TITLE:	Legal Opinion on the Indian and Northern Affairs Name Change
SUBJECT:	Legal Review
MOVED BY:	Grand Chief Stan Beardy, proxy, Whitewater Lake First Nation, ON
SECONDED BY:	Grand Chief Konrad Sioui, Huron-Wendat Nation, QC
DECISION:	Passed by the AFN Executive Committee

WHEREAS:

A. Article 3 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) says: "*Indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination. By virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.*"

B. Article 37 of the UNDRIP refers to the Treaty rights of Indigenous Peoples as follows: *"Indigenous peoples have the right to the recognition, observance and enforcement of treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements concluded with States or their successors and to have States honour and respect such treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements."*

C. In May 2011, shortly after unveiling a new cabinet, the state of Canada announced it would be changing the name of former department of Indian and Northern Affairs to "Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development."

D. First Nations in Canada were not advised in advance of this announcement and have not had an opportunity to examine the implications on them.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 19th day of September, 2011 in Aylmer, Quebec

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF

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

1. Mandate the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to conduct a legal review to determine the implications of the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada name change on First Nations rights, title and interests.

2. Direct that the legal opinion be developed as soon as possible and that a report be provided to the AFN Executive Committee and at the next Assembly.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 19th day of September, 2011 in Aylmer, Quebec

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF