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

Resolution no. 54/2010

TITLE:	Support for Shannen's Dream ~ Motion 571
SUBJECT:	First Nations Education
MOVED BY:	Chief Rose Laboucan, Driftpile First Nation, Alberta
SECONDED BY:	Grand Chief Mike Mitchell, Mohawk Nation of Akwesasne, Ontario
DECISION:	Carried by Consensus

WHEREAS:

A. Motion 571 was tabled in Parliament on September 16, 2010.

B. The non-partisan Motion is named after Shannen Koostachin who led the fight for a safe and healthy school for her home community of Attawapiskat First Nation. Shannen passed away at the age of 15 in the spring of 2010.

C. Motion 571, Shannen's Dream, states:

> That, in the opinion of the House, the government should: (*a*) declare that all First Nation children have an equal right to high quality culturally-relevant education; (*b*) commit to provide the necessary financial and policy supports for First Nations education systems; (*c*) provide funding that will put reserve schools on par with non-reserve provincial schools; (*d*) develop transparent methodologies for school construction, operation, maintenance and replacement; (*e*) work collaboratively with First Nation leaders to establish equitable norms and formulas for determining class sizes and for the funding of educational resources, staff salaries, special education services and indigenous language instruction; and (*f*) implement policies to make the First Nation education system, at a minimum, of equal quality to provincial school systems.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 15th day of December, 2010 in Gatineau, Quebec

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF

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

1. Support Motion 571, Shannen's Dream.
2. Call upon all Members of Parliament to support Motion 571 in the House of Commons.
3. Call upon the federal government to consult and work in meaningful collaboration with First Nations Governments to make Shannen's Dream a reality.
4. Further call upon the federal government to implement the international human rights norms and legally binding standards that are part of general and customary international law in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to ensure protection, respect and justice for all Indigenous rights, including those in treaties.
5. Direct the Assembly of First Nations to include a full report of the outstanding inequities in First Nations education and the impacts of these inequities on the rights of First Nations children pursuant to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in its submission to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) on the occasion of the UNCRC's review of Canada's 3rd and 4th periodic country reports.

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