TITLE:	Regulation of Hunting Territory
SUBJECT:	Hunting
MOVED BY:	Chief Jonathan Kruger, Penticton Indian Band, BC
SECONDED BY:	Chief Joe Dennis, Lower Similkameen Indian Band, BC
DECISION:	Passed provisionally by AFN Executive Committee on September 10, 2009

WHEREAS:

A. Indigenous Nations have always held responsibility for the protection, stewardship and management of their respective territories, including for wildlife that resides within, in accordance with Indigenous laws.

B. Indigenous Nations have Indigenous laws regarding the granting of permission and the permitting of hunters from other Indigenous Nations to hunt for food in a respectful manner in their territory.

C. Through cultural protocols, Indigenous Nations have recognized each others' laws and addressed matters of mutual concern.

D. The provincial governments have imposed, and continue to impose, their legislation and regulations concerning the hunting, management and transport of wildlife, upon Indigenous Peoples, without regard to Indigenous laws and protocols, by charging and prosecuting Indigenous hunters who have been granted permission of the Indigenous Nation to hunt within its territory (sheltering cases).

E. Such prosecutions are disrespectful of Indigenous laws, a waste of public funds and an expression of denial of our Aboriginal and treaty rights.

F. Canadian courts have recognized and affirmed that Indigenous laws are constitutionally protected and include the right to hunt.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 10th day of September, 2009 in Gatineau, Quebec

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF

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

1. Support and encourage all First Nations to assert their right to hunt in accordance with their respective Indigenous laws including the granting of permission and the permitting of hunters from other Indigenous Nations.
2. Call on members of the AFN Executive to support First Nations at the regional level by communicating with the provincial government within the region to:
    a. Cease the practice of charging and prosecuting Indigenous hunters who are hunting for food in compliance with Indigenous laws applicable to the territory in which they are hunting; and
    b. Recognize and respect Indigenous laws, by establishing a respectful process for engagement with Indigenous Nations about all wildlife, hunting and management decisions affecting their respective territories.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 10th day of September, 2009 in Gatineau, Quebec

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF