committee on Housing and Infrastructure, AFN Technicians, and appropriate technical bodies to assist First Nations in predicting and quantifying the costs of climate change adaptation for applicable First Nation assets that ensures an improved level of service standard to maintain infrastructure resilience.

### **Resolution 46/2022, Education Infrastructure Capital Reform**

1. Reaffirm First Nations' inherent and Treaty rights to education, including education infrastructure.
2. Reaffirm that jurisdiction over First Nations education remains with each First Nation.
3. Call on the Government of Canada to improve and strengthen partnerships with First Nations that respects First Nations control of First Nations education and First Nations decision-making in all processes concerning education.
4. Support the Chiefs Committee on Education, the National Indian Education Council and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to lead a co-development process that would create authorities and reform First Nations education infrastructure capital processes to provide First Nations with the ability to include capital and education infrastructure processes into new or existing education agreements.



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5. Support First Nations, regions or Treaty territories who want to independently engage, develop regional models, create new authorities and reform processes for education infrastructure capital needs.
6. Affirm that a co-development approach concerning First Nations education infrastructure capital is not intended to detract or hinder First Nations from advancing their current capital processes.

## **CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS**

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### **Citizenship**

#### **Resolution 71/2016: Descheneaux Decision: First Nations Jurisdiction on Citizenship and Identity**

1. Support those First Nations who wish to disengage and opt-out of the Indian Act at their own pace to develop governance regimes in accordance to their own customs and traditions.
2. Support those First Nations who aspire to implement their own citizenship laws without regard to section 6 of the Indian Act. Unequivocally support the elimination of the second generation cut-off provision found in section 6(1) and (2) of the Indian Act that results in a decline of registrants and members of First Nations.
3. Call on Canada to repeal the impugned provision in its entirety and to transfer the authority of citizenship and identity to the First Nations.
4. Acknowledge those First Nations that have Treaty with the Crown in right of the United Kingdom to have Treaty cards, and call upon Canada to jointly recognize the reinstatement of the Treaty cards.
5. Call upon Canada to withdraw Bill S-3 and consult and accommodate with First Nations in a manner consistent with section 35 of the Constitution Act of Canada prior to reintroducing any legislation to accommodate.

#### **Resolution 30/2017: Inherent Authority to Define Citizenship**

1. Affirm the authority of First Nations to determine their own citizenship and eligibility for registration.



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2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to call on the Government of Canada to end the practice of legislative assimilation and to provide adequate funding to First Nation governments to establish their own citizenship laws and processes.
3. Support the work of Fort William First Nation and all other First Nations who now exercise their jurisdiction over their citizenship and restore their children with their rightful heritage, which was lost due to the colonial and racist impacts of sections 6(1) and (2) of the Indian Act.

## **Resolution 14-2022: *First Nations Self-Determination over Citizenship***

1. Affirm and assert First Nations' inherent right to exercise jurisdiction over citizenship.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to engage the Government of Canada to end the practice of legislative assimilation and to immediately provide adequate funding to First Nations governments to establish their own citizenship laws and processes.
3. Direct the AFN to engage the Government of Canada to address all remaining impacts of gender discrimination arising from the Indian Act past and present.
4. Direct the AFN to engage First Nations on issues of citizenship, seek input on how best to support First Nations citizenship approaches, and examine and convey back to the Chiefs-in-Assembly at the next National Assembly on options, approaches and funding structures that support First Nations' jurisdiction over citizenship.

## **First Nations Seeking to Create a Band or New Reserve**

### **Resolution 47-2021, *Justice for First Nations Recognition and Reserve Land***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on Canada, in consultation and coordination with affected First Nations, to take a comprehensive approach to addressing the unique issues facing AFN-recognized First Nations without reserve lands or federal recognition, including through the creation of a senior or ministerial level table to oversee efforts to identify and implement targeted solutions within 12 months.
2. Call on Canada to work directly with the AFN and affected First Nations to



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review and re-design the New Bands/Band Amalgamation Policy (NBBA Policy) as well as other relevant laws and policies.

3. Call on Canada to provide adequate interim funding and resources to affected First Nations while policy and legislative review and re-design is ongoing.
4. Direct the AFN to facilitate the full participation of First Nations in the review and re-design of the NBBA Policy and other relevant laws and policies.
5. Direct the AFN to advocate for sufficient resources to support First Nations' full and equal participation in co development and engagement processes related to the NBBA Policy and other relevant laws and policies.

**Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ (2-Spirit [Two Spirit], lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual)**

## **Resolution 52/2022: Mandate to Co -Develop Criminal Code Amendments for the Criminalization of Forced and Coerced Sterilization**

1. Directs the Assembly of First Nations to engage with the Government of Canada to co-develop amendments to the Criminal Code of Canada that will recognize forced and coerced sterilization of First Nations women as a specific criminal offence and an act of genocide.
2. Reaffirm their support efforts to raise awareness about forced and coerced sterilization and reproductive rights in First Nations, as well as efforts to stop the forced sterilization of First Nations women and girls.

## **Resolution 49/2022: Support for Sustainable Funding and Accountability for the Implementation of the 231 Calls for Justice**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate for long-term sustainable funding to address and prevent all forms of gender-based violence targeting First Nations women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ (2-Spirit [Two-Spirit], lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, and '+' indicating diversity of remaining identities not listed) peoples.
2. Direct the AFN to advocate that all levels of government, and all others with obligations to act on the 231 Calls for Justice from the Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (Final



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Report), implement the 2021 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People National Action Plan: Ending Violence Against Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People and the Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People according to the Principles for Change from the Final Report, including but not limited to:

- a. The Principle of, “Nothing about Us, Without Us”, which centers the inclusion of families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, survivors of gender-based violence, and First Nations women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people, with lived experience, and as rights holders and citizens of their self determining Nations. This approach involves full engagement for guidance according to their lived experience and expertise;
  - b. Distinctions-based through a regional approach accounting for geographical (e.g., northern, remote, isolated, urban, etc.) realities, needs, and priorities. A First Nations-based approach ensures the lived realities stemming from systemic and societal impacts and influences, past, present, and future, are accounted for and considered in determining the best path forward to address distinct needs and actions; and
  - c. Self-determined, sustainable, and resourced First Nations-led solutions and services through the promotion of Indigenous data sovereignty strategies to measure, monitor, and report on the implementation process and outcomes for transformative change.
3. Establish an independent accountability mechanism within the AFN to produce and publish an annual report on the implementation of the 231 Calls for Justice, including tracking to specifically break down the actions and items that have been undertaken and those still outstanding and report back to the First Nations-in-Assembly.
  4. Establish an accountability mechanism for the development, application, monitoring, and annual reporting on organizational gender-based policies and strategies that promote gender balance and the safety, security, self determination, and restoring power and place of First Nations women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ peoples. This would include outcomes from “The 2020-2021



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AFN Investigative Review to End Sexual Orientation and Gender-Based Discrimination.”

## **Resolution 27/2022: *Support for the Family of Chantel Moore and Implementation of the 231 Calls for Justice***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate for greater RCMP accountability and justice for the family of Chantel Moore and call for the implementation of the recommendations from the New Brunswick Coroner's Inquest regarding police intervention, training, and equipment.
2. Call upon the AFN to strongly denounce any acts of violence perpetrated by police against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ people and advocate for greater police reform and accountability.
3. Call upon the federal government to accelerate the implementation of the National Action Plan and 231 Calls for Justice and to disclose in a transparent manner how the funding for implementation of the National Action Plan is being allocated.
4. Call upon the federal government to establish an independent third-party oversight body mandated to provide accountability for the implementation of the 231 Calls for Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.
5. Call on the federal government to work with the provinces and territories in a role as a convenor to ensure that the 2021 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People National Action Plan: Ending Violence Against Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People is implemented fully, and that this work is prioritized equally as the Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People.

## **Resolution 13/2019: *Implementation of Recommendations from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls***

1. Fully support the immediate implementation of the Calls to Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (“the National Inquiry”) and also the recommendations coming directly from Indige-



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nous, front-line, grassroots, and women's organizations, and particularly the recommendations from Red Women Rising: Indigenous Women Survivors in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, including the National Coalition for Grassroots Families.

2. Recognize that the implementation of these recommendations must include the full and meaningful implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including recognition of Indigenous Peoples' inherent Title and Treaty rights, and the restoration of collective Indigenous women's rights and governance.
3. Support the call for a "comprehensive national-level integrated action plan to eliminate violence against Indigenous women, girls, trans and two spirit people must address all the socio-economic factors impacting Indigenous women's, girls, trans and two-spirit's safety including equitable access and self-determination over land, culture, language, housing, child care, income security, employment, education, and physical, mental, sexual and spiritual health," as called for in Red Women Rising: Indigenous Women Survivors in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, along with an appropriate budget and resources, before the fall 2019 federal election.
4. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to work with Indigenous, front-line, grassroots, and women's organizations, and other like-minded organizations to advocate for the full and immediate, Indigenous-women led implementation of these recommendations.
5. Call upon federal, provincial, territorial, municipal, and Indigenous governments (hereinafter "all governments"), in partnership with Indigenous Peoples, to develop and implement a National Action Plan to address violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQIA people.
6. Call upon the federal government to respond to the report by September 6, 2019.

### **Resolution 59/2019: *Strengthening and Supporting the Assembly of First Nations Women's Council***

1. Direct that the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) prioritize obtaining appropriate funding, including government grants and private donorship, to ensure that the AFN Women's Council is properly resourced and at the forefront of advocacy for all First Nations women's issues.



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2. Direct the AFN to seek out appropriate funding and resources, including dedicated staff, for the AFN Women's Council to undertake advocacy for the implementation of the National Inquiry's Final Report Calls for Justice and the development and implementation of a First Nations -led National Action Plan.

### **Resolution 67/2019: *Development and Implementation of a National Action Plan on Violence Against Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQIA***

1. Call upon the Federal government to ensure that all engagement on a National Action Plan be carried out using the "Families First" approach.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to seek out appropriate funding and resources for the Women's Council to:
  - a. attend and participate in all Roundtable meetings in every region; and
  - b. co-ordinate its own engagement with First Nations on a National Action Plan.
3. Direct the AFN to develop its own First Nations led National Action Plan with input from the regions and First Nation survivors, families and the First Nations Coalition for Grassroots Families and advocate for all governments to adopt it.
4. Call upon the federal government to ensure that AFN Women's Council participates in the selection process for any representative appointed to implement the National Inquiry's Final Report Calls for Justice; including the development and implementation of a National Action Plan.
5. Direct the AFN to ensure the First Nations Action Plan is respectful of any Nation, women, or regional -led processes in regard to their planning.

### **Resolution 80/2018: *Support for the Criminalization of Forced Sterilization***

1. Reaffirm their support efforts to raise awareness about forced sterilization and reproductive rights in First Nations, as well as efforts to stop the forced sterilization of Indigenous women.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to politically support the class action claimants of forced sterilization in seeking redress and to advocate for changes to the Criminal Code of Canada to criminalize forced sterilization in Canada.



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## **Resolution 73/2018: Support for the Moose Hide Campaign**

1. Fully support the Moose Hide Campaign and commit to ending violence against women and children.
2. Direct the National Chief to provide a letter of support to the Moose Hide Campaign.
3. Call upon all levels of government and all Canadians to commit to supporting the Moose Hide Campaign and to wear the Moose Hide pin to symbolize their commitment to end violence against women and children.
4. Urge all levels of governments to ensure adequate resourcing is provided to Indigenous organizations who are proactively working to end violence against Indigenous women and children.
5. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to work with the Moose Hide Campaign and other like-minded organizations to ensure that all provinces/territories and the Government of Canada makes progress on ending violence against Indigenous women and children.

## **Resolution 78/2017: Support for the Extension of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to support the Commissioners of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (National Inquiry) request for an extension of their mandate and the appropriate budget allocation for the continuation of the National Inquiry for a minimum of another 2 years, on the condition that the Commissioners of the National Inquiry make a formal commitment to fully implement, prior to the extension and replacement of the Chief Commissioner, all of the calls for action contained in AFN Resolution 37/2014 "Support for Families First" and Resolution 57/2017 "Support for the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls"; including to:
  - a. Direct the AFN to call upon the federal government to reset and change the mandate and process of the National Inquiry and if necessary, provide additional funding to the National Inquiry.
  - b. Call upon the federal government and the Privy Council Office to remove



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- any policy barriers that inhibit the ability of the National Inquiry to allocate funds and carry out its mandate.
- c. Call upon the federal government to expand the scope of the National Inquiry's mandate to include policing practices and policies.
  - d. Call upon the federal government to take immediate action to fund:
    - i. Family engagement.
    - ii. Healing processes.
    - iii. Support for families still at risk today.
  - e. Direct the AFN to call upon the National Inquiry to amend its process so that it is less legalistic, to move away from a top down colonial approach and include a local culturally sensitive based process which is respectful of families; to communicate with families to obtain input from grassroots people and improve its outreach process to family members, First Nations, and organizations.
  - f. Call upon the National Inquiry to develop and disclose its:
    - i. Accountability Framework.
    - ii. Financial Reports.
    - iii. Organizational Structure.
    - iv. Interim Report, with an evaluation of the process.
2. Direct the federal government to reset the National Inquiry by appointing a new Chief Commissioner through a process in which Indigenous survivors and families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls are fully engaged.
  3. Call upon the federal government to ensure that hearings occur within the appropriate First Nation lands and territories so that it is further accessible to families.
  4. Call upon the Commissioners to hold family hearings in locations recommended by the families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and



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to adapt their process so that it is safe and suitable to the traditions and languages of the First Nations lands and territories where the hearings are located to ensure connections to the land are maintained (i.e., Roundhouse, Long house etc.).

