AFN Special Chiefs Assembly
December 9-11, 2008 Ottawa, ON

Resolution no. 56/2008

SUBJECT:	OPPOSITION TO UNILATERAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT OF NEW EDUCATION PROGRAM INITIATIVES
MOVED BY:	Tyrone McNeil, Proxy, Seabird Island First Nation, BC
SECONDED BY:	Chief Marianna Couchie, Nippising First Nation, ON
DECISION:	Carried by consensus

WHEREAS:

A. Education and lifelong learning are an Inherent and Treaty right for all First Nations;

B. First Nations provide a high level of accountability for education programs and services to students, parents, communities and funding agencies;

C. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) recently announced two new program initiatives entitled, *First Nation Student Success Program* (FNSSP) and the *First Nation Partnership Program* (FNPP);

D. These programs were developed without consulting First Nations;

E. These new program initiatives do not address current underfunding for First Nations schools operations or systems;

F. The FNSSP and FNPP are based on a fragmented, prescriptive and competitive proposal driven process, and

G. The current competitive proposal driven process may force First Nations to apply for resources under duress.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Chiefs-in-Assembly support accountability for lifelong learning as developed and approved by First Nation communities.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 10th day of December, 2008 in Ottawa, ON

2. The Chiefs-in-Assembly oppose the First Nation Student Success Program (FNSSP) and the First Nation Partnership Program (FNPP) guidelines as unilaterally developed by INAC.

3. The Chiefs-in-Assembly demand INAC immediately collaborate with the AFN to develop and implement a thorough consultation process for new guidelines for the FNSPP and the FNPP that meet First Nation learner needs, and that new funding separate from program dollars be identified for this activity occur.

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