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

Resolution no. 46/2009

TITLE:	Support for First Nations Health Managers National Association
SUBJECT:	Health
MOVED BY:	Chief Carolyn Buffalo, Montana First Nation, Alberta
SECONDED BY:	Wendell Metallic, Proxy, Listuguj First Nation, Quebec
DECISION:	Carried by Consensus

WHEREAS:

A. Health human resources are a priority for First Nations and are supported by various policy statements and plans, including but not limited to the 1979 Indian Health Policy, regional and national work leading to the Blueprint on First Nations Health, the Romanow report and the Assembly of First Nations' Health Human Resources Plan.

B. One of the most important health human resources in First Nations health system are those working in communities and providing immediate health care and preventative health services to First Nations.

C. Capacity development and education for health human resources in First Nations continue to be under-resourced.

D. The First Nations Health Managers Advisory Group have completed and validated the Competency Framework for First Nations Health Managers (FNHM).

E. The competency framework is a good tool.

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

1. Support the Competency Framework for First Nations Health Managers.

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2. Support the development of a First Nations Health Managers National Association under the following parameters:
    - The Health Technicians are involved in the governance surrounding the Association
    - It be a First Nation led and controlled process;
    - There be limited First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) involvement;
    - The selection of board of directors and by-laws be drafted to avoid FNIHB control, create an on-going First Nation relationship such as through a Memorandum of Understanding with the AFN, and not take over roles that belong nationally to AFN processes;
    - That the FNHM address the concern of accountability back to the National Association
    - It should ensure and provide for regional involvement;
    - Further clarification on roles and responsibility of the National Association is necessary
    - Job descriptions reflect the diversity of each community.
    - Ensure that the Government does not use the Association as a bypass to consultation with partners
    - It has a sustainable plan for funding in place before incorporation.

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