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

Resolution no. 03/2008

SUBJECT:	AFN National Environment Strategy and Action Plan
MOVED BY:	Chief Lisa Shaver, Penelakut Indian Band, BC
SECONDED BY:	Chief Joseph Dennis, Lower Similkameen Indian Band, BC
DECISION:	Carried by consensus.

WHEREAS:

A. First Nation peoples have a holistic view of the environment that encompasses the interconnection between land, air and water, as well as the relationship between the environment, economy and social and cultural fabric of First Nations communities;

B. Aboriginal people are caretakers of Mother Earth;

C. There is a need for a progressive First Nations Environment Strategy and Action Plan which will be strongly based upon our traditional principles, laws and values and provide guidance and tools for our communities to address the many and complex environmental issues facing First Nations today;

D. The Government of Canada over the last five years has provided little to no financial support for environmental or sustainable development issues at the international, national, regional or community levels in order to allow First Nations to effectively address environmental and sustainable development issues whether within their own communities or on their traditional territories;

E. The role of the AFN on environmental issues is to:

- assist First Nation communities to identify and address environmental problems that may endanger the health and well being of their people and lands;
- raise the profile of environmental issues in First Nations governance;
- provide direction on the development of annual environmental policy forums;

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- advise on policies, legislation, programs and research to ensure these are implemented based on the best interests of First Nations; and
- advocate for the protection, recognition and implementation of First Nations, Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in Environment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Chiefs-in-Assembly renew their commitment to the protection of Mother Earth and its resources (medicines, plants, trees, wildlife, birds, fish and traditional knowledge) and support the updating and development of implementation strategies for the First Nations Environment Strategy and Action Plan.
2. The Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the AFN Executive Committee to review these implementation strategies and to consider the establishment of a Chiefs and Technicians Committee to oversee this as required.
3. The Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the AFN to seek adequate funding to support this work.

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