TITLE:	Maskwachees Cultural College Facility
SUBJECT:	Post Secondary Education
MOVED BY:	Chief Marvin Yellowbird, Samson Cree Nation, Treaty No. 6, AB
SECONDED BY:	Chief Wayne Moonias, Louis Bull Tribe, Treaty No. 6, AB
DECISION:	Passed provisionally by AFN Executive Committee on September 10, 2009

WHEREAS:

A. The right to education is recognized as a Treaty Right and is identified in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigneous Peoples; specifically relating to this Resolution, Article 14(1) states "Indigenous peoples have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning".

B. The Maskwachees Cultural College (MCC) commenced operation in 1974, and in 1987 the Province of Alberta passed the Maskwachees Cultural College Act (Bill PR20) wherein the MCC was officially recognized as a Private Post-Secondary institution providing post secondary education, including Cree language and cultural knowledge to the communities of the four First Nations of the Maskwacîs Cree and First Nation students from other communities with the authority to grant certification to students at the Certificate and Diploma levels and recognized as transfer equivalencies to various universities in Alberta.

C. The Minister of Transporation, Industry and Communities, the Honourable John Baird, announced the Knowledge Infrastucture Program (Two Year) as part of the Economic Stimuls Measure to support infrastructure enhancement to post secondary institutions in Canada, which are shovel ready and must be completed by March 2011.

D. The Maskwachees Cultural College is rooted in the local economy, responding quickly to new opportunities and the needs of First Nations students.

E. The current facility has been condemned; Maskwachees Cultural College has "shovel ready" plans for the construction of a new college and has the population base that will support the new facility.

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F. The Maskwacîs Cree are seeking support from the Chiefs-in-Assembly in their endeavour to construct a new college facility in the Maskwacîs Cree community, as well to promote other such proposed First Nation post secondary institutions that may require similar support,

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

1. Support the construction of First Nation Post-Secondary Institutions in those First Nations communities that are prepared to move forward now and in the future.
2. Instruct the Assembly of First Nations to provide First Nations direct access to the Education Secretariat as a vehicle to assist in furthering the proposals of such institutions in so far as staff and financial resources are available.
3. Direct the National Chief to assist the Chief(s) of those First Nations, including the Maskwacîs Cree, in meeting with appropriate Minister(s) to advance proposals for the construction of new First Nation post-secodary institutions.

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

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF