ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
July 15, 16, & 17, 2008, Quebec City, QC

Resolution no. 28/2008

SUBJECT:	Emergency Resolution on First Nations Policing Policy
MOVED BY:	Alvin Fiddler, Proxy, Kingfisher First Nation, ON
SECONDED BY:	Chief Joshua Frogg, Wawakapewin First Nation, ON
DECISION:	Carried by consensus.

WHEREAS:

A. In June 1991, the federal government introduced the First Nations Policing Policy (FNPP) in order to provide First Nations across Canada with access to police services that are professional, effective, culturally appropriate, and accountable to the communities they serve;

B. The FNPP operates on the principle of partnership to negotiate tripartite agreements for police services that are responsive to the particular needs of each First Nation community;

C. The purpose of the FNPP is to contribute to the improvement of social order, public security and personal safety in First Nations communities;

D. Funding for all types of First Nation police services is based on tripartite agreements between the federal and provincial / territorial governments and First Nations under a cost-sharing formula, and the federal government and provincial / territorial governments pay 52 and 48 percent of the government contribution to the cost of First Nation policing services respectively;

E. The federal government has made a commitment to provide First Nations communities with policing services equal in quality to those provided in non-First Nations communities;

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Phil Fontaine, National Chief

F. The failure of the federal government to properly fund First Nation police services and a recently announced funding cap has created a situation where the level of service is not comparable to that in similar non-First Nations communities;

G. The FNPP was intended to enhance public safety in our communities, particularly for vulnerable groups, and the level of safety in our communities is deteriorating at an alarming rate as a result of the limitations of the FNPP agreement;

H. The failure of the federal government to provide adequate funding is now threatening the viability of several self-administered First Nation police services in Canada;

I. The FNPP states that First Nation policing services are an enhancement, not the primary police service, which is a factor in the under funding of First Nation policing; and

J. The federal government must recognize that community safety in First Nations is a right not a privilege to be subjugated under funding constraints of the FNPP.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the National Chief to seek a meeting with the Solicitor General as a matter of urgency to call for adequate funding to ensure the ongoing operation and maintenance of First Nation police services.
2. Subject to the receipt of funding, the AFN Secretariat will establish an appropriate body with both political and expert representation, to address the crisis in the FNPP and the long term sustainability of First Nations policing in Canada.
3. An advocacy strategy in conjunction with the regions be implemented to change the FNPP to ensure First Nations police services are recognized as the primary police services.
4. As part of this advocacy strategy the National Chief shall file a grievance under the Canada Human Rights Act based on the safety of our children.
5. The National Chief shall also call for additional funds and resources for additional or other First Nations to access or establish police services that are professional, effective, culturally appropriate and accountable to the First Nations they serve.

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Phil Fontaine, National Chief