SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
DECEMBER 14, 15 & 16, 2010, GATINEAU, QC

Resolution no. 53/2010

TITLE:	Developing a National Strategy to Improve Access and Infrastructure in Northern First Nations
SUBJECT:	Infrastructure
MOVED BY:	Chief David McDougall, St. Theresa Point First Nation, Manitoba
SECONDED BY:	Chief Jerry Knott, Wasagamak First Nation, Manitoba
DECISION:	Carried by Consensus

WHEREAS:

A. Northern and isolated First Nation communities lack appropriate and necessary water and sewer infrastructure, which has left families, elders and children to deal with increasing serious health and wellness issues. This has also led to increased medical transportation costs due to a lack of medical and social services existing within communities.

B. Northern and isolated First Nation communities lack appropriate supports for emergency management services or strategies when urgent situations such as search and rescue for missing community members, or for responding to accidents in remote communities when they occur.

C. Northern and isolated First Nation communities lack adequate all-weather road infrastructure, which leads to increased overall costs of all basic necessities, particularly perishable goods such as fruit, milk and vegetables. Furthermore, lack of road infrastructure has also led to increased safety risks for transportation overall.

D. The warming climate in the North has delayed freeze-up in the fall and contributed to thinner ice and an earlier spring melt, resulting in a shorter winter road season.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 14th day of December, 2010 in Gatineau, Quebec

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF

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

1. Direct the Assembly of First Nations, National Chief and Executive to advocate for the immediate improvement of infrastructure and overall access for northern communities as a priority, for the purposes of improving overall safety and health and well-being of First Nations families and community members, improving the transportation and reducing costs of basic necessities, and increasing opportunities for economic activity.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 14th day of December, 2010 in Gatineau, Quebec

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF