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

Resolution no. 80/2008

SUBJECT:	Independent Review and Oversight Body for Critical Incidences Involving Police and First Nations
MOVED BY:	Grand Chief Doug Kelly, Proxy, Shwx'ow'hamil, BC
SECONDED BY:	Dan Smith, Proxy, Wuikinuxv Nation, BC
DECISION:	Carried by consensus

WHEREAS:

A. The Government of Canada (including the governments of its provinces and territories) has an obligation to uphold the honour of the Crown in all dealings with Aboriginal people. This includes providing the truth about the events surrounding critical incidences involving police and First Nations people;

B. In light of recent events such as the death of Frank Paul and the shooting death of 16- year old Kyle Tait by a New Westminster, BC, constable, First Nations' confidence in the transparency of the criminal justice system has been severely diminished; and

C. In the spirit of reconciliation, measures need to be put in place between First Nations and the Crown in the area of policing to restore both First Nations and public confidence in the RCMP, provincial and city police forces.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Chiefs-in-Assembly call upon the Solicitor General (Canada) and the Solicitors General (Provinces and Territories) to work together to:
   a) immediately institute policies whereby there are automatically independent reviews or inquiries of critical incidences involving police and First Nations people
   b) provide for independent oversight of critical incidences involving police, from investigation to disciplinary action.

2. The Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the AFN, subject to securing adequate resources, to work with the Government of Canada to achieve greater transparency and accountability within the area of policing and involving First Nations people.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 11th day of December, 2008 in Ottawa, ON

PHIL FONTAINE, NATIONAL CHIEF