
Assembly of First Nations

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Assemblée des Premières Nations

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SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
December 5, 6 & 7, 2017, Ottawa, ON

Resolution no. 66/2017

TITLE: AFN-Canada Joint Report on Fiscal Relations

SUBJECT: Fiscal Relations

MOVED BY: Chief David Jimmie, Squiala First Nation, British Columbia

SECONDED BY: Grand Chief Abram Benedict, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne, Quebec

DECISION: Carried; 1 objection

WHEREAS:

- A. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states:
- i. Article 4: Indigenous peoples, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to their internal and local affairs, as well as ways and means for financing their autonomous functions.
- B. At the Special Chiefs Assembly in December 2015, Prime Minister Trudeau told the Chiefs-in-Assembly, "It's time for a new fiscal relationship with First Nations that gives your communities sufficient, predictable and sustained funding. This is a promise we made, and a promise we will keep."
- C. In July 2016, the National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations and the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) concerning the development of a new fiscal relationship.
- D. The parties undertook a comprehensive review of the existing fiscal relationship, including regional engagement sessions with representatives from First Nations across the country to review and discuss options and recommendations for a new fiscal relationship.

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PERRY BELLEGARDE, NATIONAL CHIEF

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- E. The First Nations representatives that participated in those regional engagement sessions called for continued engagement on the matter as further work on the new fiscal relationship proceeds with full respect for Treaty, inherent jurisdiction, rights and title.
- F. In accordance with the provisions of the MOU, the Assembly of First Nations and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada have prepared a report that sets out jointly-produced proposals, options, and recommendations.
- G. That report has been tabled for consideration at this Special Chiefs Assembly.

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

1. Acknowledge receipt of the joint report entitled: *A New Approach: Co-Development of New Fiscal Relationship between Canada and First Nations*.
2. Call on the Government of Canada to fund work toward the development of a new fiscal relationship, including increased discussions at the individual First Nation, treaty group, tribal council and regional level to augment national discussions and apply the work and knowledge developed by regions to date.
3. Demand that the Government of Canada implement the key actions recommended in this joint report.
4. Call for the Government of Canada to coordinate all dialogues on fiscal relations in order to ensure clarity and transparency.
5. Call on the Prime Minister to meet his personal promise of "sufficient, predictable and sustained funding."
6. Direct the Chiefs Committee on Fiscal Relations to report to the Chiefs on a quarterly basis.

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