TITLE:	Intergenerational Impacts of Residential Schools
SUBJECT:	Indian Residential Schools Unit
MOVED BY:	Chief Rose Laboucan, Driftpile First Naiton, AB
SECONDED BY:	Chief Richard Kappo, Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation, AB
DECISION:	Passed provisionally by AFN Executive Committee on September 10, 2009

WHEREAS:

A. On June 11, 2008, the Government of Canada issued an apology to First Nation people for the Indian Residential Schools (IRS) whose objectives were: "… *to remove and isolate children from the influence of their homes, families, traditions and cultures, and to assimilate them into the dominant culture*."

B. The Indian Residential Schools were so devastating to the identity of our children and our families that our nations were profoundly changed. These effects that are still felt today are known as the intergenerational impacts of residential schools. They can be evidenced in the abnormally high incidences of extreme social ills such as suicide; drug and alcohol abuse; children in foster care; and single parent families.

C. As part of the Indian Residential Schools Agreement, a Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) was established and will play an important role in educating Canadians about the Indian Residential Schools. This same focus and importance needs to be equally directed to the task of creating an awareness and understanding amongst First Nation citizens about how profound and lasting these impacts are.

D. It is a critical that an immediate and significant emphasis be placed on exploring and understanding the full and continuing impacts of the Indian Residential School experience so that our citizens, our families and our nations may be empowered towards reclaiming our identity thereby making their participation more meaningful as we seek reconciliation and as we seek to rebuild our nations.

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. Recognize and acknowledge that the residential school experience through its intergenerational impacts continues to be very much alive and continues to have devastating effects in our families and in our communities.

2. Direct the National Chief and the Executive to seek necessary resources to enable a process to examine these far reaching intergenerational impacts – including a coordinated approach within all AFN department/units that address these impacts such as the Youth Council; the Women's Council; Health and Social Secretariat; Languages; Education; and Recognition and Implementation of First Nations Governments.

3. Direct that updates/findings be released to First Nations communities on a regular basis for the purpose of creating awareness and understanding.

4. Direct that this exploration be done in concert with, but separate from, the ongoing work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

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SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF