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

Resolution no. 47/2008

SUBJECT:	DATA COLLECTION AND MANAGEMENT - EDUCATION
MOVED BY:	Larron Northwest, Proxy, Samson Cree First Nation, AB
SECONDED BY:	Chief Gilbert Whiteduck, Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg, QC
DECISION:	Carried by consensus

WHEREAS:

A. The AFN Chiefs Committee on Education identified data collection and management as a priority in First Nations education;

B. The federal government has not committed adequate financial resources to support First Nations schools and First Nations education organizations in the development of capacity and tools to collect, analyze, interpret and disseminate current First Nations education data, information and research;

C. The Federal Government supports researchers, including non-First Nations organizations' processes conducted on and off-reserve, with the result that the data portrayed by the Federal Government and researchers is inaccurate and inadequate;

D. First Nations Schools, First Nation education organizations and communities currently submit numerous education reports to the Federal Government without any reciprocal accountability regarding First Nations;

E. The First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey (RHS) is the only national research initiative under the complete control of First Nations, in keeping with the principles of Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (OCAP); and

F. The development of a national First Nations Education Data Management, Information and Research Framework must be holistic in nature and must be the foundation for building a sustainable, First Nations Education information and research infrastructure focused on First Nations capacity development at the community, regional and national level.

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The AFN national education First Nations data management group will oversee the development of a National Education Data Management and Information Framework for First Nations Citizens on and off-reserve, respecting the principles of the nation-to-nation relationship and of OCAP and working cooperatively with the Regional Longitudinal Health Survey (RHS).

2. First Nation Chiefs and Councils have the right and the authority to sanction who shall enter First Nations communities for the purpose of data collection.

3. First Nations, both individually and collectively, support the First Nations' established principles of Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (OCAP) regarding First Nations' Education research, data and information.

4. As part of the national First Nations Education Data Management, Information and Research Framework, a communications strategy be developed to advise key federal departments advising them of this position and to support both the short and long-term funding requirement for the National Education Data Management and Information Framework and future structures that support First Nations jurisdiction in information and research.

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