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

Resolution no. 23/2011

TITLE:	Joint Committee of Chiefs and Advisors to Move Forward on "Pursuing First Nation Self-Determination – Realizing our Rights and Responsibilities"
SUBJECT:	Strategy to Implement Treaties, Rights and Jurisdiction
MOVED BY:	Grand Chief Doug Kelly, Proxy, Kwaw-kwaw-Apilt First Nation, BC
SECONDED BY:	Chief Shining Turtle, Whitefish River First Nation, ON
DECISION:	Carried by Consensus

WHEREAS:

A. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* in Article 3 affirms that: "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. In 2004 Chiefs-in-Assembly mandated a Joint Committee of Chiefs and Advisors to develop a broad framework outlining a proposed strategy and process to deal with Canada at the Ministerial level on issues relating to recognition and implementation of First Nations Governments.

C. In Resolution 24/2004 Chiefs-in-Assembly adopted a vision that this strategy would "enable the political, social and cultural development of First Nations peoples to exist, continue and prosper, consistent with Treaties and Inherent Rights".

D. On March 31st, 2005, the Chiefs-in-Assembly endorsed the report *"Our Nations, Our Governments: Choosing Our Own Paths"* and the strategy and process presented in the report as the basis of discussions with the Federal Crown to achieve reconciliation.

E. First Nations continue to be seized with the necessity for concerted and planned efforts to implement self-determination, at the rate and pace dictated by their citizens.

F. Based on research and resolutions and continuing on the report, a draft paper titled "Pursuing First Nation Self-Determination – Realizing our Rights and Responsibilities" was provided to Chiefs-in-Assembly for review at the 2011 Annual General Assembly.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 14th day of July, 2011 in Moncton, New Brunswick

SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF

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

1. Affirm their clear and collective commitment to implementing their self-determination, consistent with Treaties, Inherent Rights and jurisdiction.
2. Respect the inherent authority of all First Nations to represent and negotiate their own interests, and the principle of free, prior and informed consent.
3. Receive the draft "Pursuing First Nation Self-Determination – Realizing our Rights and Responsibilities" understanding it is for full discussion, consideration and refinement.
4. That any potential Federal recognized legislation must be developed and led by our Nations and must be optional.
5. Mandate a Joint Committee of Chiefs and Advisors, which will be comprised of regional representatives, to review and refine priorities, actions and strategies contained in the draft paper, firmly grounding these in principles of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and previous work as directed by Chiefs-in-Assembly, such as *"Our Nations, Our Governments: Choosing Our Own Paths".*
6. Direct the Joint Committee of Chiefs and Advisors to report to subsequent Chiefs Assemblies on progress.
7. Note that nothing in this resolution or the process envisioned within it is intended to impede or derogate from any existing processes or initiatives involving any First Nation, Tribal Council or Provincial/Territorial or Treaty Organization working with the Federal government.

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SHAWN A-IN-CHUT ATLEO, NATIONAL CHIEF