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Matawa Chiefs Council

VISION

We will do whatever is necessary in order to protect our land, our water and our resources for the future generations. We agree that we must stand together in order to ensure our nation is protected. Therefore, we assert our Aboriginal and Treaty rights to the land, water and resources by requiring written consent before any development activity may proceed. Failure to consult, accommodate and receive the consent of the First Nation(s) to proceed with any work or activity is an unjustified infringement upon our Aboriginal, Treaty and Custodial rights as First Nations.

MISSION

- 1. Protection of our land, our water and our resources.
- 2. Protection of our Rights as Peoples of the Land. We have Inherent, Aboriginal Title, Custodial and Treaty Rights.
- 3. We respect and trust the autonomy of each First Nation, respecting each other's priorities and paths to reach our common goals.
- 4. We want to maximize opportunities for our Peoples in any developments that they consent to, such as resource revenue and economic benefits.
- 5. We will achieve our goals through control and ownership of any development and activities in our territories.

CURRENT MATAWA CHIEFS COUNCIL

The Matawa Chiefs Council is comprised of nine (9) First Nations Chiefs of the Matawa First Nations. The Council provides overall strategic direction to the organization and broad governance on collective issues.



Chief Dorothy TowedoAroland First Nation



Chief Celia Echum Ginoogaming First Nation



Chief Wayne Moonias Neskantaga First Nation



Chief Rick Allen Constance Lake First Nation



Chief Veronica Waboose Long Lake #58 First Nation



Chief Johnny Yellowhead Nibinamik First Nation



Chief Elizabeth Atlookan Eabametoong First Nation



Chief Bruce Achneepineskum Marten Falls First Nation



Chief Cornelius Wabasse Webequie First Nation



Chiefs Council Office

STAFF:

Paul Capon, Political Advisor Dorothy Okeese, Chiefs Council Secretary

OVERVIEW:

The mandate of the Chiefs Council office is to:

- To provide logistical, technical, policy and political advice to First Nations Chiefs both collectively and individually
- To support managers within Matawa First Nations Management
- To liaise with external organizations to support Matawa First Nation members

MATAWA CHIEFS COUNCIL WORKING GROUP (MCCWG):

Lawrence Baxter, Marten Falls First Nation William Magiskan, Aroland First Nation Peter Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation Gordon Wabasse, Webequie First Nation Wallace McKay, Ginoogaming First Nation Charlie Okees, Eabametoong First Nadtion

Mandate

The MCCWG works with Regional Framework Project Manager and Chiefs Council Staff. It's purpose is to be: a technical support to the Matawa Chiefs Council in the areas of the Regional Framework Agreement and other areas as assigned.

The MCCWG seeks to:

- Analyze, review and recommend collective advice on pending issues
- Develop regional strategies on issues (ie. 4 pillars and beyond)
- Assess critically the negotiations process



- Provide greater insight and understanding, on issues such as revenue sharing, resource equity, treaty obligation, jurisdiction, and other items arising
- Promote information sharing, best-practices, education and communications to Matawa First Nations Leadership
- Promote indigenous knowledge, history and language among Matawa First Nations Leadership
- Identify gaps, research and gather information for First Nations Leadership

CHIEFS COUNCIL OFFICE KEY PRIORITY **AREAS:**

Regional Framework Activities

- Further develop the Regional Framework for Negotiations with Ontario
- Begin to develop a position on jurisdiction within the negotiations
- Lobby the federal government and bring them to the negotiations table.
- Support staff within the Regional Framework Agreement (RFA) Secretariat and Senior Negotiator Bob Rae

Support for Social-Health Needs

- Help to address State of Emergency which has been declared in First Nations due to the Suicide Crisis
- Provide direction on setting up a Matawa Health Co-operative Initiative to support community health programs and services directed by the First Nations
- Support Matawa specific funding allocations within new funding announcements by Ontario and Canada
- Lobby Ministers of Canada and Ontario for immediate community-based programs and health transformation
- Support parents and communities to have greater control over their Child Welfare Services in Thunder Bay and at the First Nation level

Promote Education and Training of First Nation Members

 Work with Matawa Education Staff and KKETS staff to promote community training supports in the areas of adult education, apprenticeships, worker associations and need for worker retention with employers

Promote Safe Communities

- Working with Crime Prevention Committee in Thunder Bay
- Working to establish an Indigenous Peoples Court with other group

Support Infrastructure to First Nations

- Support for First Nation Broadband Working Group and Matawa Broadband Proposal
- Support community based planning and engagement on energy initiatives in the areas of transmission and generation.
- Supported four First Nations that participated in 1st phase of a Road Corridor Study by providing information and advice



ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Regional Framework Negotiations

- Secured new funding agreement with greater flexibility and more administrative supports for Regional Frame Agreement Secretariat and communities.
- Clearer understanding and consensus on negotiations pillars in the areas of Community Benefit Fund and Environment

Infrastructure

- Successful lobbying the federal government for commitments for improved water systems in Constance Lake, Marten Falls and Neskantaga.
- Four First Nations successfully completed Community Road Study with recommendations and lessons learned

Stronger Lobbying on Health and Social Services

Secured funding for a Health Integration Fund to build a Matawa Health Co-operative Initiatives to support First Nations Health needs

CHALLENGES:

Consistent Funding

- There is a need for enough funding to arrive at the right time so communities and Matawa can start initiatives early in the fiscal year
- Funding needs to be long term, not project based or initiatives will falter and staff will be challenged

Community Understanding

Many issues being asked of communities by government are quite complex – translation and interpretation of material and ideas are required. Communication, capacity building and understanding of project management of these issues is necessary but takes time

Multiple Ministries and Departments

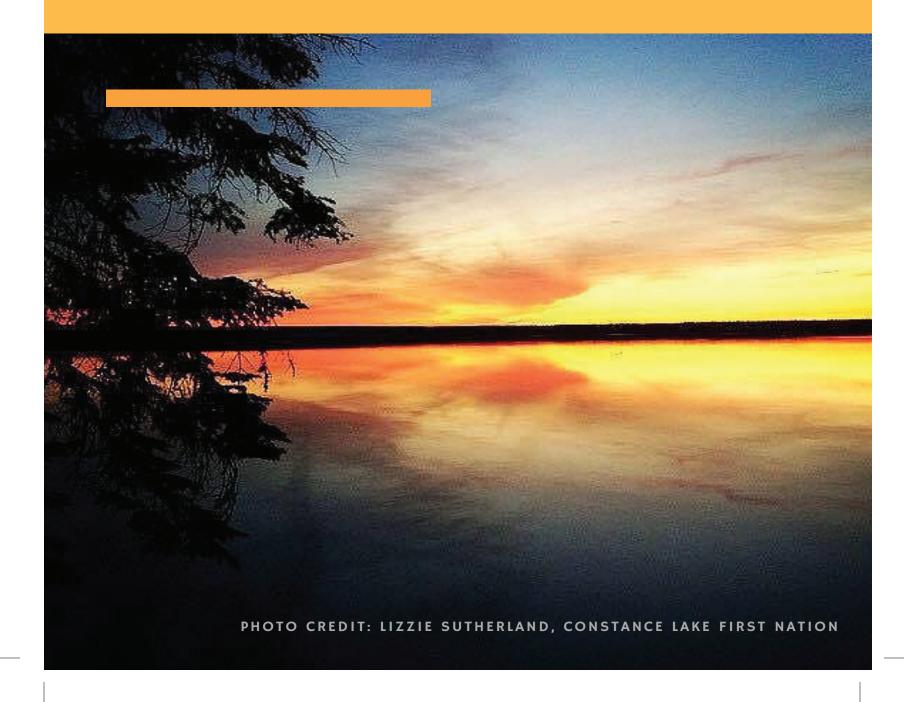
Co-ordinating between the different Ministries and Departments to achieve a whole of government (or one-window) approach is difficult but necessary

OPPORTUNITIES:

- Greater First Nation jurisdiction of First Nation traditional territories
- Increased resources at the community level for projects
- Increased housing and infrastructure support
- Creation of economic structures to support First Nations, owed and operated by communities
- Increase co-operation and working relationship with Nishnawbe Aski Nation



RESOLUTION UPDATES





27th Annual General Meeting

July 28 - 30, 2015 - Aroland First Nation

1	Acceptance of Chairperson and Co-	Chief Sonny Gagnon,	Chief Allen Towegishig,
01-30-07-15	Chairperson for the Matawa Chiefs Council	Aroland First Nation	Long Lake #58 First Nation
	27th AGM		

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly hereby recognize and accept Ruth Baxter as the Chairperson and Mark Bell as the Co-Chairperson for the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly.

UPDATE: N/A

2	Acceptance of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs	Chief Rick Allen,	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,
02-30-07-15	Assembly Agenda	Constance Lake First	Nibinamik First Nation
		Nation	

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly accept the agenda as presented for the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly.

