SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
DECEMBER 8, 9 & 10, 2009, OTTAWA, ON

Resolution no. 48/2009

TITLE:	First Nations Information Governance Stand Alone Centre
SUBJECT:	Health
MOVED BY:	Wendall Nicholas, Proxy, Tobique First Nation, New Bruinswick
SECONDED BY:	Wendell Metallic, Proxy, Listuguj First Nation, Quebec
DECISION:	Carried by Consensus

WHEREAS:

A. The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Chiefs Committee on Health (CCOH) passed a motion on June 23, 2009 to support the establishment of a First Nations Information Governance Centre as a stand alone entity. The AFN Executive Committee agreed on July 19, 2009.

B. This new Centre will be structured as a national hub, with satellite regional offices, similar to the current First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey (RHS) model that will support and house the RHS as well as other research, information management and surveillance initiatives.

C. The Centre will promote, protect and advance the First Nations Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (OCAP) principles, the inherent right to self determination and jurisdiction in research and information management.

D. The Centre will build the research and information management capacity of First Nations, serve as a training centre, support knowledge transfer, act as a data repository and be the premier source of relevant, quality information and data on the social, health and wellness of First Nations which will serve to support policy development and informed decision making at all levels.

E. The AFN adhering to First Nations regional approval processes will communicate and seek approval, by resolution, on a proposed federally incorporated framework, organization and accountability structure of the Centre.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 10th day of December, 2009 in Ottawa, Ontario

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF

F. The Centre will continue under current financial resources dedicated to the RHS process to support the infrastructure regionally and nationally. The Centre will seek and capitalize on funding opportunities that target First Nations information, research, training and data activities which can best be addressed through this First Nations driven and accountable organization. Funding allocations for completion of the RHS will be transferred to this new Centre.

G. The development of the Centre is now necessary for First Nations at the local, regional and national level to continue to support the exercise of First Nations jurisdiction over information, to obtain and use credible First Nations data to make informed decisions about the health, social wellness and impacts in First Nations communities and to facilitate responsible and effective communications and information sharing based on that credible information.

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

1. Support the development of the First Nation Information Governance Centre, pending regional support resolutions, that will be comprised of a national central office supported by regional satellite offices to be structured as a federally incorporated Centre and governed by a mandated board who will be directly accountable to First Nations through existing practices and structures.

2. Mandate the AFN's First Nations Information Governance Committee (FNIGC) to oversee the development of the Centre and to develop and implement a communication strategy to engage First Nations at the local and regional levels in order to ensure continued accountability.

3. Mandate the AFN to prepare a letter to the Minister of Health to inform them of this direction and to take immediate steps necessary to secure developmental funding and to transfer existing RHS contracts to the new Centre by April, 2010.

4. Mandate the AFN's CCOH to provide a detailed progress report on the implementation of the Centre at the July 2010 AFN Annual General Assembly.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 10th day of December, 2009 in Ottawa, Ontario

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF