ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY
JULY 12, 13 & 14, 2011, MONCTON, NB

Resolution no. 06/2011

TITLE:	Support to Amend First Nations Non-Insured Health Benefits Program National Policy
SUBJECT:	Health (Non-Insured Health Benefits)
MOVED BY:	Chief Warren White, Naotkamegwanning First Nation, ON
SECONDED BY:	Chief Simon Fobister, Grassy Narrows First Nation, ON
DECISION:	Carried by Consensus – 1 abstention

WHEREAS:

A. Articles 7, 21 and 24 of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) confirm rights to equal health standards and to the enjoyment of the highest standards of health.

B. It has been shown that 1 in 5 First Nation children have not had any dental care; half of all First Nations adults reported problems in accessing Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) funded services in the past year; and 1 in 5 First Nation adults experienced a barrier to healthcare because they sought treatment not covered by NIHB.

C. Chiefs-in-Assembly have a serious concern that First Nation community members are not receiving comparable health services and there are detrimental impacts on our children, Elders, families and communities.

D. Grand Council Treaty #3 (GCT#3) leadership recognize that many First Nation individuals lack the advocacy capacity to make the necessary appeals regarding NIHB and that this is detrimental to Treaty #3 First Nations.

E. GCT#3 leadership will advocate for a review of the challenges to individuals and First Nations in accessing information regarding eligible benefits, procedures to address denials and appeals, provincial programs linkages and other administrative issues surrounding the NIHB program.

F. GCT#3 will identify a negotiation process for resolution of problems and issues with First Nations & Inuit Health-Ontario Region and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care where jurisdictional issues arise.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 13th day of July, 2011 in Moncton, New Brunswick

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF

G. GCT#3 will provide technical support related to the NIHB policies and health advocacy by developing and drafting documents that support negotiations with Federal and Provincial governments and other agencies.

H. The Government of Canada's Health Canada First Nation and Inuit Health Non-Insured Health Benefits program and the delivery of health-related goods and services including prescription drugs, over-the-counter medication, medical supplies & equipment, short-term crisis counseling, dental care, vision care and historical medical transportation fees and accommodations currently do not meet the standards of Treaty #3 and denies our Treaty Right to health.

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

1. Mandate the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) to advocate for a review and amendment to the national policy on Non-Insured Health Benefits to increase the quality of healthcare service delivery for First Nation members.
2. Mandate the AFN to work in conjunction with First Nations to develop the business case to support and increase services to First Nations based on needs, not a formula, and to provide advice to First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) with a proposed course of action recommending solutions to increase the health status of all First Nation communities and First Nation citizens.
3. Support First Nations to establish a National Forum with the Federal Minister of Health, to address all current health-related issues and concerns.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 13th day of July, 2011 in Moncton, New Brunswick

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF