



# CHIEFS COUNCIL

*RESOLUTION of the Matawa Chiefs Council passed at the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly in Long Lake #58 to be effective from and after 9:00am Eastern Standard time on 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2013*

## **RESOLUTION #05-01-08-13**

### **SUPPORT FOR PDA RESEARCH AND EVALUATION OF SUBOXONE TREATMENT AND COMMUNITY-BASED AFTERCARE PROGRAM PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, Matawa First Nations have addressed the Prescription Drug Abuse & Misuse since 2000 and several community-based solutions, methods and approaches have been implemented in the First Nations that lead to the development of the Regional PDAM Strategy entitled “Back to Our Roots: Chii Kee Way Meno Biimadeseyung, the Strategy to Overcome Prescription Drug Abuse/Misuse in the Matawa Communities.”; and

**WHEREAS**, Matawa First Nations have strongly advocated for use of Suboxone as one method to assist people with opioid and/or narcotic addiction and that all Matawa First Nations are now implementing and/or in a process of implementing a community-based Suboxone Tapering Program; and

**WHEREAS**, at the 2012 Matawa First Nations “Back to Our Roots Gathering III” in Neskantaga, issues such as, the availability of Suboxone for all First Nations including the road accessible communities, developing partnerships and collectively working on common regional approaches, developing and supporting holistic treatment programs and incorporating traditional aboriginal appropriate healing techniques were strongly voiced; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has approached and met with Matawa Health & Social Services Task Group and have agreed in-principal to collaboratively work on the research and evaluation project and submit “in partnership” the proposal to Ontario Mental Health Foundation.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the delegates of the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly in-principle support and approve the implementation of the Research and Evaluation project to improve the effectiveness of the Prescription Drug Abuse Treatment and Aftercare with a condition that the individual Matawa First Nations are consulted and jointly approve the process with the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, directly benefit from the project, and that, the information and findings are communicated, shared and co-owned by individual Matawa First Nations; and

**FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the delegates of the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly designate the Matawa Health & Social Service Task Group to oversee, direct and coordinate the project through the Matawa First Nations Health & Social Meno Biimadeswin.





# CHIEFS COUNCIL

**MOVED BY:** Chief Elizabeth Atlookan, Eabametoong First Nation

**SECONDED BY:** Chief Peter Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation

**ABSTENTIONS:** None

**CARRIED:** Yes

*Chief Executive Officer*