## **Resolution 57/2017: Support for National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls**

1. Unequivocally support the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Women's Council calls for the following actions:
  - a. Direct the AFN to call upon the federal government to reset and change the mandate and process of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (National Inquiry) and if necessary, provide additional funding to the National Inquiry.
  - b. Call upon the federal government and the Privy Council Office to remove any policy barriers that inhibit the ability of the National Inquiry to allocate funds and carry out its mandate.
  - c. Call upon the federal government to expand the scope of the National Inquiry's mandate to include policing practices and policies.
  - d. Call upon the federal government to take immediate action to fund:
    - i. Family engagement
    - ii. Healing processes
    - iii. Support for families still at risk today
  - e. Direct the AFN to call upon the National Inquiry to amend its process so that it is less legalistic, to move away from a top down colonial approach and include a local culturally sensitive based process which is respectful of families; to communicate with families to obtain input from grassroots people and improve its outreach process to family members, First Nations, and organizations.
  - f. Call upon the National Inquiry to develop and disclose its:
    - i. Accountability Framework



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- ii. Financial Reports
- iii. How it is structured
- iv. Interim Report, with an evaluation of the process

## **Residential Institutions**

### **Resolution 34/2022: Justice and Reconciliation for Indian Residential School Survivors/Claimants**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to prioritize the international actions included in resolutions 01-2021 and 02-2021.
2. Direct the AFN to advocate for the establishment of an independent international commission, such as utilizing the UN Special Rapporteur to examine how IRS survivors were failed by the IRSSA on their individual complaints, conduct studies, provide advice on technical cooperation and undertake visits to assess specific human rights issues or situations in Canada.
3. Direct the National Chief, Executive Committee, and AFN Secretariat to intervene in the legal matters of IRS survivors of national importance with the Government of Canada and the Roman Catholic Church, including calls for support from the international community on behalf of survivors to obtain relevant documents, have their claims reopened and re-adjudicated and appropriate compensations be awarded to them in a trauma-informed process.
4. Direct the AFN to seek justice through international processes to hold the Government of Canada and the Churches accountable for their actions and for the violation of human rights pursuant to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the UNDRIP and the UNDA, without delay, in recognition that survivors are aging and are passing away before they receive justice.
5. Direct the AFN to commission an academic review, subject to funding, of the IRSSA to determine whether the IRSSA has fulfilled social justice obligations.
6. Direct the AFN to pursue the release of all related evidence and documents in full to the National Centre of Truth and Reconciliation.
7. Direct the AFN to adopt a definition of reconciliation which enhances and



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strengthens the TRC's definition of reconciliation with an emphasis that true reconciliation cannot be achieved until justice is served for Indigenous People.

8. Direct the AFN to report back annually at the Annual General Assembly on any progress made.

### **Resolution 35/2022: Reimbursements of Legal Costs for Residential School Survivors**

1. Direct the National Chief and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Executive Committee to call on the federal government to compensate those Survivor litigants who were not reimbursed for the legal fees that they incurred by bringing their individual Residential School claims through the courts.
2. Direct the National Chief and the AFN Executive Committee to call on the federal government to ensure that the families of those Survivors litigants, who have since passed on, are eligible to receive the compensation.
3. Direct the National Chief and the AFN Executive Committee to call on the federal government to resolve this outstanding issue for Survivor litigants expeditiously.

### **Resolution 36/2022: Reopening of Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement**

1. Call on the Government of Canada to immediately reopen the Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement (IRSSA) for survivors that missed the Deadline to file a claim for their experiences at Residential School or to facilitate a process, in consultation with First Nations leaders, to provide adequate compensation to which survivors are entitled.
2. Call on the Government of Canada to immediately ensure that sufficient monies, either by surplus under the IRSSA or otherwise, be allocated to First Nations-led measures and institutions to promote and foster healing for survivors and their families.
3. Call on the Assembly of First Nations to negotiate, as a party to the IRSSA, to reopen the IRSSA or negotiate a process, in consultation with First Nations leaders, to provide adequate compensation to which survivors are entitled.



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4. Call on the Government of Canada to allocate further financial resources to First Nations-led measures and institutions for the purpose of addressing the ongoing harmful effects of Residential Schools.

## **Resolution 37/2022: Support for a First Peoples Monument on the Grounds of Parliament**

1. Call upon the federal government to allocate funds to create a national monument that is meant to commemorate all First Peoples and their contributions to Canadian society.
2. Call upon all levels of government to support the creation of a First Peoples Monument, which will serve as a reminder to all members of Parliament to support First Peoples and to serve as a symbol of reconciliation and redress for past injustices and wrongs.
3. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to work with First Peoples leaders, the local First Nations Kitigan Zibi Anishnabeg and Algonquins of Pikwakangan, Elders, youth, and artists to design a concept of a First Peoples Monument which would provide for commemoration and support for healing from inter-generational trauma, and to build for a stronger future.
4. Direct the AFN to approach Heritage Canada to fund an initiative that will result in the design, construction, and installation of a First Peoples Monument on the grounds of Parliament with input from First Peoples leaders, Elders, youth, and artists.

## **First Nations Policing**

### **Resolution 51/2022: First Nation Sovereignty over Policing**

1. Call upon the federal government in the policing and public safety division to directly negotiate with First Nations, who are seeking a policing service under the First Nation Inuit Policing Program (FNIPP), to determine a funding framework and allocation, that is equitable and fair, based upon the critical need for community and cultural safety, which will ensure quality policing services, infrastructure, and human resources.
2. Directs that the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) recommend that the future FNIPP legislation be modelled after Bill C-92, An Act respecting First Nations,



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Inuit and Metis children, youth and families, in that federal policing legislation must allow First Nations to enact their own community policing legislation, ensuring true First Nation jurisdiction over justice and policing systems that will serve First Nations in a culturally appropriate and respectful manner free from systemic racism and discrimination.

## **Resolution 44/2018: *Enhancing and Supporting Tribal Police Services in First Nations in Canada***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate to the federal government to deem First Nations policing as an essential service and to provide adequate funding and support similar to other police forces in the country.
2. Call upon the AFN to advocate to the federal government to support the establishment of additional Tribal Police Services on First Nations in Canada, with commensurate funding.
3. Call upon the AFN to advocate to the provincial governments to lift the moratorium on new self-administered police services in Canada.

## **Resolution 45/2017: *Federal Investments in First Nations Police Services***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to communicate with the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness and remind the Government of Canada of its obligation to engage with First Nations to address the public safety of First Nations citizens.
2. Direct the AFN to urge the Government of Canada to ensure that First Nations police services are viewed as essential community services and that they are supported equitably with municipal and provincial police forces.

## **Resolution 107/2017: *Support of the First Nations Chiefs of Police Association Resolution Calling for First Nations Policing to be Entrenched as an Essential Service***

1. Support Resolution 001-2017 of the First Nations Chiefs of Police Association (FNCPA).



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2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to communicate with the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness on the urgent need for the First Nations Policing Program to be renewed, on an interim basis and with the funding increases committed to in the 2017 federal Budget, until such time as First Nations police services are fully entrenched as essential community services.
3. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to undertake the necessary legislative change to ensure that First Nations police services are viewed as essential services and supported equitably with federal, provincial, and municipal police services.

## **Restorative Justice**

### **Resolution 36/2021: Call for Recommitment, Funding and Clear Timeline for Development and Implementation of a National First Nations Justice Strategy**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate and work with the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada and relevant ministries to urgently co-develop a strategic framework to develop and implement a National First Nations Justice Strategy with adequate funding to support regional and community-based, self-determined holistic approaches to justice that are grounded in First Nations principles, protocols, laws, and traditions, including ensuring the framework is consistent with the minimum standards in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
2. Direct the AFN to advocate for a clear timeline and funding for a National First Nations Justice Strategy to be attached to the upcoming federal budget.
3. Direct the AFN to draw from existing work on the transformation of the justice system being championed by First Nations across the country, including, for example, the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, as the National First Nations Justice Strategy is developed.

### **Resolution 07/2020: Call for Reform to Address Institutional Racism in the Justice System**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to work with the relevant ministries to co-develop a legislative framework to designate First Nations Policing as an essential service with adequate funding



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2. to support community-based, self-determined holistic approaches that are grounded in First Nations principles, laws, and traditions, including but not limited to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
3. Direct the AFN to engage with the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness on funding increases for First Nations police services, which includes infrastructure, First Nations development of police services, adequate equipment supplies and salaries.
4. Direct the AFN to urge the federal and provincial governments to address systemic racism in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and other police services, which includes the need for adequate and appropriate oversight mechanisms and legislative reforms to eradicate racism from police agencies.
5. Direct the AFN to advocate for broader funding for Gladue reports, enhanced training of Gladue writers and implementation of Gladue principles across the justice system.
6. Direct the AFN to advocate for sustained and increased funding for restorative and culturally informed justice programming in Canada.
7. Direct the AFN to advocate that all legislative and programmatic reforms in every system be made in congruency with the Calls to Justice outlined in the Final Report of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Inquiry in order to reduce the harm faced by Indigenous women, girls and 2-Spirit peoples.

### **Resolution 03/2018: Federal Justice Legislation Amendments, Call for United Nations Special Rapporteur Investigation and Royal Commission**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on the federal government to meaningfully consult with First Nations to restore First Nations justice systems, uphold First Nations individual human rights, and ensure equitable treatment of First Nations in the proposed reforms to Canada's criminal laws as contained in: Bill C-75, An Act to amend the Criminal Code, the Youth Criminal Justice Act and other Acts and to make consequential amendments to other Acts; Bill C-28, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (victim surcharge); Bill C-38, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (exploitation and trafficking in persons); and, Bill C-39, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (unconstitutional provisions) and to make consequential amendments to other Acts with reference to previous



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inquiries in other provinces into unresolved homicides due to inadequate investigations by police services, such as the RCMP.

2. Call upon the Government of Canada to invite the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous peoples, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, and the Special Rapporteur on Racism to conduct an investigation on the Canadian justice system's treatment and on contemporary forms of racism against Indigenous People in Canada.
3. Request that the mandate of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples include the conduct of lawyers, Crown Attorneys, probation officers, social workers, juries, police officers and the conduct and sentencing practices of judges within all aspects of the criminal justice system.
4. Call upon the Government of Canada to establish a Royal Commission on the Elimination of Racism in the Canadian justice system with the authority to compel witnesses involved in the miscarriage of justice.

## **Resolution 25/2017: Support for the Boushie Petition against Systemic Discrimination in Crown Processes**

1. Support the petition of the Boushie family and encourage First Nation leadership to attend and support the Boushie family during the upcoming trial.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Executive to express their full support of the Boushie petition to the federal and provincial governments.
3. Direct the AFN Executive to continue to press for change in the education and respect for First Nations rights.

## **Resolution 08/2017: Support for the University of Victoria's Indigenous Law Program**

1. Support the University of Victoria Indigenous Law Program and the development of the Indigenous Legal Lodge.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to respectfully call upon the Government of Canada to support the establishment of the University of Victoria's Indigenous Legal Lodge and for delivering the transformative Indigenous Law Program, including both the Common Law (JD) and Indigenous Legal Orders (JID) degree programs.



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## **Resolution 26/2022: Plan for National Community Safety Reform: Political Support and Resourcing**

1. Call upon the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to support First Nations-led solutions in responding to the epidemic of suicides, public safety challenges, and substance abuse issues faced by First Nations and First Nations citizens.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate for and seek appropriate resources to:
  - a. Engage in or carry out activities for the creation and implementation of a Plan for National Community Safety Reform, which is intended to assess the need to provide resources and support to First Nations to address community safety, policing, and wellbeing wherever we may be, to be presented to First Nations-in-Assembly; and
  - b. Support the establishment of a Chiefs Committee on Community Safety, which will provide advice and direction on the development and implementation of a national survey to be distributed to First Nations that will assess the priorities of First Nations in relation to their community wellbeing, safety, and policing needs, with the results informing the drafting of the Plan for National Community Safety Reform.
3. Direct that the Chiefs Committee on Community Safety will be comprised of one (1) Chief representative from each AFN Region, who shall be appointed in collaboration with Chiefs, former RCMP and Justice workers.
4. Direct the Chiefs Committee on Safety Committee to report back to the First Nations-in-Assembly upon their progress, such as indicators of advances made, funding sources, and the priorities of First Nations (in aggregate).

## **LANDS, RESOURCES AND TERRITORIES; AND ENVIRONMENT**

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### **Resolution 30/2022: Call to Formally Repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery**

1. Fully reject the racist and colonial Doctrine of Discovery as a justification for the forceful dispossession of sovereign Indigenous Nations from their territories.



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2. Fully support and endorse the findings and recommendations outlined in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action related to the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius, recommendations 1.16.1 and 1.16.2 of the 1996 Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal people, and the Assembly of First Nations' Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery report.
3. Call on King Charles III to renounce the Doctrine of Discovery and likewise to renounce all doctrines of moral superiority asserted in aid of colonialism, so the Crown does not continue to rely upon or use these doctrines in aid of colonial purposes, especially as the Crown has distinct and lasting fiduciary obligations to the Indigenous peoples in Canada and around the world.
4. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on the federal Minister of Justice to include formal rescinding and repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery in Canada's United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan and to ensure the policy and legislation measures in this action plan reflect the rescinding and repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery.
5. Direct the AFN to continue to call on the Pope to rescind and repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius and recognize Indigenous inherent sovereignty, jurisdiction and self-determination.

## Specific Claims

### **Resolution 09/2020: *Jointly Develop a Fully Independent Specific Claims Process***

1. Call on Canada to work directly with the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and the Chiefs Committee on Lands, Territories and Resources (CCoLTR) to develop a fully independent specific claims process consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and based on the following principles identified by First Nations during the 2019 AFN dialogue process:
  - a. The Honour of the Crown: the specific claims process must be consistent with the Honour of the Crown;
  - b. Independence of all Aspects of Claims Resolution: specifically including funding and oversight of claims and their resolution that must be handled independent of Canada;
  - c. Recognition of Indigenous Laws: Support the recognition of the laws, legal orders, and dispute resolution mechanisms as articulated by



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participating First Nations. The recognition of First Nations' laws may impact the conduct of adjudication, dispute resolution and negotiation; and,

- d. No Arbitrary Limits on Compensation: there will be no financial constraints, such as the 150 million dollar cap on the jurisdiction of the Tribunal or the Commission. First Nations should have access to a fair process of redress that fits their needs and priorities
2. Call on Canada to compel the provinces to participate actively in the specific claims processes.
3. Declare that efforts to reform the specific claims process will not prejudice claims currently under negotiation or at the specific claims tribunal.

