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

Resolution no. 77/2010

TITLE:	Precedence of First Nations Rights
SUBJECT:	Aboriginal and Treaty Rights
MOVED BY:	Chief Cheyeanne Paulette, Smith's Landing First Nation, Northwest Territories
SECONDED BY:	Chief Jim Bob Marsden, Alderville First Nation, Ontario
DECISION:	Resolution was referred to AFN executive by Chiefs-in-Assembly on December 16, 2010. Passed by the AFN Executive at a duly convened meeting on January 20, 2011

WHEREAS:

A. First Nations and Inuit are the original Indigenous Nations of Turtle Island (now "Canada").

B. First Nations, collectively, possess basic human and inherent rights to determine our own identities and citizenship.

C. First Nations have consistently been defined and labelled, by the Canadian government, against our will, with labels such as "Aboriginal", "Status Indian", and so on.

D. First Nation governments make decisions, on behalf of their peoples, in furtherance of their collective, social, political, cultural, environmental, spiritual, and economic interests.

E. Recent examples of this include (1) the failure of the Federal Government to protect the traditional territory of member First Nations within the boundaries of the Wood Buffalo National Park from Métis intrusion and to have Métis structures on these lands removed and (2) the pan-aboriginal approach taken by the federal, provincial and territorial governments on all matters relating to aboriginal and treaty rights.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 20th day of January, 2011 in Ottawa, Ontario

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF

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

1. Declare their support for First Nations who are attempting to challenge the Federal Government in its failure to distinguish between the aboriginal rights asserted by the Métis and the aboriginal and treaty rights of First Nations.
2. Support the efforts of First Nations who are forced, by the actions or inactions of the Federal Government, to take administrative, legal and other measures to preserve and protect their rights.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 20th day of January, 2011 in Ottawa, Ontario

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF