TITLE:	A Revised Indian Control of Indian Education Policy 2009
SUBJECT:	Education
MOVED BY:	Tribal Chief Tyrone McNeill, Proxy Seabird Island Indian Band, BC
SECONDED BY:	Chief Marianna Couchie, Nipissing First Nation, ON
DECISION:	Passed provisionally by AFN Executive Committee on September 10, 2009

WHEREAS:

A. The National Indian Brotherhood adopted the policy paper of "Indian Control of Indian Education" in 1972 which was affirmed by the Minister of Indian Affairs in 1973.

B. The full spirit and intent of the policy of Indian Control of Indian Education has never been supported in a meaningful manner by the federal government which has failed to support a comprehensive First Nations learning environment and systems as envisioned by First Nations to lead to overall improved learning outcomes.

C. First Nations have been severely and inter-generationally impacted by the imposition of residential, provincial and territorial schools, as well as other imposed forms of forced assimilation and integration which still exist by maintaining chronic under funding despite a commitment and a federal fiduciary obligation to support adequately First Nations jurisdiction over education.

D. First Nations leaders and educators recognize the importance of updating the thirty-seven year old policy to reflect current circumstances and challenges and to use education as a tool to eradicate poverty by building the necessary skills for survival and future prosperity as First Nations peoples in Canada.

E. In February 21, 2007, the AFN Chiefs Committee on Education (CCOE) and the National Indian Education Council (NIEC) recommended that the policy paper be updated and revised to address a First Nations vision of

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lifelong learning as a means of addressing language, culture and values with the underlying principles of respecting First Nations jurisdiction.

F. A Working Group of Chiefs and education technicians from the CCOE and NIEC are currently preparing a draft policy paper for a new Indian Control of Indian Education policy.

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

1. Endorse in principle the continued development of an updated policy paper reflecting First Nation control and jurisdiction of all aspects of lifelong learning including language, culture and values.

2. Direct the Assembly of First Nations Education Secretariat to work under the direction of the Chiefs Committee on Education and in cooperation with the National Indian Education Council in immediately distributing the draft policy paper to First Nations across Canada for additional regional input by November 1, 2009, which will be brought back to the Chiefs-in-Assembly for consideration for full adoption at the December Chiefs Assembly

3. Direct the Assembly of First Nations National Chief to inform federal, provincial and territorial governments in Canada to collaborate with the CCOE/NIEC to incorporate the updated policy of Indian Control of Indian Education in all aspects that influence or affect First Nations education.

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