## **Resolution 37/2021: Full Involvement of First Nations in All Aspects of Specific Claims Policy Development**

1. Call on Canada to prioritize substantive, direct dialogue with First Nations on all aspects of specific claims policy and procedures, both in the development of a fully independent specific claims process and regarding any interim changes to current policy or procedures, and that it cease undertaking unilateral policy development or revision.
2. Call on Canada to ensure that all representatives of Canada – its elected representatives and members of the public service and bureaucracy – proceed in matters of policy and procedure in strict accordance with the public commitments made to First Nations by the Prime Minister and members of Cabinet, as well as the legal provisions and principles that underlie them, in particular, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, First Nations' rights under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, and the honour of the Crown.

## **Resolution 38/2021: Protecting the Institutional and Judicial Independence of the Specific Claims Tribunal**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to write to the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Crown Indigenous Relations to advocate for: the removal of the Specific Claims Tribunal (Tribunal) from the Administrative Tribunal Support



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Services of Canada Act (ATSSCA); the return of the Tribunal's dedicated registry; the resumption of Tribunal control over its administrative operations, such as staffing and budgets; the removal of the Tribunal's administrative offices from a federal government department, which is accountable to the Minister of Justice; the reinstatement of sections 10 and 12 of the Specific Claims Tribunal Act (SCTA); and, a full review of the impacts of the ATSSCA on the Tribunal's independence.

2. Direct the AFN to write to the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Crown Indigenous Relations to urge that the current SCTA be amended, in full partnership with First Nations, to return legislative protections to the Tribunal's judicial and institutional independence, as well as align with Canada's legal obligations under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

## **Additions-to-Reserve**

### **Resolution 26-2012: Additions to Reserve Policy and Process Reform**

1. Support the continuation of the joint AFN / Canada technical working group (JWG) work to obtain positive changes to the Additions to Reserves (ATR) policy and process on issues that would include, but not be limited to:
  - a. A renovation of the existing ATR policy and " Chapter 10" of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's Lands Manual to make this policy and process more efficient, effective and transparent.
  - b. A revised ATR process that would ensure that the implementation all settlements agreements that include ATR commitments take precedence over other interests (e.g. municipal tax loss, etc.) and uphold the Honour of the Crown and respect the constitutional status of FN Aboriginal and Treaty rights;
  - c. The cooperative examination of legislation, in accordance with the standard of Free, Prior and Informed Consent, that would both expand the current legislative models available in Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba to First Nations in other provinces and territories, and include other legislative measures that, in conjunction with the revised ATR policy, make the process more efficient, effective and transparent.
2. Call on the CCoc to continue to report back to the Chiefs-in-Assembly as progress is made by the JWG.



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## **Resolution 17-2016: *Call on Canada to Update the Additions to Reserve Policy***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to call on the Government of Canada to implement the new ATR policy and related processes as soon as possible.
2. Call on the Government of Canada to engage with First Nation stakeholders at the Joint Technical Working Group table to ensure that the implementation of Canada's new ATR policy and process reflects the honour of the Crown, Canadian law, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

## **Resolution 94-2018: *Reject Canada's Approach to Additions to Reserve Legislation***

1. Reaffirm their support for Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Resolution 26/2012 Additions to Reserve Policy and Process Reform, which calls for:
  - i) A revised Addition to Reserve (ATR) process that would ensure that the implementation of all settlement agreements that include ATR commitments take precedence over other interests (e.g., municipal tax loss, etc.) and uphold the honour of the Crown and respect the constitutional status of First Nations Aboriginal and Treaty Rights.
  - ii) The cooperative examination of legislation, in accordance with the standard of free, prior and informed consent, that would both expand the current legislative models available in Saskatchewan, Alberta and Manitoba to First Nations in other provinces and territories, and include other legislative measures that, in conjuncture with the revised ATR policy, make the process more efficient, effective and transparent.
2. Call on the AFN to immediately begin undertaking a comprehensive analysis of the Budget Implementation Act, 2018, No. 2, focusing specifically on the Addition of Land and Reserves and Reserve Creation Act (the Act) to determine how the Act might impact First Nation inherent rights.
3. Call on the AFN to immediately look for opportunities to intervene and comment on the Act, and where possible, outline First Nation concerns with the process through which the Act was developed and introduced.
4. Call on Canada to refrain from characterizing the development of the Act as



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being done in consultation or collaboration with First Nations or the AFN, and for Canada to immediately undertake a detailed explanation of its legislative intent to be presented to the AFN Chiefs Committee on Lands, Territories and Resources for further discussion.

5. Call on Canada to ensure that any future ATR legislation be subject to joint oversight implementation with First Nations.

## **Natural Resources**

### **Resolution 100/2019: *New Investments in First Nations Involvement in the Economy***

1. Call on the Government of Canada for much needed federal investments into a new economic strategy and framework that prioritizes funding directly to First Nations.
2. Work jointly with the Government of Canada through Indigenous Services Canada and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs to collect information, undertake research and conduct an analysis of funding needs, to develop the elements of a First Nations coordinated policy approach for new investments for First Nations' involvement in the economy.
3. With the Guidance of the Chiefs' Committee on Economic Development (CCED) to:
  - a. Develop a First Nations policy approach and business case for new investments for First Nations involvement in the economy;
  - b. Establish an interim technical committee.
4. Call upon the Government of Canada to provide resources for the CCED and AFN to conduct work with First Nations on new investments required for First Nations economic programs, services and incentives, which identifies equity, major project funding and capacity supports for First Nations participation in all aspects of the economy.



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## **Resolution 6/2022: A New Economic Deal for First Nations via a National Prosperity Table**

1. Call on the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to recognize that for true prosperity building for First Nations, revenue and benefit sharing agreements are necessary to ensure that Canada shares the wealth derived from and upon our lands, territories, and resources whether they are treaty or unceded territories.
2. Support and participate in a National First Nations Economic Growth, Wealth Building, and Prosperity Table that can lead the process to advance a new economic deal for First Nations.
3. Direct the AFN Chiefs Committee on Economic Development (CCED) to provide advice to the National First Nations Economic Growth, Wealth Building and Prosperity Table.
4. Direct the AFN to seek resources to support the establishment of a technical advisory committee comprised of specialists to support the work of the CCED.
5. Direct the AFN, with the guidance of the CCED, to develop a Terms of Reference and finalize a proposal to seek resources to ensure funding for the National First Nations Economic Growth, Wealth Building and Prosperity Table.

## **Fisheries**

### **Resolution 24/2012: Consultation and Engagement on Amendments to the Fisheries Act**

1. Direct the National Chief to call upon the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Minister of Finance to allocate new funding sources for the purpose of engaging, consulting and accommodating First Nations affected by new policies and regulations.
2. Direct the National Chief to emphasize to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Minister of Finance that funding for engagement, consultation and accommodation must not come from existing Aboriginal fisheries programs since these programs provide seed funding for important economic activities.
3. Direct the AFN to work directly with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans



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to ensure that engagement and consultation processes are robust, thorough, accountable, respectful and appropriate prior to the implementation of these processes.

4. Direct the AFN to notify the Crown that it has failed to fulfill its fiduciary duty to First Nations and condemn the Government of Canada for failing to fully brief, engage, consult and accommodate First Nations during the legislative process for Bill C-38: Jobs, Growth & Long-term Prosperity Act, including the amendment process for the Fisheries Act.

## ***Resolution 74/2017: Fisheries Legislative Amendments and the Ten Principles Respecting the Government of Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on the Government of Canada, to respect its own Ten Principles respecting the Government of Canada's relationship with Indigenous peoples within the context of legislative and regulatory reform that impacts First Nations generally, and as it relates to amendments to the Fisheries Act, the Navigation Protection Act, the Oceans Act, and the proposed Aquaculture Act and accompanying regulations.
2. Direct the AFN to call on the Government of Canada to identify the legislation, regulations, and policies under the scope and review of the Working Group of Ministers on the Review of Laws and Policies Related to Indigenous Peoples.
  - a. Seek clarity on the federal government's development of the recognition of rights framework with respect to legislative and regulatory amendments that impact First Nations fisheries.

## ***Resolution 76/2017, Establishment of a National Secretariat for the Negotiation and Implementation of Supreme Court Decisions regarding Fisheries***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, the Ministerial Working Group on Law & Policy, to ensure that any new or reformed federal legislation regarding fisheries respects and advances Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) fisheries decisions to uphold Aboriginal and Treaty rights.
2. Call on the AFN to support discussions amongst First Nations who wish to participate in the development of a mandate, and framework for a National



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Secretariat to promote the implementation of all successful SCC decisions related to all fisheries.

3. Call on the AFN to provide political and technical support to the National Secretariat to assist its work in integrating strategies for the benefit of First Nations at negotiation tables on fisheries management, including increased economic access.
4. Call on the AFN to support a national strategy to assess, facilitate, and promote the development and enactment of federal legislation to implement Aboriginal Title, Rights and Treaty Rights confirmed by successful SCC decisions.
5. Call on the AFN to support the development of First Nations mechanisms that can bridge the gaps between SCC decisions, First Nations negotiation, and Crown implementation processes to ensure that SCC decisions are honored and implemented effectively.

## **Resolution 4/2018: *First Nations Role in Changes to the Fisheries Act***

1. Call on the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to urge the Government of Canada to properly fund the work with First Nations as it relates to regulation and policy development with respect to legislative amendments to the Fisheries Act.
2. Direct the AFN to engage with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to release information to First Nations in a timely manner as it pertains to plans for regulations and policies that may affect or infringe on First Nations rights and fisheries to facilitate and ensure proper engagement with First Nations.
3. Call on the AFN to continue its work with the DFO, and any other related federal government departments as needed, to address issues with respect to: upholding First Nations rights, in particular, Canada's legislation must recognize First Nations' inherent and everlasting responsibilities to their traditional territories, and to hold the Government of Canada accountable to its work concerning the rights and recognition framework; the law and policy review; the Ten Principles Respecting the Government of Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples; and the full and unqualified implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as it relates to the Fisheries Act and other legislation, regulations, and policy.



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4. Call on the AFN to continue to advocate that any legislative, policy, and program reforms to the Fisheries Act must include equitable employment insurance benefits for First Nations fishermen

## **Resolution 8/2020, *Systemic Racism in all federal agencies including Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Response to Sipekne'katik First Nation's Inherent Rights-based Fishery***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call upon the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to address systemic racism within the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) by:
  - a. calling for a national reform on DFO's Conservation and Protection sector to ensure that their operational policies duly recognize and respect First Nations' treaty-protected inherent right to harvest and sell fish;
  - b. committing to work with First Nations, provinces or territories as appropriate, and with the guidance of the AFN's National Fisheries Committee, to review, revise, and develop regulations, policies, and programs that recognize and respect First Nations' treaty-protected inherent rights, as well as the inherent authority of First Nations to empower First Nation enforcement and protection authorities;
  - c. undertaking necessary investigations and charging appropriate individuals under the powers of s. 43 of the Fisheries Act, s. 22(7) of the Fishery General Regulations and fishing license conditions, which prohibit individuals from tampering or interfering with fishing activities of another person, and demand that these non-Indigenous fishers licenses be revoked; and,
  - d. holding any persons that have tampered or interfered with the Sipekne'katik inherent rights-based fisheries accountable and liable for costs related to damages, replacement of gear, and resultant loss of revenue, and that the Department direct recovered costs to the Sipekne'katik First Nation.
2. Direct the AFN and the National Fisheries Committee to advocate that DFO support and prioritize the development of joint protocols between First Nations



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and DFO, or provinces and territories as appropriate to identify:

- a. procedures in advance for dealing with possible emergencies concerning public safety and security of the First Nation; and,
  - b. appropriate responses to infractions under the Fisheries Act, relevant provincial or territorial legislation, or the authority of the First Nation.
3. Direct the AFN and National Fisheries Committee to advocate that DFO and provinces or territories, adequately fund programs as well as any necessary capacity and training to enable the recognition of First Nations' authority and the ability for First Nation enforcement and protection authorities for their respective fisheries.

## **Climate Action**

### **Resolution 60/2018: Positioning First Nations as Climate Leaders**

1. Support the work of the Joint Committee on Climate Action (JCCA) between First Nations and the Government of Canada, as well as support continued engagement by the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) in the JCCA to promote First Nations full and meaningful inclusion in the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change and other related priorities identified by First Nations based on their inherent rights, titles, Treaties, and other formal arrangements.
2. Call on the Prime Minister to implement the JCCA's recommendations in the areas of greenhouse pollution pricing, federal funding accessibility, and action on climate destruction in full collaboration with the AFN and all Nations.
3. Reiterate that the JCCA does not replace or alleviate the Crown of its duty to consult and accommodate First Nations and that additional efforts must be afforded in order to consult directly with rights holders on issues related to climate destruction, including mitigation and adaptation recommendations, in a manner that is respectful of their unique protocols, and processes.
4. Direct the AFN to call upon the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada to provide adequate financial capacity to support First Nations, regions, provincial and territorial organizations, and women, Elders, and youth to participate in these priorities.



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5. Direct the AFN to continue international work on climate destruction, including through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

## **Resolution 02/2019: *Advancing First Nations Clean Energy Leadership for Economic Development and Action on Climate Change***

1. Call on the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to continue advocating for legislative, policy, fiscal, and program reforms that facilitate and empower First Nations involvement in clean energy projects and economies including access to capital and the requirement of upgraded linear structures.
2. Direct the AFN to facilitate First Nations to work in partnership with organizations, including, but not limited to the Indigenous Clean Energy Social Enterprise, to promote First Nations collaborative frameworks for renewable energy, energy efficiency, advanced energy systems and green energy infrastructure.
3. Support efforts by First Nations governments to take action on housing and community facility energy efficiency to make energy more affordable, improve health conditions, and establish new and ongoing jobs.
4. Direct the AFN to encourage participation of First Nations and their citizens in clean energy capacity building initiatives, such as the 20/20 Catalysts Program.
5. Direct the AFN to seek opportunities to share First Nations experiences with clean energy projects and ventures globally, as a means to combat the climate emergency, through forums such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, among others.

## **Resolution 05/2019: *Declaring a First Nations Climate Emergency***

1. Declare a global climate emergency.
2. Recognize that the climate crisis constitutes a state of emergency for our lands, waters, animals and peoples, and that we will accordingly utilize our local, national, and international forums and partnerships to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius.
3. Call on local, national, and international communities, governments, organizations, and movements to safeguard the inherent, Treaty and constitutionally protected rights of First Nations, respect Indigenous knowledge, and uphold



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Treaties and other constructive arrangements between First Nations and the Crown.

4. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on the federal, provincial, and territorial governments to take urgent and transformative climate action that meets the requirements outlined in the reports by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Canada in a Changing Climate to reduce emissions in Canada by 60% below 2010 levels by 2030 and reach net-zero emissions by 2050.
5. Call on the AFN, with guidance from the Advisory Committee on Climate Action and the Environment (ACE), AFN regions, First Nations Elders, Knowledge Keepers, women, youth and leadership, to develop a First Nations-led climate strategy, within six months, to achieve the objectives above and simultaneously address income inequality within First Nations as part of the mobilization for a just transition, and to host a National Gathering to advance local, domestic and international climate advocacy.

## **Resolution 22/2017: Joint Committee on Climate Action**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to reiterate their commitment to a First Nations-led climate strategy, and instruct the AFN staff to begin coordinating regional discussions to this effect.
2. Support the establishment of the Joint Committee on Climate Action (JCCA) between First Nations and the Government of Canada to ensure First Nations full and meaningful inclusion within the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change (PCF) and other related priorities identified by First Nations based on their inherent rights, Titles, Treaties, and other formal arrangements.
3. Direct the AFN to ensure regional First Nation representatives are appointed to the JCCA in order to reflect regional differences and concerns, as well as coordinate regional engagement opportunities for First Nations.
4. Direct the AFN to urge all Ministers involved in climate action to ensure the full and effective participation of the AFN Elders' Council and other Traditional Knowledge holders in all aspects of climate action, including mitigation and adaptation, with equal weight given as that of Western science.



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5. Direct the AFN to call upon the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) to provide adequate financial capacity to support First Nations, regions, provincial and territorial organizations, and women, Elders, and youth to participate in these activities and to maintain their important role as stewards of the environment in successfully managing Canada's climate action.
6. Direct the AFN to call upon the Prime Minister, Minister of Environment, and Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada to support First Nations and provide financial resources for assessments of climate change impacts and for the preparation and implementation of mitigation and adaptive measures.

### **Resolution 101/2017: Supporting First Nations' Participation in International Climate Action**

1. Reaffirm that First Nations' traditional knowledge, teachings, innovations and practices of sustainable management and conservation serve as positive contributions in addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, as well as First Nations' community-based climate change education.
2. Call on the Parties to the United Nations' Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to support all efforts, including changing the draft rules of procedure, to improve First Nations' full and effective participation in the UNFCCC.
3. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to continue working on the operationalization of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, advocating for the principles of full and effective participation, equal status, including in leadership positions, the self-selection of representatives, and adequate funding for First Nations' participation.
5. Call on the federal government to provide needs-based financial support for all First Nations to: participate in UNFCCC processes; address climate change adaptation and mitigation domestically; and support First Nations' community-based climate change education.

### **Resolution 56/2019: Support for the Earth Strike and Fridays For Future movements and the General Strike on September 27, 2019**

1. Support the international Earth Strike movement and recognize its benefit to the fight against climate inaction.



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2. Support the September 27, 2019 General Strike and recognize its purpose, value, and importance as an international initiative and mobilization in the fight against climate inaction.
3. Support the FridaysForFuture movement and recognize its importance as a voice for youth concern on the climate emergency to express their utter dissatisfaction with the international community's lack of sufficient action.

## **Resolution 09/2018: *Develop First Nations-Specific Solutions for the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act***

1. Direct Canada to ensure that the Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act (Bill C-74) respects:
  - a. First Nations inherent rights, Treaties, title and jurisdiction, and recognize First Nations inherent responsibilities to their traditional territories;
  - b. the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration), including reference to the standard of free, prior, and informed consent; and
  - c. the First Nations right to self-determination, including the creation of a First Nations Carbon Pricing Regimes.
2. Call on Canada to co-develop with First Nations the policies, regulations and guidelines for the Carbon Levy and Output-Based Pricing Framework in order to respect First Nations inherent rights, Treaties, title and jurisdiction, and recognize First Nations' inherent responsibilities to their traditional territories.
3. Reiterate the call for the Ministers of Environment and Climate Change Canada, Finance, and other departments to provide adequate financial support for First Nations to explore the implications of carbon pricing on their territories, as well as opportunities for their participation in resource-revenue sharing and in the clean energy economy.
4. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to support First Nations, regional organizations, federal/provincial/territorial organizations and governments in the development of innovative solutions to address the unique circumstances of First Nations.

## **Resolution 55/2017: *First Nations Energy Strategy***

1. Call on the Prime Minister and provincial and territorial Premiers to fully and



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meaningfully include First Nations in regional, national and international energy strategies and planning processes through, among other things, the development of concrete mechanisms to ensure our full and effective participation in the implementation of these processes.

2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate for the creation of a First Nations Energy Strategy approach that is inclusive of the development of Indigenous laws, protocols, and processes, in full partnership with individual First Nations, and based on regional sectoral interests and activities.
3. Direct the AFN, with support from the Chiefs Committee on Economic Development and the Chiefs Committee on the Environment, to begin discussions on a First Nations-led energy strategy plan that prioritizes First Nations issues and interests.
4. Call on the federal, provincial and territorial governments to acknowledge their support (including financial) for First Nations to gather and create the information required to frame a First Nations Energy Strategy that incorporates strategic focus on the production, transportation and trade of energy, and includes attention to the growing focus on clean energy and carbon reduction opportunities, as well as supports for non-renewables.

## **Resolution 103/2017: Carbon Pricing Regimes**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to advocate Ministers involved in carbon pricing to respect First Nations inherent rights, Treaties, title and jurisdiction, and recognize First Nations inherent responsibilities to their traditional territories.
2. Call on the federal government to explore innovative solutions to address the unique circumstances of First Nations, and support First Nations as stewards of the environment and leaders of climate action.
3. Call on the Ministers of Environment and Climate Change Canada, Finance, and other mandated departments to provide adequate financial support for First Nations to explore the implications of carbon pricing on their territories, as well as opportunities for their participation in the clean energy economy.
4. Call on Premiers to design carbon pricing regimes that include revenue recy-



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clinging options that ensure First Nations' full and meaningful participation in the transition to a clean energy economy, including direct investment to First Nations to pursue energy security, and minimize the disproportionate impacts of carbon pricing.

## **Resolution 51/2015: *Inclusion of Indigenous Rights in Paris Agreement and Resulting Strategies***

1. Affirm that Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge, teachings, innovations and practices of sustainable management and conservation serve as positive contributions in addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.
2. Call on the Government of Canada to ensure that all strategies, mitigation measures and agreements made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change:
  - a. include the participation of Indigenous Peoples in both the design and implementation; and
  - b. fully conform with, and promote, the implementation of international human rights laws and standards, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
3. Call on the Government of Canada to honour its human rights obligations including the rights of Indigenous Peoples by ensuring that the main operating paragraphs of the Paris Agreement provide for the inclusion of the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Specifically, Canada to support removing the brackets in the current draft text in article 2 and to add "including the rights of indigenous peoples" so as the new draft reads as follows:

This Agreement shall be implemented on the basis of equity and science, and in accordance with the principle of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances, and on the basis of respect for human rights, INCLUDING THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, and the promotion of gender equality.

## **Resolution 59/ 2015: *Support for First Nations in Addressing Climate Change***

1. Support First Nation communities in engaging in sustainable energy use through the development of their own independent power sources to reduce their energy footprint wherever possible.



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2. Support First Nation communities in working with federal, provincial and territorial governments to reduce their carbon footprint, and to assist in the development of joint policies, frameworks and other strategies to support partnerships aimed at resolving this important issue in our lifetime.
3. Support the exploration and implementation of sustainable energy policies which support First Nations-owned businesses that help to reduce use of fossil fuels wherever possible in an effort to reduce our carbon footprint.
4. Support the Assembly of First Nations in seeking to develop and implement joint strategies aimed at adaptation and mitigation to address the impacts of Climate Change on First Nation communities and territories in all parts of Canada.

## Conservation and Biodiversity

### **Resolution 57/2022: First Nations Nature Table**

1. Endorse the creation of the First Nations' Nature Table (FNNT) as a technical body to interface with Environment and Climate Change Canada and other relevant departments on the design and implementation of Canada's National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan and Nature Agenda in national and international fora, as appropriate, and in a manner that addresses, promotes, and respects First Nations' self-determined nature priorities.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to develop a Terms of Reference for the FNNT that ensures balanced regional representation, and alignment with the Advisory Committee on Climate Action and the Environment (ACE).
3. Direct the AFN to call upon the Government of Canada to ensure that:
  - a. First Nations are fully involved in all aspects of the development and implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan and Nature Agenda;
  - b. These modalities recognize and respect First Nations' assertion of their inherent and Treaty rights;
  - c. Adequate funding and resources for these undertakings are provided; and
  - d. The FNNT does not replace or alleviate the Crown of its duty to consult and accommodate First Nations at a local, regional, or national level on



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issues related to the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan or Nature Agenda.

## **Resolution 03/2019: *The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate for First Nations involvement, both domestically and internationally, in all actions, including by federal, provincial, and territorial governments, to prevent biodiversity loss.
2. Support the establishment of a strong Indigenous-led permanent body to function as part of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to:
  - a. Draw on the insights and experiences gathered from Indigenous Peoples leadership in the Working Group on 8(j) over the past two decades.
  - b. Effectively advocate for the rights, interests, and contributions of all Indigenous Peoples in the CBD context.
  - c. Include mechanisms to promote the meaningful, sustained, and visible inclusion of Indigenous Peoples and voices in all aspects of the CBD.
  - d. Ensure that Indigenous Knowledge, in all of its forms, continues to be promoted as a valuable contribution in biodiversity conservation, both internationally and domestically.
  - e. Protect First Nations inherent rights, Treaties, Title and jurisdiction, and recognize First Nations inherent and everlasting responsibilities to their traditional territories.
3. Call on the Government of Canada to ensure that First Nations are involved in all aspects of biodiversity conservation, both in Canada and internationally, in a manner that promotes and respects First Nations inherent, Treaty and constitutionally-protected right, along with adequate funding, consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

## **Resolution 95/2019: *First Nations Full Partnership in the Implementation of the Pan Canadian Approach to Transforming Species at Risk Conservation in Canada***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), with the support of the Advisory Committee on Climate Action and the Environment (ACE) and the First Nations Advisory Committee on Species at Risk (FNACSAR), to advocate for the full partnership and meaningful inclusion of First Nations in the implementation of



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the Pan-Canadian Approach on Transforming Species at Risk Conservation in Canada (Pan-Canadian Approach).

2. Direct the AFN to ensure the Pan-Canadian Approach appropriately reflects and considers regional First Nations differences and concerns through the establishment of coordinated regional engagement opportunities for First Nations.
3. Direct the AFN to call upon the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) to provide adequate financial capacity to support First Nations, regions, provincial and territorial organizations, women, Elders and youth to participate in these activities and to maintain their important role as stewards of the environment and leaders in conservation action.

### **Resolution 66/2018: *North American Caribou Protection, Conservation, Management and Recovery***

1. Call on the Government of Canada, as well as provincial and territorial governments, to immediately address the crisis facing caribou populations in full consultation and partnership with First Nations.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to urge the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada to ensure the full and effective participation of First Nations in all aspects of caribou protection, conservation, management, and recovery action.
3. Direct the AFN to work collaboratively with all concerned First Nations, regional organizations, relevant federal, provincial and territorial governments, industry, non-governmental organizations, and academia to participate in existing and or develop new multi-lateral processes for First Nations to inform action on protection, conservation, management planning, and recovery of all North American caribou.
4. Direct the AFN to call upon the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and other relevant Ministers to allocate adequate resources to support First Nations nationally and regionally, as well as women, Elders, and youth to participate in these activities and to maintain their important role as stewards of the environment and the biodiversity found therein.



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5. Direct the AFN to facilitate a National dialogue on the North American Caribou emergency.
6. Direct the AFN to convene a working group on caribou to report to the AFN Advisory Committee on Climate Action and the Environment to support AFN's efforts on caribou protection, conservation, management and recovery planning.

## **Resolution 61/2015: *Prohibit Development in the Calving and post-calving ground of the caribou herd***

1. Continue to call upon the United States Congress and President to recognize the rights of our Gwich'in peoples to continue to live our way of life by prohibiting development in the calving and post-calving grounds of the Porcupine Caribou Herd.
2. That the 1002 area of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge be designated as wilderness to achieve this end.

## **Resolution 13/2017: *Chronic Wasting Disease***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to formally support Piikani First Nation and the Alliance for Public Wildlife (APW) (per their formal partnership) in their efforts of consultation and advocacy in informing Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) policies and frameworks.
2. Direct the AFN to work in collaboration with the Piikani / APW, federal, provincial/territorial, and First Nations governments to secure necessary resources to address and prevent the impacts of CWD.
3. Direct the AFN to report annually to the Chiefs in Assembly on the progress of this work.

## **Resolution 79/2017: *Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas***

1. Support the T'Sou-ke First Nation in its efforts to lead in the development of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCA), including the establishment of its own IPCA.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to engage with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Chief Executive Officer of Parks Canada to ensure the critical leadership role of First Nations in discussing the process for establishing IPCAs nationally.



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## **Resolution 58/2018: *First Nations Response to Chronic Wasting Disease***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to work collaboratively with all concerned First Nations, regional representative bodies, non-government organizations, industry, federal, provincial and territorial governments to:
  - a. advocate for the development of funding programs for First Nations to develop, maintain, and strengthen their own conservation, surveillance, wildlife health, and human health programs
  - b. promote on-going research to better understand the risks associated with the potential transmission to humans from the consumption of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) infected meat
2. Direct the AFN to work with the Government of Canada to develop the National Wildlife Disease Strategy.
3. Direct the AFN Environment and Health Sectors to seek membership through the Advisory Committee on Climate Action and the Environment and the Chiefs Committee on Health to establish a First Nations CWD working group with the mandate to:
  - a. develop a position paper outlining First Nations' concerns and recommend responses or solutions to dealing with the spread of CWD and the potential impacts it will have
  - b. develop and advocate for First Nations-specific communication tools and workshops to raise awareness about CWD
4. Direct the AFN to call on the relevant federal ministers and departments to provide the necessary funding to support the capacity of the AFN and First Nations to support a CWD working group and associated work products.
5. Direct the AFN to investigate advocacy opportunities regarding international standard setting through the World Health Organization, the World Organization for Animal Health, and the Food and Agriculture Organization as well as the United Nations mechanisms relating to rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the United Nations Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.



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6. Call on federal, provincial and territorial governments to take immediate steps to close all game farms in Canada, as a means of preventing the spread of CWD.

## **Resolution 23/2017: Parks Canada Pathway to Canada Target 1: Conservation 2020 Initiative**

1. Support the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) involvement in the Pathway to Canada Target 1: Conservation 2020 Initiative including, but not limited to, that of the National Advisory Panel, National Steering Committee and the Indigenous Circle of Experts.
2. Direct the AFN to engage with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Chief Executive Officer of Parks Canada in order to participate in the Pathway to Canada Target 1: Conservation 2020 Initiative.
3. Urge the responsible minister(s) and their respective departments/agencies to meaningfully engage, consult and accommodate Indigenous Nations interests and concerns in all legislative, regulatory, policy and program decisions, including the creation of opportunities for dialogue with all levels of government.
4. Urge the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Parks Canada Agency to ensure the full and effective participation of traditional knowledge holders in all aspects of conservation, with equal weight given to that of Western science.
5. Urge the responsible minister(s) and their respective departments/agencies to support the full and effective participation of Indigenous Nations in the development and implementation of all conservation activities relating to the environment, species and habitat located on federal lands.

## **Resolution 24/2017: Prohibit Oil and Gas Exploration and Development in the Sacred Calving Grounds of the Porcupine Caribou Herd**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) National Chief to call upon the United States Congress and President of the United States to recognize the inherent rights of Gwich'in to continue to live their way of life and maintain their sacred relationship with the Porcupine Caribou Herd by prohibiting oil and gas exploration and development within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.



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2. Support the Gwich'in, through available domestic and international diplomatic avenues, in their efforts to raise awareness of this international human rights issue and to prohibit oil and gas exploration and development within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.
3. Direct the National Chief to communicate with the Prime Minister of Canada and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada calling for an ongoing commitment for the support and continued protection of the sacred calving grounds of the Porcupine Caribou Herd.

## **Environmental Health and Food Sovereignty**

### **Resolution 17/2020: Support for First Nations Climate Leadership, Food Sovereignty, Environmental Protection, Stewardship and Conservation**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to continue to engage with the appropriate ministers, such as the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change and the Minister of Indigenous Services, to work in full partnership with First Nations to address food insecurity, advance food sovereignty, and support First Nations' full participation in all related dialogues, including efforts to identify solutions and operationalize the findings of the First Nations Food, Nutrition, and Environment Study (FNFNES).
2. Direct the AFN to urge all ministers involved in climate change, environmental protection, stewardship, conservation and food sovereignty to recognize the multi-dimensional, interconnected and interrelated nature of these critical issues and work in partnership with First Nations to develop comprehensive approaches to address each issue.
3. Direct the AFN to work with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada to support First Nations-led conservation efforts and to ensure the full and effective participation of First Nations in achieving Canada's ambitious conservation agenda, including the identification of dedicated resources to enhance capacity and leadership in the establishment, governance and management of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs), First Nations Guardians programs, and species at risk protection, conservation, management and recovery.
4. Direct the AFN to call on the Prime Minister of Canada and the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada to work publicly to protect the sacred calving grounds of the Porcupine Caribou Herd by prohibiting oil and gas exploration and development within the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge



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(ANWR), in Alaska and immediately address the crisis facing caribou populations across Canada in full consultation and partnership with First Nations.

5. Direct the AFN, with the leadership of the Advisory Committee on Climate Action and the Environment ('ACE'), to continue to work with the Prairie Climate Centre to expand the climate change research and communication efforts from the National Climate Gathering, including exploring appropriate opportunities for First Nations perspectives, concerns and knowledge systems to inform the on-going development of the Climate Atlas of Canada.

### **Resolution 04/2019: Support for the Food, Environment, Health and Nutrition of Children and Youth (FEHNCY) Study**

1. Support the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) in its initiative to work as a full partner on the Food, Environment, Health and Nutrition of Children and Youth (FEHNCY) study.
2. Direct the AFN to provide ongoing technical support to First Nations on all aspects of the research process including, the research protocols, research tools, methodology, and the interpretation and communication of results.
3. Call on the FEHNCY research team to ensure that the research project incorporates an appropriate cross section of local First Nations to ensure that the research findings and results will apply to the broadest spectrum of First Nations possible, consistent with the principles of Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession (OCAP).

### **Resolution 44/2019: Supporting First Nations Guardians**

1. Fully support the concept of Indigenous Guardians and the need for a nationally-funded Indigenous Guardian network in Canada.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to work with First Nations leadership to discuss the establishment of effective and appropriate mechanisms to support First Nations Guardians.
3. Direct the AFN to call on Canada, as well as the Provinces and Territories, to support a national Guardians network through the creation of mechanisms that ensure First Nations have access and control over their lands.



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4. Direct the AFN to call on Canada, as well as the Provinces and Territories, to ensure the long-term viability of a national Guardian network across Canada through the allocation of dedicated and sustained funding.

## **Resolution 68/2019: *Establishing Support and Industry Platform for First Nations Food Security, Sovereignty and Economic Development***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to:
  - a. advocate for the development of funding and other industry support programs for First Nations to maintain and re-establish their food security and sovereignty; and
  - b. promote food-focused research to better understand the intersection of First Nations food security, sovereignty and sustainability.
2. Seek the guidance of the Chiefs Committee on Economic Development to establish a First Nations Food Security and Sovereignty working group to:
  - a. draft a framework and develop a position paper(s) outlining First Nations' positions; and
  - b. develop and advocate for First Nations-specific communication tools and workshops to raise awareness.
3. Direct the AFN to investigate advocacy opportunities regarding food security and sovereignty according to United Nations (UN) mechanisms relating to rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

## **Resolution 109/2017: *Supporting First Nations Environmental Protections***

1. Call upon the Government of Canada to support First Nations in their calls for increased environmental protections and to hold resource companies operating on First Nations territories and homelands to account for any and all irresponsible and sub-standard production and transportation practices that pose an unacceptable risk to the lands, waters, and health of our communities, including the establishment of an independent oversight body for the monitoring, and operation, of production, transportation and spill response practices.



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2. Call upon the Government of Canada to ensure that resource companies recognize the Indigenous right to free, prior and informed consent, as affirmed by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which Canada has committed to implement without qualification.
3. Call upon the Government of Canada to ensure resource companies recognize the Constitutional and international First Nations right to be appropriately and expeditiously compensated for any impacts, infringement and environmental damages to our lands, waterways, territories and peoples.

## **Resolution 73/2017: *Environmental and Regulatory Reviews***

5. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to pursue the commitment from Canada for co-development of legislative amendments, policies, regulations, and guidelines for the environmental and regulatory processes, and the creation of a body which combines technical discussions, political oversight, and regional representation.
6. Call upon Canada to meet or exceed the precedent set in the development and eventual passage of the Species-at-Risk Act, which involved full, direct, and unfettered participation of First Nations.
7. Direct the AFN to continue supporting and coordinating, where possible, the interventions and participation of First Nations, regional organizations, and provincial/territorial organizations in the co-development process mentioned above, including creating regionally specific processes to address specific concerns, as well as support provisions as part of nation-to-nation relationships.
8. Call on all responsible Ministers to provide adequate funding directly to individual First Nations for their full and effective participation in the environmental and regulatory reviews.

## **Resolution 41/2017: *Environmental Protection on First Nations Lands***

1. Call on the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to continue to advocate that any legislative, policy, and program reforms related to environmental protection, including the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, must respect First Nations inherent rights, Treaties, Title and jurisdiction, and must recognize the inherent and everlasting responsibilities of First Nations to their traditional territories including First Nations laws, governance, and management systems.



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2. Call on the Government of Canada to recognize the importance of environmental protection on First Nations lands and territories and its relation to self-determination, Aboriginal and Treaty rights, and the health and well-being of First Nations members.
3. Call on the Government of Canada to take immediate action to address the long-standing gaps in environmental protection on First Nations lands in full consultation and partnership with First Nations.
4. Call on the Government of Canada to dedicate resources to enhance capacity and support the First Nation led development of on reserve regulations respecting hazardous substances, wastes, toxics and contaminants and ensure the adequate capacity of First Nations to appropriately and effectively enforce such regulations.
5. Direct the AFN to engage with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada to seek an appropriate resolution to this matter.
6. Direct the AFN to urge the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada to ensure the full and effective participation of First Nations in all aspects of environmental protection.

### **Resolution 65/2018: *Closing the Environmental Protection Regulatory Gap on First Nations Lands***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to continue to urge the federal government to immediately address the on-reserve environmental protection gap through legislative, policy, regulatory, and program reforms, including to the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, in consultation and partnership with First Nations.
2. Call on the Government of Canada to recognize, respect and fully implement First Nations inherent rights, Treaties, Title and jurisdiction, including First Nations laws, governance, and management systems.
3. Call on the Government of Canada to immediately address the long-standing gaps in environmental protection on First Nations lands in full consultation and partnership with First Nations.



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4. Direct the AFN to engage with the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Minister of Indigenous Services Canada to seek an appropriate resolution to this matter.
5. Direct the AFN to urge the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Minister of Indigenous Services Canada to ensure the full and effective participation of First Nations in all aspects of environmental protection through dedicated resources to enhance capacity as well as co-development of legislation, policy, regulations, and programs, including for regulatory enforcement.

## **Resolution 52/2017: *First Nation Environmental Law***

1. Call on Canada to recognize, respect, and implement First Nations' laws and their sovereignty, un-extinguished inherent rights, authorities and jurisdictions.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to begin the compilation and sharing of Nation-based instances/success stories whereby respective First Nations have made concrete progress in the assertion and implementation of Treaty-based and inherent rights-based authority.
3. Call on Canada to obtain the free, prior and informed permission of Aboriginal Title and Treaty rights holders when developing or amending laws, policy or regulations relating to the environment.
4. Call on Canada to provide adequate resources to ensure the full and effective participation of Aboriginal Title and Treaty rights holders in this process to be able to consider free, prior, and informed permission
5. Call on Canada to establish processes directly with Aboriginal Title and Treaty rights holders on changes to environmental law; as per the protocols, processes, and customs of respective First Nations.

## **Hazardous & Nuclear Waste / Small Modular Reactors**

### **Resolution 48/2017: *Opposition to Nuclear Waste Disposal and Abandonment***

1. Demand that free, prior and informed consent is required to ensure that no storage or disposal of hazardous materials shall take place in First Nations lands and territories.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to urge the federal government to fulfill its duty to consult and accommodate and obtain the free prior and in-



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formed consent of the Anishinabek Nation and other First Nations regarding activity at the Canadian Nuclear Laboratories and Chalk River Laboratories.

3. Direct the Iroquois Caucus, Anishinabek Nation and other First Nations to form an adhoc group with the Chiefs of Ontario and report back to Chiefs-in-Assembly on progress made with the federal government, as often as possible, beginning with the December 2017 AFN Special Chiefs Assembly.

### **Resolution 62/2018: *Small Modular Reactors***

1. Demand that free, prior and informed consent is required to ensure that no storage or disposal of hazardous materials shall take place in First Nations lands and territories.
2. Demand that the Nuclear Industry abandon its plans to operate Small Modular Nuclear Reactors in Ontario and elsewhere in Canada.
3. Demand that the Government of Canada cease funding and support of the Small Modular Nuclear Reactors program.
4. Direct that the National Chief and appropriate staff work to ensure that the Nuclear Industry and the Canadian Government abandon this program.

### **Resolution 39/2005: *Nuclear Waste Management Organization Dialogue Process***

1. The AFN shall seek an amendment to the Nuclear Fuel Waste Act to extend the deadline for submitting a recommendation for the long term management of nuclear fuel waste from November 15, 2005 to November 15, 2006 and that NWMO and NRCan be urged to carry out full and effective consultations with First Nations, provide adequate funds for capacity building, and ensure reasonable timeframes for discussion and adequate involvement in decision making both; and
2. NWMO and NRCan be urged to conduct further research and provide support to First Nations' driven research into the long-term management of nuclear waste, particularly with respect to issues of concern to First Nations, including potential impacts on vulnerable aquifers; and
3. NWMO be urged, in its final report, to present plans for monitoring nuclear plants, addressing health impacts from nuclear industry activities, and emer-



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gency response including resources to First Nations to respond to potential nuclear accidents; and

4. the Government of Canada be urged to develop alternative energy sources to nuclear reactors.

## **Resolution 103/1999: *First Nation Participation in Shaping the Preferred Approach to Long- term Nuclear Fuel Waste Management***

1. The Minister of Natural Resource Canada's invitation to engage in a dialogue about process be pursued according to the following principles:
  - a. That the dialogue involving First Nations will be separate and apart from other Aboriginal People;
  - b. That the objective of the dialogue will be to discuss and design a meaningful consultation process;
  - c. That the dialogue will have a local, regional, and national dimension; and
  - d. That the dialogue will be adequately funded.

## **Resolution 51/2003: *Recognition of Nuclear Waste Management Organization Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Obligations***

1. The Chiefs in Assembly encourage the Assembly of First Nations to develop a draft Nuclear Waste Management Strategy that would protect the long- term social, environmental, legal and cultural interests of First Nations; and
2. This does not preclude the need for the NWMO to independently consult with First Nations in a full and meaningful manner.

## **Resolution 17/ 2008: *Opposition to Uranium Exploration***

1. The Chiefs -in -Assembly support the Serpent River First Nation's continued opposition of this development in the absence of adequate Crown consultation and accommodation of Serpent River First Nation's rights and title.
2. The Chiefs -in -Assembly confirm the view that free, prior and informed consent is required prior to any development activity on First Nation territories.
3. The Assembly of First Nations shall provide technical support as appropriate.



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## Major Projects and Impact Assessment

### **Resolution 06/2019: Respecting First Nations inherent and constitutionally-protected rights in the Project List for the Impact Assessment Act**

1. Demand that the Government of Canada listen to First Nations in their calls for improvements to the Project List and Time Management regulations, in order to include existing (or “in situ”) oil sands projects, small modular nuclear reactors, and other projects but not limited to projects that may impact First Nations rights, title, and jurisdiction, and further respecting the sovereignty of each Nation.
2. Call on Canada to engage in a focused dialogue with First Nations to substantively identify, recognize, and engage the protocols, elements, and processes to support joint regulatory and policy drafting; in particular, the Project List regulation and the Indigenous Knowledge policy framework.
3. Call on Canada to provide adequate funding directly to individual First Nations for their full, direct, and unfettered participation in the joint regulatory and policy drafting of the Impact Assessment Act.
4. Call on Canada to ensure that regulatory and policy development fully respects the constitutional and other legal obligations of the Crown to First Nations and standards set by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
5. Call on Canada to work with First Nations in the Athabasca region to establish a Terms of Reference for a Regional Strategic Assessment of the Alberta Oil Sands and initiate this Regional Strategic Assessment by Summer 2020.

### **Resolution 69/2018: First Nations Full, Direct, and Unfettered Participation in Bill C-69 including Regulatory and Policy Development**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to urge the Senate to refer Bill C-69, An Act to enact the Impact Assessment Act and the Canadian Energy Regulator Act, to amend the Navigation Protection Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts, to the Senate Committee on Energy, the Environment, and Natural Resources and ensure that rights holders participate in the hearing process in a timely manner that is respectful of their unique protocols, and processes, in order to complete the process before the next federal election.



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2. Support the Athabasca Region First Nations (Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, Chipewyan Prairie Dene First Nation, Fort McKay First Nation, and Mikisew Cree First Nation) position on the need for the ratification of Bill C-69 and for improvements to the Project List under Bill C-69 to include in situ projects and projects that may impact Section 35 rights, reserves, water quality and quantity, migratory birds, species at risk, the watersheds of places like the Peace River, Slave River, Mackenzie River, and Great Slave Lake, and impacts to protected areas including, for example, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Sites, like the Wood Buffalo National Park.
3. Call on Canada to engage in a focused dialogue with First Nations to substantively identify, recognize, and engage the protocols, elements, and processes to conduct joint regulatory and policy drafting.
4. Direct the AFN to continue supporting and coordinating, where possible, the interventions and participation of First Nations, regional organizations, and provincial/territorial organizations in the joint drafting process. This could include creating regional-specific processes to address regions with specific concerns including support provisions as part of a Nation-to-Nation relationship.
5. Call again on Canada to provide adequate funding directly to individual First Nations for their full, direct, and unfettered participation in the joint regulatory and policy drafting of Bill C-69.
6. Call on Canada to ensure that regulatory and policy development fully respects the constitutional and other legal obligations of the Crown to First Nations and standards set by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

### **Resolution 07/2018: Addressing First Nations Rights, Title, and Jurisdiction in Bill C-69: Impact Assessment Act, Canadian Energy Regulator Act, and the Navigation Protection Act**

1. Call upon the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate that Bill C-69 be amended to include, among other things:
  - a. protections of First Nations inherent and constitutionally protected rights;
  - b. enabling joint decision-making with First Nations governing authority within the Act;



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- c. reducing excessive Ministerial discretion by increasing transparency and stronger requirements to protect s.35 rights;
  - d. strengthening the protection of Indigenous knowledge systems and ecosystems, which are the repositories of ecological knowledge and required for the transference of knowledge to future generations; and
  - e. including direct reference to Canada's commitments to the United Nations Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Convention on Biological Diversity.
2. Reaffirm their position that the current federal legislative process must not be construed as meaningful "consultation", does not meet the standard of free, prior and informed consent, and that additional time must be afforded to consult directly with rights holders in a manner that is respectful of their unique protocols, and processes.
  3. Direct the AFN to continue supporting and coordinating, where possible, the interventions and participation of First Nations, regional organizations, and provincial/territorial organizations in the co-development process, including creating regional-specific processes to address regions with specific concerns including support provisions as part of a nation-to-nation relationship.
  4. Call on all responsible federal Ministers to provide adequate funding directly to individual First Nations for their full and effective participation in the regulatory and policy development of Bill C-6.
  5. Call on the AFN to continue conducting regional information-sessions to support First Nations, regional organizations, and provincial/territorial organizations in the process.

### **Resolution 19/2017: *Resetting the role of First Nations in the environmental and regulatory reviews***

1. Reaffirm the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) position that the current engagement process cannot be construed as "consultation" and fails to meet the free, prior and informed consent standard and that additional time must be afforded to consult directly with rights holders in a manner that is respectful of their unique protocols, processes, and elements.



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2. Direct the AFN to press the Prime Minister and the federal Cabinet to extend the timelines in order to take into consideration the need for a First Nations-specific parallel process that fully respects the constitutional and other legal obligations of the Crown, including the minimum standards set by the United Nations' Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
3. Support the following interim principles to strengthen and improve federal environmental and regulatory processes, consistent with a long-term vision of First Nations' self-determination and autonomy:
  - a. Ensure the inherent rights, Title and jurisdiction of First Nations as governing authorities are recognized, including their decision-making powers using a "one assessment" approach.
  - b. Respect the free, prior, and informed consent standard throughout a full and honourable joint process.
  - c. Rights-based collaboration and jurisdiction-based engagement with First Nations in decision-making.
  - d. Mandatory inclusion of traditional knowledge, when shared, and following the OCAP- (ownership, control, access and possession) principles.
  - e. Ensure adequate core capacity arrangements.
  - f. Recognize and support First Nation led assessments.
4. Continue to support the interventions of First Nations, regional organizations, and provincial/territorial organizations to strengthen and improve the federal environmental and regulatory processes, and call on all responsible Ministries to concretely demonstrate where First Nations' comments and ideas have been implemented.

### **Resolution 09/2017: *Support for the recognition and respect of Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc (SSN's) Pípsell decision***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call upon the federal and provincial governments to recognize, respect, and implement the Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation's (SSN) Pípsell decision.



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2. Direct the AFN to call upon the federal government to undertake discussions on a nation-to-nation basis with the SSN to ensure their Pípsell Decision is fully recognized, respected and integrated in the Minister of Environment and Climate Change's decision.
3. Direct the AFN to call upon the Prime Minister to include the Minister of Environment and Climate Change in its Working Group of Ministers tasked with reviewing all federal laws and policies as they relate to Indigenous peoples.
4. Direct the AFN to call upon the Minister of Environment and Climate Change to undertake discussions on a nation-to-nation basis with SSN to create an Indigenous protected area to protect and recognize the cultural heritage status of Pípsell and restore and revitalize Pípsell to its historical state prior to non-Indigenous use.
5. Direct AFN to urge the Canadian and Polish Ambassadors to call on the Government of Poland to direct its KGHM Polska Miedz SA Supervisory and Management Board to:
  - a. Uphold its commitments under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
  - b. Respect the SSN's Pípsell Decision to withhold their consent for the Ajax Project.
  - c. Withdraw its application for the Ajax project and enter into a negotiated agreement to return, protect and restore Pípsell as an Indigenous Cultural Heritage Site to the SSN.

## **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

### **Resolution 11/2021: *Support for a First Nation-led Pathway to the Sustainable Development Goals***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on Canada to work in full partnership with First Nations to support the First Nations self-determination, participation, and inclusion of distinct First Nations approaches in all efforts related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy, and in the accompanying Canadian Indicator Framework.



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2. Direct the AFN to conduct a distinct First Nations analysis of the SDGs and engage with First Nations to support the development of a First Nations-led pathway for their implementation.
3. Call on Canada to enhance data disaggregation and data sovereignty for measuring progress towards the 2030 Agenda and to allocate resources for the development of First Nations' indicators to measure progress towards the SDGs for First Nations in a manner that respects the principles of Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession (OCAP) for conducting research.
4. Urge Canada to take a human rights-based approach to sustainable development that aligns with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a framework for measuring progress towards the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

## **Marine Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (Marine IPCAs)**

### **Resolution 41/2022: *Marine Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas***

1. Support the Assembly of First Nations' (AFN) continued advocacy for the establishment of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) as one mechanism to support First Nations' leadership in the conservation, protection, and management of their lands and waters.
2. Direct the AFN to urge the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada to ensure a whole-of-government approach for recognizing and supporting the establishment of IPCAs in terrestrial and marine environments, in collaboration with the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and in partnership with First Nations.
3. Direct the AFN to call upon the Ministers of Environment and Climate Change Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada to ensure the full and effective participation of First Nations in all aspects of environmental and marine conservation and protection by dedicating resources to enhance capacity and leadership in governance and management processes including through policy, program, and regulatory decision-making processes related to Canada's 2025 and 2030 conservation targets.
4. Direct the AFN to engage with the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada to implement the 2018 recommendations of the National Advisory Panel for the government of Canada to recognize and support the establishment of IPCAs in the marine and coastal environment.



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5. Direct the AFN to work with the relevant Chiefs' and technical bodies, such as the National Fisheries Committee (NFC) and the Advisory Committee on Climate Action and the Environment ('ACE'), to identify priorities, issues, synergies, and concerns as they relate to the establishment and implementation of IPCAs in marine and coastal areas.

## **Resolution 56/2022: *First Nations Participation at the Fifth International Marine Protected Area Congress (IMPAC 5)***

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate for a federal commitment to First Nations' leadership in marine conservation, such as through the establishment of marine Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas, during the Fifth International Marine Protected Area Congress (IMPAC 5), scheduled for February 3-9, 2023, in Vancouver, British Columbia.
2. Direct the AFN to work with the Advisory Committee on Climate Action and the Environment and other relevant Chiefs' and technical bodies to identify appropriate First Nations delegates to participate alongside other Indigenous leaders and federal Ministers at the IMPAC 5 Leadership Event on February 9, 2023.

## **Resolution 58/2022: *Support for an Annual AFN Water Walk***

1. Support the creation of a National Day of Water Walks that adheres to the customs and protocols of respective Nations.
2. Support the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Water Sector with guidance from the Advisory Committee on Climate Action and the Environment (ACE) and working with relevant Chiefs' Committees and technical bodies, AFN Councils, and Water Walkers as appropriate, to acquire funding and organize an Annual AFN Water Walk that supports, uplifts, raises awareness of the traditional roles of First Nations women and includes youth and gender-diverse people in water stewardship.
3. Call upon AFN political leadership and staff to participate in the Annual AFN Water Walk and for First Nations leadership to commit to leading Water Walks in their home territories.
4. Direct the AFN Water Sector, with guidance from Water Walkers and relevant Chiefs' Committees, to facilitate and engage with communities who want to participate and to advocate for funding to support communities to organize their own Water Walks.



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## **Resolution 42/2021: Support for First Nations Inherent Rights, Title, and Jurisdiction of Water Stewardship, including the Traditional Roles of First Nations Women**

1. Reaffirm First Nations Inherent and Treaty rights to water and reaffirm that each First Nation retains jurisdiction over water in their territory.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), with guidance from the Advisory Committee on Climate Action and the Environment ("ACE") to pursue funding to support First Nations water stewardship priorities related to First Nations inherent rights, title and jurisdiction.
3. Direct the AFN, with guidance from the ACE, to advocate for policy change and program development to support water stewardship for the betterment of First Nations, while ensuring that First Nations, AFN regions, and/or Treaty territories can independently choose to engage on any process relating to improving water protection within their lands and territories.
4. Call of the Government of Canada, and all provinces and territories, to improve and strengthen partnerships with First Nations, to respect First Nations' jurisdiction over water, and to ensure First Nations' participation in decision-making processes concerning water protection and conservation, with a special emphasis on First Nations women.
5. Call on Canada to implement a Gender-Based Analysis (GBA+) lens to all work pertaining to water that recognizes the traditional roles of First Nations women with respect to water.

## **Resolution 07/2019: First Nations' Oceans Priorities at the Convention on Biological Diversity**

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call on the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and any other relevant federal departments to secure funding for the AFN Fisheries Sector to adequately participate in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
2. Call upon the AFN to advocate that any work that DFO participates in to establish new marine targets in a Global Biodiversity Framework must respect First Nations' inherent rights, Treaties, Title and jurisdiction, and recognize First Nations' responsibilities to their traditional territories in the marine environment.



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3. Direct the AFN National Fisheries Committee to identify and appoint representatives to participate at the Conference of the Parties on the Convention on Biological Diversity, and any related planning meetings, to ensure that First Nations' priorities are reflected in the development of new global biodiversity goals and targets.

## **Resolution 20/ 2017: *Respecting Inherent Rights and Jurisdiction over Waters Parallel to the Review of Canada's Navigation Protection Act***

1. Call on the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to continue to advocate that any legislative, policy, and program reforms to the Navigation Protection Act must respect First Nations inherent rights, Treaties, Title and jurisdiction, and must recognize the inherent and everlasting responsibilities of First Nations to their traditional territories including First Nations Laws, governance, and management systems.
2. Mandate the AFN to direct the federal government to provide First Nations with a share of the core funding that goes beyond Indigenous participant funding and that supports the joint responsibility of navigation issues with First Nations.
3. Mandate the AFN to call on the federal government to recognize and respect First Nations governance and jurisdiction over territorial waters, or joint navigation management with First Nations as equal partners where appropriate.
4. Mandate the AFN to call on the federal government to answer how the recognition of First Nations jurisdiction in the ongoing review process have been considered and will be integrated into proposed legislative, policy, and program reforms in relation to the Navigation Protection Act.
5. Mandate the AFN to pursue joint legislative drafting and/or a parallel legislative reform process specifically for First Nations, to address issues specific to First Nations waterways, and to hold the federal government accountable in addressing First Nation interests into the Navigation Protection Act and its accompanying regulations and policies.
6. Mandate the AFN to call on Prime Minister Trudeau and the Government of Canada to work jointly with First Nations in a full review of the legislation unilaterally imposed on Indigenous peoples where there are contradictions, as well as to call on the Prime Minister to ensure that the required mechanisms and processes are in place to ensure legislation is not unilaterally imposed on Indigenous peoples.



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## **Resolution 35/2017: Clarify the Mandate and Scope of the Ministerial Law and Policy Working Group**

1. Call on the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to seek the immediate release of information concerning the mandate and scope of work the Ministerial Working Group has undertaken to examine the ongoing Environmental and Regulatory Reviews, including the Fisheries Act, Navigation Protection Act, Canadian Environment Assessment Act (CEAA), and the National Energy Board Modernization.
2. Urge the AFN to call on the Ministerial Working Group to meet with the AFN to discuss First Nations perspectives and positions respecting the ongoing Environmental and Regulatory Reviews, including the Fisheries Act, Navigation Protection Act, CEAA, and National Energy Board Modernization.
3. Urge the AFN to clarify whether the Ministerial Working Group will be called on to address the inadequacies in the ongoing Environmental and Regulatory Reviews process.

