

387 PRINCESS AVENUE LONDON, ONTARIO N6B 2A7

PHONE:(519) 434-2761 FAX:(519) 675-1053

## Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 002/2023

**Subject: Enforcement of First Nation Laws** 

### MOVED BY:

Chief R. Donald Maracle Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

#### **SECONDED BY:**

Chief Todd Cornelius Oneida Nation of the Thames

# Certified Copy of a Resolution Adopted on:

June 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Wahta Mohawks WHEREAS, the member First Nations of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (AIAI) affirm their sovereignty, founded in the responsibilities provided to their respective Nations by the Creator;

**WHEREAS,** First Nations' self-determination pre-exists contact with external governments and entities. That self-determination and sovereignty remains today, and has not and cannot be surrendered;

WHEREAS, Ontario is developing regulations under its legislation called the *Community Safety and Policing Act (CSPA)*. The Chiefs of Ontario (COO) has been doing analysis and advocacy via legislative committee hearings and discussions with First Nations Leadership on issues of common concern, including the lack of legislated requirement for Ontario policing to include the enforcement of First Nation by-laws/laws;

WHEREAS, an Ontario regional report summarizing feedback from First Nations Leadership as well as a report by Elson Advocacy called "Equitable Access to Justice: Enforcement and Prosecution of First Nation Laws and By-laws" identifies significant justice gaps and suggested approaches/recommendations for developing solutions pertaining to the enforcement and prosecution of First Nation By-Laws;

WHEREAS, there is no centralized or permanent funding for First Nations to develop governance capacity and justice systems for prosecuting their own laws. Nor is there sufficient funding for First Nations to develop their own enforcement and compliance mechanisms appropriate to their own culture and context;

**WHEREAS,** both federal and provincial policies prevent their crown attorneys from prosecuting First Nations laws;

**WHEREAS,** the current legislative landscape leaves gaps in First Nations justice systems that undermine inherent rights to self-government, self-determination, and sovereignty to protect and care for citizens, lands, and relations;

WHEREAS, justice gaps threaten community safety and well-being, counter reconciliation efforts, treaty relationships, and principles and recommendations



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Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 002/2023

**Subject: Enforcement of First Nation Laws** 

adopted under Canadian legislation (le. Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*).

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to commission research into a class action lawsuit against the federal and provincial governments for their lack of action and resourcing for First Nations laws enforcement and prosecution mechanisms;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to conduct research into various models, resources, and training options for interim solutions to First Nations justice gaps;

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to lobby provincial and federal governments to demand recognition of First Nations laws as enforceable and to secure consistent, equitable, and needs-based resourcing to support First Nations in the development, implementation, and maintenance of their own enforcement mechanisms, legal systems, and justice systems;

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to provide regular updates to the AIAI Chiefs Council and Governance Working Group on this work, and to report back to the General Assembly at the June 2024 Annual General Assembly.



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Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 003/2023 Subject: Opposition to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan

MOVED BY:

Chief Laurie Carr Hiawatha First Nation

SECONDED BY:

Chief Justin Logan Eelŭnaapéewi Lahkéewiit (Delaware Nation)

Certified Copy of a Resolution Adopted on:

June 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Wahta Mohawks WHEREAS, the member First Nations of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (AIAI) affirm their sovereignty, founded in the responsibilities provided to their respective Nations by the Creator;

**WHEREAS,** First Nations' self-determination pre-exists contact with external governments and entities. That self-determination and sovereignty remains today, and has not and cannot be surrendered;

WHEREAS, AIAI Resolution No. 004/2020, Opposition to the UNDRIP Act, opposed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (the Act) and called on Canada to use a more formal process for creating legislation to implement priority articles within the Declaration, as defined through Nation-to-Nation agreements;

WHERAS, on June 21, 2021, the Act received Royal Assent and came into force. Under the Act, the Government of Canada must align Canadian laws with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. It requires that Canada draft a National Action Plan (the Action Plan) identifying priorities and key actions on how to advance the implementation of the Act, and to present this Action Plan to Parliament on June 21, 2023;

WHERAS, on March 20, 2023, the Department of Justice released a draft of the Action Plan, setting out Canada's plan for working in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples to achieve the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ("the Declaration");

WHEREAS, Canada drafted the Action Plan without utilizing a true balanced process wherein First Nations and the Federal Government work together to determine appropriate actions. In Canada's "co-development" approach, they did not enable a First Nations-led process and failed to ensure First Nations were adequately engaged and/or involved in the drafting and decision-making processes;



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## Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 003/2023 Subject: Opposition to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan

WHERAS, AIAI Resolution No. 012/2019, Endorsing the Legal Opinion Prepared by OKT Law and Rejection of the Co-Development Process, opposes co-development on the basis that co-development is designed to manufacture First Nations consent and is not a First Nations-led process;

WHEREAS, the first draft of the Action Plan was released on March 20, 2023, and the window for submissions and feedback on the plan was only open until May 2023, meaning sufficient time to review the Action Plan was not provided. Resources to support a proper First Nations review of the Draft Action Plan were also not provided;

WHERAS, An Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Special Chiefs Assembly (SCA) was hosted on April 4-6, 2023, during which many issues were raised about the Draft Action Plan. An emergency resolution, AFN Resolution no. 20/2023, *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Draft Action Plan*, was passed calling for:

- More time to finalize the Action Plan,
- The Government of Canada to publish annual action plans on the Declaration's implementation, and
- More resources so that First Nations can meaningfully participate in the development of action plans;

WHEREAS, Canada consulted the Métis on the Action Plan with equal bearing to First Nations, undermining the unique relationship that First Nations have with the Federal Government and their rights outlined in Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982;

WHEREAS, Canada has revised the Action Plan and added new measures based on feedback received during the March to May 2023 submission window. The revised Action Plan will go to Parliament on June 21, 2023, without review by First Nations;

WHEREAS, the AIAI Chiefs Council has opposed the National Action Plan based on the concerns outlined herein and reiterates their unwavering position that only First Nations can determine their paths to decolonization and reconciliation. The AIAI Chief Council refuse to accept legislation developed without their full participation and approval.



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Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 003/2023 Subject: Opposition to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act Action Plan

**THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, The General Assembly calls for a more balanced process of creating legislation to develop and implement an Action Plan that respects First Nations sovereignty, inherent rights, Nation-to-Nation agreements, and Treaty relationships;

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED**, AIAI is mandated to demand that Canada focus on their commitments to Nation-to-Nation relationships by transferring capacity to First Nations to engage in undoing settler-colonial impacts within their communities and develop our own institutions of governance and law-making;

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the General Assembly call on the AIAI Chiefs Council and technicians to develop a strategy to advance AIAI member Nation communities' perspectives, once the Action Plan is released. The strategy is to include the following components:

- Development of information and analysis documents for circulation,
- Development of a response to the Action Plan,
- The Carrying out of a lobby effort,
- Regular updates from AIAI to the AIAI Chiefs Council,
- A report back to the General Assembly at the next Annual General Assembly.

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## Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 004/2023 Subject: National Distinctions-Based Indigenous Health Legislation - AIAI Position

#### MOVED BY:

Councillor Kathryn Wilson Hiawatha First Nation

#### SECONDED BY:

Chief R. Donald Maracle Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

# Certified Copy of a Resolution Adopted on:

June 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Wahta Mohawks Indians (AIAI) affirm their sovereignty, founded in the responsibilities provided to their respective Nations by the Creator;

WHEREAS, the member First Nations of the Association of Iroquois and Allied

**WHEREAS,** First Nations' self-determination pre-exists contact with external governments and entities. That self-determination and sovereignty remains today, and has not and cannot be surrendered;

**WHEREAS**, First Nations have always maintained inherent jurisdiction over the health and wellbeing of their citizens. First Nations have the right and authority to develop and operate systems that protect and respond to the needs of their citizens;

WHEREAS, First Nations face staggering gaps across every health and social determinant of health indicator category. These gaps reflect ongoing oppression subjected by colonial law and discriminatory policies that significantly underfund essential service areas;

**WHEREAS,** member Nation communities should enjoy the highest attainable standards of health and social determinants of health;

WHEREAS, member Nation communities have Nation-to-Nation relationships with the Crown enshrined in Treaties. The Crown, as represented by the Government of Canada, has a fiduciary responsibility to uphold the Honour of the Crown by ensuring the rights of First Nations are respected. Member Nation communities are committed to ensuring that Treaty relationships are upheld;

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada has initiated a process for the codevelopment of a National Distinctions-Based Indigenous Health Legislation. Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) is leading the process by completing engagements in 2022 and establishing Distinction-based tables. The process is moving forward with the intent to introduce draft legislation to parliament by 2023-2024. An Ontario First Nation Regional Table has not been formed and the overall process remains unknown to date;



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### Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 004/2023 Subject: National Distinctions-Based Indigenous Health Legislation – AIAI Position

