# **Assembly of First Nations**

50 O'Connor Street, Suite 200 Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6L2 Telephone: (613) 241-6789 Fax: (613) 241-5808 www.afn.ca



## Assemblée des Premières Nations

50, rue O'Connor, Suite 200 Ottawa, Ontario K1P 6L2 Téléphone: (613) 241-5789 Télécopieur: (613) 241-5808 www.afn.ca

#### ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY July 9, 10, 11, 2024, Montreal, QC

Resolution no. 07/2024

TITLE:	Support for the Assembly of First Nations 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council Mandate and Funding
SUBJECT:	2SLGBTQQIA+
MOVED BY:	Chief Allan Polchies, St Mary's First Nation, NB
SECONDED BY:	Chief Shelley Sabattis, Oromocto First Nation, NB
DECISION	Carried by consensus.

#### WHEREAS:

- **A.** The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration) states:
  - i. Article 2: Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity.
  - **ii.** Article 14(2): Indigenous individuals, particularly children, have the right to all levels and forms of education of the State without discrimination.
  - **iii.** Article 18: Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures, as well as to maintain and develop their own indigenous decision-making institutions.
- **B.** Pre-colonial First Nations worldviews included complex understandings of sexuality and gender outside of the patriarchal, heteronormative male/female binary for many western societies. Two-spirit and gender-diverse peoples were recognized as carrying unique responsibilities vital to the collective wellbeing of First Nations societies.
- **C.** Colonialism has had a profound impact on the roles and standing of two-spirit and gender-diverse people within First Nations societies.

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- **D.** Two-spirit and gender-diverse First Nations peoples face discrimination and marginalization within and outside of First Nations communities, including lack of access to safe and adequate health and social services, and systemic invisibility.
- E. Action Plan Measure 11 in the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* Action Plan calls on the Federal Government to "Implement Pillar 3 of the Federal 2SLGBTQI+ Action Plan, 'Support Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ Resilience and Resurgence,' focusing on advancing rights and equality of Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ people through collaboration and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples and National Indigenous Organizations, governments, and representative institutions, while recognizing distinct cultural approaches to identity."
- **F.** The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council has adopted a Strategic Plan with ambitious goals over the next four years to achieve their mandates from First Nations-in-Assembly and the 2S+ community.
- **G.** The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Councils Strategic Plan includes four priorities: 1. Truth Telling; 2. Moving the 2S+ Council Forward; 3. Collaboration and Relationship Building; and 4. Education and Knowledge Translation.
- **H.** The 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council continues to strengthen relationships with organizations like the 2 Spirits in Motion Society (2SIMS), previously the 2 Spirits in Motion Foundation, to continue to provide support to 2SLGBTQQIA+ persons.
- I. In 2018, First Nations-in-Assembly passed Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Resolution 45/2018, *Two Spirits in Motion Foundation*, to support the development and funding of the 2SIMS.

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

- 1. Reaffirm that two-spirit and gender-diverse peoples are a traditional part of First Nations and carry unique responsibilities vital to the collective wellbeing of First Nations societies.
- 2. Support the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council in rejecting government policies that directly impact the safety and wellbeing of two-spirit and gender-diverse First Nations people, especially those policies that negatively impact First Nations youth.
- **3.** Direct the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council to report back to the First Nations-in-Assembly on an annual basis on the progress of the strategic plan.
- **4.** Direct the AFN to seek out appropriate funding and resources for the AFN 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council to ensure the implementation of their strategic plan and mandate.
- **5.** Reaffirm AFN Resolution 45/2018, *Two Spirits in Motion Foundation,* to continue to support sufficient, predictable, and sustainable funding to 2S+ initiatives, including 2SIMS.
- **6.** Call on Canada to continue to advance and fully implement Action Plan Measure 11 and support the implementation of the Federal 2SLGBTQI+ Action Plan 2022.

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