## **GENERAL PRINCIPLES; IMPLEMENTATION AND REDRESS; PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING AND INDIGENOUS INSTITUTIONS**

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### **Resolution 20-2023: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Draft National Action Plan**

1. Call upon the Government of Canada to proceed without delay to amend the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (UNDRIP Act), for tabling the Action Plan with Parliament annually, in order that Indigenous Peoples be consulted and accommodated pursuant to Section 6(1) of the UNDRIP Act and Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.
2. In the event that the Government of Canada is unwilling or unable to amend Section 6 (4) of the UNDRIP Act, direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to:
  - a. Call on the Government of Canada to commit to amending the Action Plan annually after June 21, 2023, following consultation that meets the requirements of the UNDRIP Act, and First Nations Inherent and Treaty rights, title and jurisdiction.



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- b. Call upon the Government of Canada to ensure additional funds and resources be made available to all First Nations who wish to participate in the consultation of the Action Plan, in order to meet the requirements of free, prior, and informed consent as per Article 19 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the duty to consult and accommodate.
4. Call on the Government of Canada to continue to consult and cooperate with First Nations title and rights and treaty holders and their representative institutions, where mandated by the First Nation, to review and co develop amendments to the National Action Plan in order to address the gaps that have been identified by First Nations. This process must be supported by a national oversight body with representation from First Nations and Crown governments, to ensure transparency and the incorporation of First Nations submissions on the National Action Plan.
5. Support First Nation and region-specific approaches that uplift First Nations right-holders and advance the implementation of the Declaration based on ongoing work, identified priorities and positions in relation to the UNDRIP Act, and the National Action Plan.
6. Call on the Department of Justice to provide a copy of all the proposals it has reviewed and approved, without restrictions, to the Assembly of First Nations.

### **Resolution 12/2022: *Call for Full First Nations Participation in the Implementation of the UN Declaration***

1. Call on Canada to publicly confirm to the First Nations-in-Assembly at the next Assembly that full and meaningful First Nations leadership and participation in all aspects and processes of implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration) are an absolute and unreserved requirement for success now and in the future.
2. Reiterate that Canada, as a colonial Nation, does not acquire directly or indirectly any of the rights, privileges, responsibilities, or sacred relationships affirmed in the UN Declaration by virtue of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (the Act).
3. Remind all colonial governments that the UN Declaration does not require colonial legislations such as the Act to operationalize and apply the UN Declaration within Canada's colonial legal systems.



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4. Call on the Government of Canada to immediately deploy further resources to First Nations, as the rights-holders, to ensure meaningful and consent-based First Nations participation in the co-development the National Action Plan that must be completed in less than one year from this Assembly.
5. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate for meaningful and fully resourced First Nations participation in all the operative provisions of the Act, specifically Sections 5, 6, and 7 on an ongoing basis.
6. Direct the AFN to provide quarterly updates to all Chiefs henceforth on the status of Canada's activities under the consistency of laws provision at Section 5, the progress on the National Action Plan development and implementation at Section 6, and the annual reporting process at Section 7 of the Act.
7. Direct the AFN to immediately and on an ongoing basis advocate for First Nations free, prior, and informed consent, including fully resourced and meaningful participation in all activities Canada undertakes to achieve consistency of its laws with the UN Declaration under Section 5 of the Act.
8. Direct the AFN to immediately and on an ongoing basis advocate for a meaningful and fully resourced co-development process with the rights holders to ensure that First Nations voices and views are included in the development, deployment to Parliament, and implementation of the annual reporting process on UN Declaration implementation under Section 7 of the Act.

### **Resolution 13/2022: *First Nations Priorities to Guide the Crown's Implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples***

1. Affirm that the Crown, in all of its forms whether federal, provincial, or territorial, is obliged to respect, uphold and protect the human rights of First Nations including self-determination as articulated in the UN Declaration.
2. Affirm that First Nations Declarations, Statements, Policies and other expression of their inherent rights to their territories that must necessarily be respected as the Crown implements the UN Declaration.
3. Acknowledge the Declaration on Natural Resources on Treaty 5 Territory as one such expression of inherent rights; and, to advocate for this Declaration and all others to be considered and respected in the National Action Plan the UNDA National Action Plan co-development process over the coming year.



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4. Call upon the Crown, in all of its forms whether federal, provincial or territorial, to take every action necessary to immediately ensure their laws and policies are consistent with the UN Declaration.
5. Remind the Crown, in all of its forms whether federal, provincial or territorial, that the unilateral imposition of provincial and territorial boundaries on First Nations requires the Crown, in all of its forms, to ensure its differing laws, policies and practices that impact First Nations are consistent with the UN Declaration.
6. Declare that those provincial and territorial governments that refuse to cooperate with the federal government in implementing the UN Declaration are intentionally denying First Nations human rights as expressed in the UN Declaration.
7. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to establish an ad-hoc National Expert Panel on the United Nation Declaration on Indigenous Peoples Act National Action Plan to support research and analysis for First Nations interested in contributing to the National Action Plan creation and implementation over the next two years.
8. Direct the AFN to ensure that members of the National Expert Panel be selected from each AFN region and that they be tasked with considering issues of aboriginal rights, title, use and management of First Nations territories, homelands and waterways with a focus on identifying tangible steps for the Crown, in all of its forms whether federal, provincial, or territorial, to ensure that their laws are consistent with the UN Declaration.
9. Direct the National Expert Panel once convened to undertake an analysis on the purported "cede, release, surrender and yield" provision in the text of Treaties #1-11 for their consistency with the UN Declaration and to present this analysis back to the First Nations-in-Assembly for their consideration as soon as practicable.
10. Direct the AFN to continue international advocacy on behalf of First Nations by advocating for the repeal of States and other internationally influential body's doctrines, laws, and policies that are inconsistent with the UN Declaration; specifically advocating to the Catholic Papacy to formally rescind the Doctrine of Discovery during their visit to Canada and to advocate to the Catholic Papacy and the Canadian Government to formally rescind and repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery by the end of this calendar year.



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## **Resolution 17/2021: National Action Plan to Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

1. Affirm that the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act does not domesticate First Nations' sacred rights affirmed and articulated in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration).
2. Confirm that Canada, as a colonial state, does not acquire directly or indirectly any of the rights, privileges, responsibilities, or sacred relationships affirmed in the UN Declaration by virtue of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.
3. Remind all colonial governments that the UN Declaration does not require the colonial legislations such as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act to operationalize and apply the UN Declaration within Canada's colonial legal systems.
4. Call on the Government of Canada to immediately support First Nations, as the rights-holders, in co-developing the National Action Plan called for within two years by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.
5. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate for First Nations participation in the creation of the National Action Plan to implement the UN Declaration, and the National Action Plan be voted on by the Chiefs-in-Assembly.
6. Call on the Government of Canada to immediately provide sufficient resources to support full First Nations participation in the development of the National Action Plan.
7. Direct the AFN to hold a Special Chiefs Assembly to discuss the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act as soon as practicable.
8. Direct the AFN to report back to the Chiefs-in-Assembly at every national gathering on the status of the National Action Plan until that plan is tabled and made public.



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## **Resolution 86/2019: Federal Legislation to Create a Framework for Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

1. Seek a collaborative process with the federal government, consistent with the Liberal Party of Canada's commitment during the 43rd federal election whereby they promised that they "...will move forward with introducing co-developed legislation to implement the Declaration as government legislation by the end of 2020. In this work, we will ensure that this legislation fully respects the intent of the Declaration, and establishes Bill C-262 as the floor, rather than the ceiling, when it comes to drafting this new legislation."
2. Call upon the Government of Canada to develop with First Nations a national action plan to implement the UN Declaration, mindful that there are other United Nations instruments upholding Indigenous rights, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international human rights law, as well as the Organization of American States' (OAS) American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

## **Resolution 97/2017: Support for Bill C-262, "An Act to ensure that the laws of Canada are in harmony with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People"**

1. Call upon all Canadian federal parliamentarians to support Bill C-262 which represents a principled human rights legislative framework to advance reconciliation.

## **Resolution 28/2016: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples 10-year Anniversary**

1. Instruct the AFN Executive to implement the following in full and meaningful participation with Canada, including, but not limited to the following:
  - a. Formal adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration) without qualifications or objection to Canadian Constitution and Laws.
  - b. That Canada will adopt and pass legislation that will incorporate and reflect the UN Declaration before the Anniversary date of September 13, 2017 without qualifications or alterations to the UN Declaration.
  - c. That Canada will reform its Constitution and all policies to reflect the adoption of the UNDRIP by the Anniversary date of September 13, 2017.



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- d. That a World Conference of Indigenous Nations be convened and sponsored by Canada in 2017.
- e. That preparatory conferences occur across Canada to gain the Indigenous Peoples' input to the outcome document(s) of the World Conference of Indigenous Nations.
- f. That the proposed outcome document will instruct Canada and its provinces on methodologies and processes necessary to gain a just and equitable relationship with the Indigenous Peoples.
- g. That Canada and its provinces and territories must cease all efforts and processes of legal and political importance that adversely affects, impacts, alters, denies or breaches Indigenous Peoples rights or the Treaties.
- h. That Indigenous Peoples possess permanent sovereignty over natural resources and that this inherent and time immemorial belief and principle supersedes and transcends non -Indigenous colonial doctrines.
- i. That redress, reparation, restitution, compensation and recourse are necessary interrelated, interdependent and indivisible principles to address our survival and well-being and are to be included in all developments and agreements going forward.
- j. That the Treaty principles of free, prior and informed consent together with the right to participate in decision making shall at all times be referenced and utilized to guide all interrelations with other governments.
- k. That general public education occur and that educational material be designed and developed with Indigenous Peoples rights experts concerning the UN Declaration.
- l. That non -Indigenous governmental and departmental representatives and staff receive critical training on the UN Declaration and other international instruments and standards from Indigenous Peoples rights experts.
- m. That local education boards, leaders, teachers and administration staff receive training on the UN Declaration and other international instruments and standards from Indigenous Peoples rights experts.



# AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES *in Canada's Action Plan*

- n. That training on the UN Declaration and other international instruments and standards be provided to Indigenous Nations beginning immediately by Indigenous Peoples rights experts.
- o. That an appropriate national action plan of strategies and other concrete measures including adequate monetary considerations to achieve the promotion and celebration of the Indigenous Peoples ten year anniversary be developed in conjunction with Indigenous Nations or their representative institution(s).
- p. That the Government of Canada will uphold its commitment to implement the 94 Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and Canada's unqualified endorsement of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- q. That all provinces and territories in Canada will uphold the Government of Canada's unqualified endorsement of the Declaration and similarly commit to the full implementation of the 94 Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.
- r. That the Assembly of First Nations is directed to call on the provincial and territorial governments to undertake action in response to the TRC's final report and Calls to Action.

## **CULTURE, LANGUAGE & EDUCATION**

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### **Languages**

#### **Resolution 77/2017, *Support for continued co-development work on the Indigenous Languages Act***

1. Adopt the Assembly of First Nations Indigenous Languages Initiative National Engagement Sessions Report.
2. Adopt the principles below, drawn from the Report referred to in paragraph one. These principles shall inform the framework and approach that the Government of Canada must employ, together with First Nations governments, to co-develop legislation, regulations and policies regarding the protection, promotion, preservation, revitalization, recovery and maintenance of First Nations languages.



## AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES *in Canada's Action Plan*

- ii. Recognition of the importance of Indigenous language to land, culture, traditional knowledge, worldview, participation in the economy, and domestic and global relations.
  - iii. Acknowledgement of the need and importance of redress of harm by colonization, destructive policies and laws.
  - iv. Affirmation of commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, UN Declaration of Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and other key human rights instruments and principles.
  - v. Affirmation of the various approaches to languages recovery, revitalization and maintenance and the critical role of early childhood education/lifelong learning in the opportunities for language learning.
  - vi. Articulation of objectives for the protection and support of Indigenous languages and related rights, including intellectual property rights, cultural appropriation, etc.
  - vii. Affirmation of First Nations jurisdiction over Indigenous languages.
  - viii. Articulation of enforceable individual and collective rights.
  - ix. Articulation of specific federal obligations, duties and authorities to protect and support Indigenous languages including funding.
  - x. Acknowledge of the need for proficient Indigenous controlled systems and capacities for the archiving of , and for the provision of access to, language data.
  - xi. Authorities to establish suitable institutions to advance Indigenous languages objectives and rights, and that such institutions will not displace existing First Nations institutions.
  - xii. Establishing annual reporting and a five-year review requirements.
3. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to remind the government of its constitutional obligations to the requirement for extensive consultation based on the standard of free, prior and informed consent on the proposed languages bill upon its availability.



# **AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES** *in Canada's Action Plan*

## **Resolution 16/2021, Support for the United Nations International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022-32)**

1. Acknowledge the Los Pinos Declaration (Chapoltepek) – Making a Decade of Action for Indigenous Languages and adopt it as a guide for the Assembly of First Nations (AFN)'s participation in the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022-32).
2. Direct the Chiefs Committee on Languages, the Technical Committee on Languages and the AFN to broadly support activities of the IDIL for the benefit of First Nations languages.
3. Call on the Government of Canada, the Department of Canadian Heritage, and Global Affairs Canada or other involved federal departments, to engage directly and meaningfully with First Nations about planning and implementing Canada's participation in the IDIL.
4. Call on the Government of Canada to provide sufficient funding for the revitalization of Indigenous culture and languages at the community level.

## **Resolution 17/2022, Support for the First Nations Languages Funding Model**

1. Reaffirm that First Nations self-determination over First Nations languages must be respected as a fundamental principle of any federal language initiative, including Numbered Treaties, Modern Treaties, land claim agreements, and self-government agreements.
2. Ratify the interim First Nations Languages Funding Model to inform the Treasury Board Submission to unlock Budget 2019 funding for 2023-24 and future years.
3. Call on the Department of Canadian Heritage (DCH) to annex the First Nations Languages Funding Model to the Treasury Board Submission that it is developing to unlock language revitalization funding for 2023-24 and future years.
4. Call on the Government of Canada to honour its commitment to provide adequate, sustainable, and long-term funding for the reclamation, revitalization, maintenance and strengthening of First Nations languages, including by means of a while-of-government approach that includes other federal department and other governments.



# AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES *in Canada's Action Plan*

5. Call on DECH to improve and strengthen partnerships with First Nations and to fully co-manage the implementation of the Funding Model.
6. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to monitor and oversee the implementation of the First Nations Languages Funding Model, to periodically review the model, and to recommend amendments, as required, for consideration by the First Nations-in-Assembly.
7. Direct the AFN to advocate for adequate, sustainable, and long-term funding both from the Department of Canadian Heritage for language revitalization outside schools, and from Indigenous Services Canada for pre-school, elementary school, secondary school, and post-secondary education to strengthen First Nations languages education.
8. Call on the Government of Canada to provide sufficient funding for language revitalization both outside of schools and within First Nations schools.

## **Resolution 47/2022, *First Nations Languages - A Defined and Enforceable Right***

1. Call on the Government of Canada to work with First Nations to amend the operative clauses of the Indigenous Languages Act to adopt the implementation of Article 14, and other articles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) which mention Indigenous languages, and to ensure that First Nation language rights, including First Nations sign language, are defined and enforceable.
2. Direct the AFN to call on the Government of Canada, outlining this recommendation, as a means to begin addressing the dire state of First Nation languages as well as a first step for Canada towards implementing its commitment to the UNDRIP Act.
3. Direct the AFN to determine the funding required to engage First Nations and First Nations representative organizations (on and off reserve) in Canada to provide input into the development of the legislative amendments and any subsequent policy, regulatory and/or funding requirements.
4. Direct the AFN to urge the federal government to provide funding to support engagement of First Nations in this process.



# AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES *in Canada's Action Plan*

5. Direct the AFN to report progress on this initiative regularly until First Nation language rights, including First Nations sign language, are defined and enforceable in federal legislation.

## **Resolution 45/2022, *Support the Challenge of Quebec's Bill 96, An Act Respecting French, the Official and Common Languages of Québec***

1. Reaffirm that the jurisdiction over First Nations languages and education remains with First Nations and thereby reject the Government of Quebec's Bill 96 and its severe impact on the rights of First Nations concerning education, languages and traditions.
2. Support First Nations, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Quebec-Labrador and First Nations organizations in Quebec in their efforts toward a potential legal challenge to the Quebec government's Bill 96, An Act Respecting French, the Official Language of Québec.
3. Call upon the AFN to strongly denounce the Quebec Government's Bill 96 and support First Nations, the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador and First Nations organizations in Quebec in their efforts toward a potential legal challenge of Bill 96.
4. Request the AFN National Chief to communicate with Quebec's Premier and demand the recognition of First Nations' language and education rights and that Bill 96 be amended to take these rights into account.

## **Early Learning and Child Care**

### **Resolution 08/2022: *Early Learning and Child Care Legislation***

1. Assert that federal Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) legislation must respect and uphold First Nations rights to self-determination and jurisdiction over ELCC, including respect for regional approaches.
2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to call upon the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development to directly engage with rights holders on the development of federal ELCC legislation, including providing funding for First Nations-led regional engagement to discuss and determine priorities for and the applicability of the proposed legislation for First Nations.



# AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES *in Canada's Action Plan*

3. Direct the AFN and the National Expert Working Group (NEWG) on First Nations ELCC to develop recommendations for the First Nations-in-Assembly to consider a First Nations position on federal ELCC legislation versus First Nations-specific ELCC legislation, to be presented to the First Nations-in-Assembly by July 2023.

## **Resolution 83/2017: Support for the National First Nations Early Learning and Child Care Policy Framework**

1. Endorse the National First Nations ELCC Policy Framework as drafted as the First Nations component of the co-developed National Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework and as a basis to support federal approval of the National Indigenous ELCC Framework.
2. Support the continuing co-development of the First Nations ELCC Framework and the pending implementation of both frameworks, subject to continuing First Nations' direction and leadership.
3. Direct the National Experts ELCC Working Group to continue its framework development work through to implementation, reporting nationally to the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) and to First Nations within their respective regions and territories.
4. Call on the AFN to work with the Government of Canada for additional First Nations early learning and child care (ELCC) funding for existing programs and new investments (including capital funding for new child care centres) and to fully fund capacity development separate from ELCC program funding to support ongoing framework development and implementation at all levels (local, regional and national).

## **K-12 Education**

### **Resolution 65/2017, New Interim Funding Approach for First Nation Education**

1. Reaffirm First Nations inherent and Treaty rights to education.
2. Reaffirm that jurisdiction over First Nations education remains with each First Nation.
3. Reaffirm that Canada will not delegate its fiduciary obligations owed to First Nations over First Nations' education to provincial, territorial governments, or other third-party entities.



# AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES *in Canada's Action Plan*

4. Support policy or program changes in regard to First Nations education that:
  - a. Exercise First Nations' inherent and Treaty rights to education, honours and advances First Nations control of First Nations education, and conforms to and upholds Canada's moral and legal obligations to First Nations.
  - b. Does not impose any criteria or requirements on First Nations to implement provincial-style school boards.
  - c. Provides each First Nations with the opportunity to opt-in or opt-out from any new policy or program.
  - d. Unlocks later-year investment from Budget 2016 to ensure funding can be accessible immediately.
  - e. Ensure Canada will work in full partnership with First Nations to co-develop Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada program and services terms, conditions, and guidelines to give effect to First Nation control of First Nation education.
5. Establish a new funding approach to First Nations education that:
  - a. Reflects a phased approach that initially allocations investments from Budget 2016 using an interim funding approach until First Nations sign their own regional First Nation Education Agreement. Interim funding is recognized as being inadequate and First Nations will identify the full funding required to support their students, schools, communities and education organizations.
  - b. Requires the Government of Canada to work directly with First Nations to ensure the regional education funding approaches (when implemented in 2019-20) are jointly developed and agreed upon by First Nations and fully funds the diverse needs and circumstances of First Nation learners, schools, communities, and education organizations.
  - c. Supports each First Nation to advance and implement their vision of First Nation control of First Nation education through needs based predictable and sustained funding.



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- d. Does not give any authority to provinces/territories with regard to First Nation education.
6. Support the First Nations recommended model for a new funding approach for First Nations elementary-secondary education as represented in Policy Proposal (v15) to be presented to Cabinet through Indigenous Services' Memorandum to Cabinet (MC).
7. The MC process must reflect that only Treaty people speak for Treaties and that Canada must meet directly with Treaty First Nations.
8. Inherent and Treaty rights language must be implemented into the MC.

### **Resolutions 35/2019, *Additional Funding for First Nations Elementary and Secondary Education***

1. Reaffirm First Nations inherent and Treaty rights to education.
2. Reaffirm that jurisdiction over First Nations education remains with each First Nation.
3. Call on the Government of Canada to uphold the commitments identified in AFN Resolution 65/2017, New Interim Funding Approach for First Nation Education and repeated in the Memorandum to Cabinet.
4. Call on the Government to Canada to work in partnership with First Nations regionally-led technical tables and other First Nations and/ or Treaty defined processes in order to identify the real costs and needs of each First Nation as researched and costed by the First Nations.
5. Call on the Government of Canada to provide additional investments in 2020 for First Nations elementary and secondary education in order to complete local, Treaty and or regional education agreements that accurately and adequately reflect the diverse needs and circumstances of First Nations learners, schools, communities and education organizations.

### **Resolution 20/2021, *First Nations Control of Federal Funding in Education***

3. Reaffirm First Nations Inherent and Treaty rights to education.
4. Reaffirm that jurisdiction over First Nations education remains with each First Nation.



## AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES *in Canada's Action Plan*

5. Call on the Government of Canada to improve and strengthen partnerships with First Nations that respects First Nations control of First Nations education and First Nations decision-making in all processes concerning education.
6. Call on the Government of Canada to fund First Nations education based on real needs and First Nations priorities rather than provincial comparability.
7. Support the Chiefs' Committee on Education, the National Indian Education Council and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to engage and lead the reform of supplementary and targeted education programs.
8. Support the recognition of First Nations' expertise and knowledge regarding First Nation education.
9. Support policy changes and program development through various processes such as a Memorandum to Cabinet or Treasury Board Submission, to the supplementary and targeted education programs that:
  - a. Exercise First Nations' Treaty and inherent and rights to education, honours and advances First Nations control of First Nations education, and conforms to and uphold Canada's Treaty and legal obligations to First Nations;
  - b. Align with AFN Resolution 65/2017, New Interim Funding Approach for First Nation Education, and the Policy Proposal (v15);
  - c. Ensure funding is based on substantive equality and an equitable methodology;
  - d. Provide and commit to clear, agreed-upon processes and timelines;
  - e. Does not define, limit, prejudice, abrogate or derogate from any of the rights, interests or jurisdiction of individual First Nations, or from advancing their own processes towards First Nations control of First Nations education; and
  - f. Ensures there are no new decisions or changes made to funding programs without full and thorough prior consultation with First Nations partners.
10. Support First Nations, regions or Treaty territories who may want to independently engage on any processes relating to improving supplementary and targeted education programs.



# **AFN MANDATES TO SUPPORT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS/MEASURES** *in Canada's Action Plan*

## **Resolution 34/2019, *First Nations Education Infrastructure Review***

2. Reaffirm First Nations' inherent and Treaty Rights to education.
3. Reaffirm that jurisdiction over First Nations education remains with each First Nation.
4. Affirm that a review concerning First Nations education infrastructure is not intended to detract or hinder First Nations from advancing their current and future infrastructure processes.
5. Support policy or program changes in regards to First Nations education infrastructure that:
  - a. Exercise First Nations' Treaty and inherent rights to education, honours and advances First Nations control of First Nations education, and conforms to and upholds the Crown's Treaty and legal obligations to First Nations;
  - b. Reflect First Nations needs and deficiencies at the local and grassroots level;
  - c. Ensure that education capital funding needs are based on forecasted population growth in First Nations communities; and
  - d. Ensure that a 100% of real costs are provided for operations and maintenance of First Nations education infrastructure.
6. Support the Chiefs Committee on Education, National Indian Education Council and Assembly of First Nations to engage and lead a First Nations review, reflective of local and grassroots level needs, on federal policies concerning education infrastructure that supports regional models and approaches.

## **Post-Secondary Education**

### **Resolution 19/2021, *Funding for Post-Secondary Indigenous Institutions and Students***

1. Support the call for the Government of Canada to honour its obligations to lifelong learning by implementing the following measures:
  - a. provides First Nations post-secondary institutions sufficient core funding support;



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- b. increase monies for post-secondary students through substantial investments to address the historical inequity in the distribution of PSE funding;
- c. provide sufficient funding to ensure that no student is left behind and that all students seeking to attend post-secondary studies have the financial support they needs to access those studies;
- d. provide monies to be made available for First Nations post-secondary institutions for the structural support of buildings and their upkeep;
- e. provide needs-based funding developed by First Nations post-secondary institutions that includes sustainable and growth-oriented funding;
- f. provide sufficient funds to redress the historic and chronic underfunding of First Nations post-secondary institutions that will support the functions, programs and services these institutions are unable to offer;
- g. provides pay equity sustained by long-term operational funding;
- h. recognize and respect First Nations leadership and authentication of programming in First Nations languages and knowledges;
- i. make First Nations post-secondary institutions a funding priority and recognize First Nations control over First Nations education, especially programming in languages;
- j. provides reciprocal acknowledgement of our national and international accreditations;
- k. ensure that post-secondary funding for First Nations institutions and students will be protected so that there will not be a decrease or loss of this funding in future years; and
- l. ensure that investments in post-secondary funding for First Nations institutions and students will fully encompass all areas.

## **Resolution 21/2021, 2021 Post-Secondary Education Policy Proposal on First Nations Models**

1. Reaffirm First Nations' inherent and Treaty right to post-secondary (PSE) education.
2. Reaffirm that jurisdiction over First Nations PSE remains with each First Nation.



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3. Reaffirm First Nations control of First Nations education.
4. Support the recommended 2021 PSE Policy Proposal on First Nations Models (V12) to be presented to Cabinet as the First Nations submission through Indigenous Services Canada's Memorandum to Cabinet, which outlines the following:
  - a. Calls on the federal government to approve the policy authority for Canada to support First Nations to negotiate, conclude and fully implement their own First Nations-led local, regional and inherent/Treaty rights-based PSE models that may contain some or all of the following elements, but are not limited to:
    - i. Student Supports.
    - ii. Community-Based Student Supports.
    - iii. First Nations Institutions.
    - iv. First Nations Community-Based Program Supports; and
    - v. Administration, Governance and Leadership Capacity.
  - b. Seeks investments over five years and ongoing to support the implementation for First Nations-led local, regional, and inherent/Treaty rights-based PSE models.
  - c. Seeks funding for ongoing technical tables and/or regional processes to prepare First Nations for final negotiation and conclusions of PSE models.
  - d. Calls on the federal government to allocate additional investments on a regional basis, starting in 2022-2023, for current and unfunded First Nations PSE students, community-based delivery of programs and First Nations post-secondary institutions.
  - e. Calls on the federal government to unlock Budget 2021 funding of \$350 million over five years allocated regionally, to support First Nations in implementing programs that may include, but are not limited to, transitional programs to support PSE acceptance, high school graduation programs, language courses, culture and outdoor programs, literacy and basic skills courses, special education programs, professional development, and training for persons with disabilities.



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- f. Seeks to collaboratively update the Grants and Contributions to Support the First Nations Post-Secondary Education Program (Terms and Conditions) to support First Nations in implementing their own regional approaches and reflect the changes outlined in the policy proposal
5. Affirm that the 2021 PSE Policy Proposal on First Nations Models (V12) and process concerning First Nations PSE is not intended to detract or hinder First Nations from advancing their own bilateral or tripartite process, including separate Cabinet and Treasury Board processes, with Indigenous Services Canada and any relevant provincial or territorial government to develop their own policy approach and, identify the funding, resources and supports required to implement their respective models which may result in additional funding being required.
6. Expect that the 2021 PSE Policy Proposal on First Nations Models (V12) will be jointly presented to the Cabinet of Canada by Indigenous Services Canada and the Chiefs Committee on Education.