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## Assembly of First Nations

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## Assemblée des Premières Nations

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**SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY**  
**December 6,7,8, 2022, Ottawa, ON**

**Resolution no. 19/2022**

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**TITLE:** Executive Committee Representation, Newfoundland

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**SUBJECT:** AFN Charter

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**MOVED BY:** Chief Misel Joe, Miawpukek Mi'kamaway Mawi'omi, NL

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**SECONDED BY:** Chief Brendan Mitchell, Qalipu First Nation, NL

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**DECISION** Carried; 20 objections; 38 abstentions

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**WHEREAS:**

- A. Newfoundland Mi'kmaq are represented by the Miawpukek First Nation Chief and Councilors, the Qalipu First Nation Chief and Councilors, the Flat Bay Band Inc. Chief and Councilors, and Glenwood First Nation Chief and Councilors.
- B. In addition to their First Nation specific leadership, the Newfoundland First Nation Chief and Councilors work together on shared Newfoundland Mi'kmaq issues, including Mi'kmaq Rights and Governance matters.
- C. As with every provincial First Nation leadership in the country, the Newfoundland Mi'kmaq leadership has governance processes and unique interests that are specific to the province.
- D. The Newfoundland First Nations Chiefs are proud members of the Mi'kmaq Nation leadership, but also recognize the modern realities of provincial level Mi'kmaq governance.
- E. Since the creation of the Prince Edward Island regional office, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia Chiefs are now the only Chiefs in the country that do not have individual provincial representation on the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Executive Committee.
- F. The Newfoundland Mi'kmaq Chiefs and their respective Councils believe that the current shared AFN Executive Committee representation has not evolved to reflect the role and governance responsibilities of

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**Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022 in Ottawa, Ontario**

  
**ROSEANNE ARCHIBALD, NATIONAL CHIEF**

**19 – 2022**  
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the Newfoundland First Nation Chiefs and leadership, and is neither sustainable nor in the best interests of the Newfoundland First Nations, or the AFN as a whole, and are therefore seeking respectful representation at the AFN Executive Committee, with a Newfoundland Regional Chief selected in accordance with a process acceptable to the Newfoundland First Nations leadership.

- G. The Newfoundland Chiefs recognize that in accordance with Article 27 of the AFN Charter written notice to present a resolution at the next Annual or Special meeting of the First Nations-in-Assembly is required to amend Article 17 of the Charter to change the composition of the Executive Committee and allow for a Newfoundland Regional Chief.
- H. The Newfoundland Chiefs further recognize that a consultation process related to Charter Renewal is being implemented, but do not support this matter being deferred while the process is underway.
- I. The Newfoundland Chiefs are seeking the support of the First Nations-in-Assembly to recognize and respect their roles and responsibilities and unique interests at the Provincial level.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the First Nations-in-Assembly:**

- 1. Direct that Article 17 Composition of the AFN Charter and any other Articles that refer to the number of Regional Chiefs be amended to include Newfoundland as a Region represented under the Charter.
- 2. Direct that the AFN Secretariat's (National Indian Brotherhood) By-laws and all other relevant corporate documentation be amended to reflect the regional participation of Newfoundland.
- 3. Affirm their ongoing and strong support for regional AFN Executive representation.
- 4. Direct the AFN Secretariat to advance funding advocacy efforts and call on Canada to increase financial support to facilitate the work of the AFN Executive.

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**ROSEANNE ARCHIBALD, NATIONAL CHIEF**