WHERAS, AIAI Resolution 012/2019, Endorsing the Legal Opinion Prepared by OKT Law and Rejection of the Co-Development Process, opposes co-development on the basis that co-development is designed to manufacture First Nations consent and is not a First Nations-led process;

WHEREAS, the federal co-development process is characterized by power imbalances that undermine First Nations' voice and produces legislation that fails to address First Nations needs and concerns. These concerns include, but are not limited to, mandatory resourcing and funding guarantees for First Nations engagement, respect for First Nations jurisdictional authority and Treaty relationships, and detailed directives for the Government of Canada to address its responsibilities and uphold the Honour of the Crown;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly refuses to accept colonial systems, delegated authority, and the responsibility for failings of external governments that have resulted in the staggering health consequences experienced by our citizens today across all social determinants of health;

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED,** member Nation communities call on the Canadian Government to ensure reasonable time and opportunity for adequate and meaningful participation founded in the principles of diversity and equity, and inclusion in an Ontario First Nation Regional Table;

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to work within the province towards the development of an Ontario First Nation Regional Table, given the process provides a wholistic picture of health needs as defined by First Nations. The aim of this table is to work as full partners with the federal government, in accordance with Treaty relationships, on the development of a National health legislation that is responsive to member Nation community needs;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, the General Assembly directs AIAI to:

 Advocate for health funding that addresses member Nation community needs and demand that gaps be eliminated in all areas impacting health to achieve substantive equality, and maximize access to all health care services,



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## Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 004/2023 Subject: National Distinctions-Based Indigenous Health Legislation - AIAI Position

- Advocate and advance member Nation communities' positions on health legislation as outlined here and as established though the ongoing legislative development processes,
- Initiate a legal analysis on the impact of the Canadian legislation on member Nation communities in all aspects related to health,
- Reject any co-development process that results in delegated authority, non-recognition of First Nations jurisdiction, and a lack of equitable statutory funding;

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to report back to the General Assembly on this work and any progress to the Heath and Social Advisory Board regarding National distinctions-based Indigenous health legislation development at the AIAI Annual General Assembly 2024.



387 PRINCESS AVENUE LONDON, ONTARIO N6B 2A7

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## Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 005/2023

Subject: Implementing Jordan's Principle

#### MOVED BY:

Councillor Kathryn Wilson Hiawatha First Nation

#### **SECONDED BY:**

Chief Mary Duckworth Caldwell First Nation

# Certified Copy of a Resolution Adopted on:

June 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Wahta Mohawks WHEREAS, the member First Nations of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (AIAI) affirm their sovereignty, founded in the responsibilities provided to their respective Nations by the Creator;

**WHEREAS,** First Nations' self-determination pre-exists contact with external governments and entities. That self-determination and sovereignty remains today, and has not and cannot be surrendered;

WHEREAS, Jordan's Principle is named after Jordan River Anderson from Norway House Cree Nation. Jordan's Principle was unanimously passed in the House of Commons in December 2021. Jordan's Principle is a child-first principle intended to ensure that First Nations children do not experience denials, delays, or disruptions of services that are ordinarily available to other children due to jurisdictional disputes regarding payment for services;

WHEREAS, in February 2007, the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society (the Caring Society) and the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) filed a human rights complaint against the Federal Government of Canada. The Caring Society alleged that Canada's flawed and inequitable provision of First Nations child and family services and failure to implement Jordan's Principle is discriminatory to First Nations children living on reserve;

WHEREAS, on January 26, 2016, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) issued its decision regarding the complaint, finding that the Federal Government of Canada was racially discriminating against First Nations children living on reserves. In response to this finding, the CHRT ordered Canada to immediately cease its discriminatory and narrow definition of Jordan's Principle and to take immediate measures to implement the full definition of Jordan's Principle;

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2016, the CHRT found that Canada was not complying with the earlier CHRT order to "immediately implement the full meaning and scope of Jordan's Principle". The CHRT required Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to report back to them on May 10, 2016, to confirm that the full scope of Jordan's Principle was implemented. ISC's response as to how they are implementing the full scope was vague and unacceptable;



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## Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 005/2023

Subject: Implementing Jordan's Principle

WHEREAS, AIAI Resolution No. 006/2016, Jordan's Principle directed the AIAI to follow up with ISC and the Federal Government of Canada to determine how the full scope of Jordan's Principle has been implemented and AIAI Resolution No. 003/2022, Jordan's Principle Implementation further directed the AIAI to ensure that Jordan's Principle is applied as it was originally intended and not just to health-related service disputes. Jordan's Principle is applicable to any and all services that First Nations children may need to access;

WHEREAS, the regional tables are not adequately addressing discriminatory practices, examples of which include a lack of timely responses, requiring upfront payment from parents for later reimbursement, and limited accountability for non-Indigenous entities that are accessing Jordan's Principle inappropriately.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to establish a high-level table with ISC to resolve and implement Jordan's Principle correctly;

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to advocate for and participate in the restructuring and systematic change of the Jordan's Principle program, through this table and other avenues.



387 PRINCESS AVENUE LONDON, ONTARIO N6B 2A7

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Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 006/2023 Subject: Implementing Change to Housing and Homelessness

#### MOVED BY:

Councillor Leah Stock Wahta Mohawks

#### **SECONDED BY:**

Councillor Kathryn Wilson Hiawatha First Nation

# Certified Copy of a Resolution Adopted on:

June 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Wahta Mohawks

**Grand Chief Joel Abram** 

WHEREAS, the member First Nations of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (AIAI) affirm their sovereignty, founded in the responsibilities provided to their respective Nations by the Creator;

**WHEREAS,** First Nations' self-determination pre-exists contact with external governments and entities. That self-determination and sovereignty remains today, and has not and cannot be surrendered;

WHEREAS, First Nations have been dealing with a longstanding housing crisis for decades. This crisis extends to all boundaries of rural, remote, and urban areas. The effects of this crisis are severe, leading to physical, mental, and social struggles that impact the educational development of First Nations individuals. The housing crisis effects all aspects of individual and/or family life and leads to insecurity and negative social economic impacts;

**WHEREAS,** AIAI Resolution No. 007/2018, *Safe, Proper, and Affordable Housing* directed the Association to continue to advocate for and explore solutions for housing and homelessness in the member Nation communities;

WHEREAS, further AIAI Resolutions, No. 002/2022, Addressing Housing and Homelessness and 03/2015, Prioritizing Housing in our Communities continue to be prioritized.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to continue working on implementing the Strategic Plan/Action Plan developed at the end of the 2022-2023 fiscal year following the AIAI Housing Symposium. The Action Plan will provide direction for AIAI to better advocate and support member Nation communities, and will include a crucial data collection framework;

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to host a second Housing Symposium during the 2023-2024 fiscal year;



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Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 006/2023 Subject: Implementing Change to Housing and Homelessness

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to seek external funding for a 2023-2024 Housing Symposium and utilize internal unrestricted funds if external financial support cannot be secured.



387 PRINCESS AVENUE LONDON, ONTARIO N6B 2A7

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## Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 007/2023 Subject: Reformation of the 1965 Indian Welfare Agreement

### MOVED BY:

Councillor Kathryn Wilson Hiawatha First Nation

SECONDED BY:
Chief Mary Duckworth
Caldwell First Nation

Certified Copy of a Resolution Adopted on:

June 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Wahta Mohawks WHEREAS, the member First Nations of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (AIAI) affirm their sovereignty, founded in the responsibilities provided to their respective Nations by the Creator;

**WHEREAS,** First Nations' self-determination pre-exists contact with external governments and entities. That self-determination and sovereignty remains today, and has not and cannot be surrendered;

WHEREAS, the 2016 Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) decision found that all objectives set out in the 1965 Indian Welfare Agreement (1965 Agreement) fall severely short of substantive equality to our children/youth;

WHEREAS, the CHRT ordered Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to immediately stop discriminatory practices and reform of the 1965 Agreement;

WHEREAS, several AIAI Resolutions reflect the need for legislative restructuring including Resolution No. 007/2016, 1965 Indian Welfare Agreement, AIAI Resolution No. 001/2012, Potential changes to delivery of Ontario Works benefits under the 1965 Welfare Agreement, and AIAI Resolution No. 006/2012, Increase Funding Under 1965 Welfare Agreement for Social Programs;

WHEREAS, AIAI has had mandates to negotiate with the federal government for over a decade on the 1965 Agreement. The federal government recently confirmed the mandate to commit to reforming all components of the 1965 Agreement.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the General Assembly directs AIAI, with the support and direction of AIAI Health/Social and Advisory Board, to take a proactive role in all processes, negotiations, and/or discussion in relation to the 1965 Agreement;

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to ensure that any changes or reformation of the 1965 Agreement be beneficial and responsive to the needs of the member Nation communities and ensure there is no loss of



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Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 007/2023 Subject: Reformation of the 1965 Indian Welfare Agreement

funding for programs and services that are currently funded under the 1965 Agreement;

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED**, the 1965 Agreement reformation should recognize sovereignty and jurisdiction of all First Nations and reject a pan-Indigenous approach.



387 PRINCESS AVENUE LONDON, ONTARIO N6B 2A7

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## Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 008/2023

**Subject: AIAI Access to Education Data** 

#### MOVED BY:

Chief R. Donald Maracle Mohawk of the Bay of Quinte

#### **SECONDED BY:**

Councillor Jackie Paudash Hiawatha First Nation

Certified Copy of a Resolution Adopted on:

June 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Wahta Mohawks WHEREAS, the member First Nations of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians (AIAI) affirm their sovereignty, founded in the responsibilities provided to their respective Nations by the Creator;

**WHEREAS,** First Nations' self-determination pre-exists contact with external governments and entities. That self-determination and sovereignty remains today, and has not and cannot be surrendered;

WHEREAS, AIAI sits at the Ontario Technical Table – Interim Funding Approach (OTTIFA) on behalf of member Nation communities. OTTIFA aims to evaluate and improve the Interim Funding Approach (IFA), which directs the K-12 budget, in an ongoing manner, ensuring that any IFA adaptions, additions, and proxies are jointly determined with Indigenous Service Canada (ISC) technicians to reflect the specific needs of First Nations students, schools, and communities;

WHEREAS, each AIAI member Nation has unique and specific circumstances and needs related to K-12 education and beyond;

WHEREAS, data provides an evidence-based approach for understanding, measuring, and monitoring member Nation communities' unique and specific educational needs and circumstances, without which, AIAI's advocacy efforts with funders and other partners have a limited scope;

WHEREAS, AIAI requires permission from member Nation communities to obtain high-level data from ISC.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the General Assembly provide AIAI with permission to access education-related data from ISC including nominal roll, agreement type, high-level funding allocation, and funding protection allocations from the 2017-2018 fiscal year to current;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to draft a support letter on behalf of the AIAI Chiefs Council that details written consent to be presented to funders. AIAI Chiefs Council must have adequate time to provide input and feedback on this letter to ensure it meets expectations prior to submitting to funders;



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# Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 008/2023

Subject: AIAI Access to Education Data

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to continue advocating on behalf of member Nation communities to improve and advance their elementary and secondary education program funding formula;

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to work with ISC to obtain data, upon gaining written consent from member Nation communities.



387 PRINCESS AVENUE LONDON, ONTARIO N6B 2A7

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### Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 009/2023

**Subject: Mentorship for Youth Council** 

WHEREAS, the member First Nations of the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians affirm (AIAI) their sovereignty, founded in the responsibilities provided to their respective Nations by the Creator;

**WHEREAS,** First Nations' self-determination pre-exists contact with external governments and entities. That self-determination and sovereignty remains today, and has not and cannot be surrendered;

developing future leaders within First Nations communities, providing guidance,

support, and inspiration for young people. The active involvement of experienced

development of growth and leadership skills, knowledge, attitudes, and values of

WHEREAS, mentorship plays a crucial role in empowering, nurturing, and

First Nations leadership in mentoring programs is instrumental in the

young individuals;

#### MOVED BY:

Chief Dean Sayers Batchewana First Nation

#### SECONDED BY:

Chief Mary Duckworth Caldwell First Nation

**WHEREAS,** AIAI recognizes the significance of mentoring the AIAI Youth Council and promoting their active engagement in decision-making processes;

# Certified Copy of a Resolution Adopted on:

June 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Wahta Mohawks **WHEREAS**, AIAI acknowledges the need to establish effective channels of communication and collaboration between the AIAI Chiefs Council and the AIAI Youth Council.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the AIAI Chiefs Council reaffirms its commitment to mentorship and youth empowerment within member Nation communities;

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED,** the AIAI Chiefs Council agree to actively participate in mentoring relationships to provide guidance, advice, and support to the AIAI Youth Council;

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED,** the General Assembly directs AIAI to organize annual joint meetings between the AIAI Youth Council and the AIAI Chief Council to increase dialogue, understanding, and collaboration between experienced Chiefs and emerging young leaders. During these joint meetings, discussions will aim to



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Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians 54th ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Passed by: CONSENSUS

Resolution No. 009/2023

**Subject: Mentorship for Youth Council** 

**Grand Chief Joel Abram** 

promote mentorship opportunities, share experiences, and develop strategies for enhancing youth leadership development within member Nation communities;

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED**, the General Assembly directs the AIAI Chiefs Council to support the implementation of a mentorship guidance program, recognizing the immense value of investing in and nurturing future First Nations leaders through intergenerational relationships.