UPDATE: N/A

3	Acceptance of the 2014/2015 Chiefs Council	Chief Allen Towegishig,	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,	
03-30-07-15	Report	Long Lake #58 First	Nibinamik First Nation	
		Nation		
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly accept in-principle the				

2014/2015 Chiefs Council Report as presented for the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly.

UPDATE: N/A

4	Approval of the Matawa Early Years Policy	Chief Allen Towegishig,	Chief Sonny Gagnon,
04-30-07-15	Framework	Long Lake #58 First	Aroland First Nation
		Nation	

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to utilize the framework to inform the development of regional early learning initiatives and to support applications for funding for regional and community-based early learning initiatives.

UPDATE:

Based on the Matawa Early Years Policy Framework, students entering the Kindergarten program have been assessed through the Early Years Evaluation and the Early Development Inventory focusing on the whole child that helps with programming to ensure future success of our students' needs. As of June 2016, funding is no longer provided through the First Nation Student Success Program specifically for Early Learning. Assessment initiatives will continue to be provided through our primary literacy programs within the Matawa schools.

5	Approval of the Renewed Matawa Regional	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
05-30-07-15	Education Strategic Plan (2015-2020)	Nibinamik First Nation	Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly approve the renewed Matawa Regional Education Strategic Plan as presented.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to facilitate information sessions about the new Regional Education Strategic Plan in the Matawa First Nations communities and in Thunder Bay; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Education Department provide annual updates on the implementation of the Regional Education Strategic Plan at the Matawa Chiefs Annual Assemblies.

UPDATE:

Each community was provided with the Matawa Regional Strategic Plan in poster format and hard copies. Quarterly meetings held with the Regional Advisory Committee on Education (RACE) to discuss the direction of the short and long term goals of the plan. Community visits to Chiefs and Councils did not occur due to funding limitations. Over the course of this year proposals have been submitted for Language, Special Education, Structural Readiness, Student and Parents Supports, Post Secondary Partnerships, Teacher Retention Recruitment, Matawa Learning Centre Partnerships, Performance Measurements. All these initiatives will better enable Matawa Education Department and the Matawa Schools move toward achieving the goals that are specified within the Matawa Regional Education Strategic Plan. An annual update on these initiatives will be presented at the Matawa AGM 2016.

6	Options for a Matawa Regional Education	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,	Chief Sonny Gagnon,
06-30-07-15	Management Organization and Authority	Nibinamik First Nation	Aroland First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to continue to develop governance options for the Education Department in collaboration with the Regional Advisory Committee on Education and input from Matawa citizens and leadership; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to communicate with Matawa First Nations leadership and citizens to continue development of a business plan, strategic plan and financial framework to guide the on-going development of the Matawa Education Department; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to present the governance options, business plan, strategic plan and financial framework for approval to the Matawa Chiefs at their 2016 Annual Assembly.

UPDATE:

Matawa Education Department has discussed additional governance options with the Regional Advisory Committee on Education (Co-op model, Incorporation Models). With no clear direction on Federal Legislation pertaining to Education (Bill C-33) further direction from Matawa Leadership will be required to move forward with any of these incorporation options. To support this discussion business plans, strategic plan and financial framework are being developed for the Matawa Education Department and presented to Matawa Chiefs for approval in December 2016.

7	Acceptance of Long Lake #58 First Nation as	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
07-30-07-15	Kiikenomaga Kikenjigewen Training &	Neskantaga First Nation	Eabametoong First Nation
	Employment Services (KKETS) Member		

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly accept Long Lake #58 First Nation as full members of Kiikenomaga Kikenjigewen Employment and Training Services (KKETS) structure and Board of Directors during the transition year and thereafter.

<u>UPDATE:</u> See KKETS report under separate cover.

8	Support for Continuation of Aboriginal Skills	Chief Allen Towegishig,	Interim Chief Bruce
08-30-07-15	and Employment Training Strategy (ASETS)	Long Lake #58 First	Achneepineskum,
		Nation	Marten Falls First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly support the ASETS program as it benefits Matawa First Nations.

UPDATE: See KKETS report under separate cover.

9	Support for Recipients to Maintain Ontario	Chief Proxy Sheri Taylor,	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,
09-30-07-15	Works/Ministry of Community & Social	Ginoogaming First Nation	Nibinamik First Nation
	Services (MCSS) Financial Supports		

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct KKETS and the Ministry of Community and Social Services to formalize their arrangement in supporting participants enrolled in all KKETS training programs; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Ministry of Community and Social Services to continue with the full exemptions for all KKETS participants in receipt of Ontario Works while attending the KKETS training programs.

UPDATE: See KKETS report under separate cover.

	10	Partnership between KKETS and First Nations	Interim Chief Bruce	Chief Proxy Sheri Taylor,
ľ	10-30-07-15	Ontario Works Programs	Achneepineskum,	Ginoogaming First Nation
			Marten Falls First Nation	

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa First Nations' Ontario Works Administrators to refer community clients to the Aboriginal Skills Advancement Programs as the first point of intervention.

UPDATE: See KKETS report under separate cover.

11	Language as a Nation Building Tool	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,
11-30-07-15		Neskantaga First Nation	Nibinamik First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly identify the renewal and revitalization of our languages as a priority for our communities; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa Chiefs in Assembly encourage the use of discretionary funding to initiate or continue language retention and renewal initiatives in individual Matawa First Nations communities; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to make it a priority to identify funding and provide support for language retention and renewal initiatives in Matawa First Nations, schools, including language immersion programs, development of curriculum and resources, and supports for parent/guardians and families; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to report on current language initiatives in Matawa First Nations at the 2016 Annual Chiefs Assembly.

UPDATE:

Proposals were submitted to the Aboriginal Language Initiative, the National Indian Brotherhood Trust Fund to support the development of community based language programs. Unfortunately both proposals were unsuccessful. However, under the First Nation Student Success Program we have received funding for a Native Language Lead for the 2016/17 year to support language programs in the school.

12	Elders Guiding	Interim Chief Bruce	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Abstention:
12-30-07-15	Principles	Achneepineskum,	Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
		Marten Falls First Nation		Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Guiding Principles that were developed at the Elder's Conference (attached to and forming of this resolution) be supported and adopted by the Chiefs Council as vital guiding principles for ongoing negotiations and other work to steward our traditional homelands; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that:

- 1. The Elders Guiding Principles are recognized as a living document which will continue to evolve as Elders from all the Matawa First Nations attend Elders gatherings to engage in dialogue and discussion and work towards a broader set of principles that is supported across the Matawa First Nations; and
- 2. The Elders Guiding Principles in its present and evolving form will provide practical guidance for negotiation efforts.

UPDATE:

A Wisdom Keepers Gathering was held in Thunder Bay on March 1-3, 2016 with Elders. A report was compiled and forwarded to the Chiefs. Key principles and values were shared. Further gatherings were requested.

13	Gathering of Rivers for Community Care	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
13-30-07-15		Neskantaga First Nation	Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly direct the Boards and Staff of the various Matawa organizations to actively promote the Gathering of Rivers for Community Care to support community needs and programs; and

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Management Board of Directors secure funds to undertake strategic and fundraising planning so that the Gathering of Rivers for Community Care can start to raise funds and assist the First Nations in meeting the social, health, and education needs of our communities and our Peoples.

UPDATE:

Due to limited resources, the Board was unable to allocate funds to undertake a fundraising strategy. Per the CEO's presentation to the Matawa Chiefs in June, the charity will continue to be maintained for the benefit of Matawa First Nations. A few small donations came in this year. As of July 7, 2016, the account held a balance of \$23,266.25. Some marketing efforts on social media also took place and will continue.

14	Matawa Regional Intranet Database	Interim Chief Bruce	Chief Rick Allen,
14-30-07-15		Achneepineskum,	Constance Lake First
		Marten Falls First Nation	Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly direct the Boards and Staff of the various Matawa organizations organizations to collaborate with Four Rivers in seeking funding for the implementation of the Matawa Intranet Database with the inclusion of community based capacity building.

UPDATE:

Business relationship with web development company that developed previous Matawa intranet database ran into some challenges, therefore implementation was hindered. Currently, Matawa is looking at replacement software for a document sharing site and are awaiting on potential funding sources.

15	Matawa Aerial Imagery Collection	Interim Chief Bruce	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,
15-30-07-15		Achneepineskum,	Nibinamik First Nation
		Marten Falls First Nation	

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Four Rivers Environmental Services Group will engage with the Land Use Planning Departments in each First Nation; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Four Rivers Environmental Services Group, upon consent of the First Nation, will collect aerial imagery of each Matawa community for those communities' purposes only; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Four Rivers Environmental Services Group will provide all gathered information to each community in a timely manner; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Four Rivers Environmental Services Group will securely store the information on their services for future use by the communities; and

AND FINALLY, FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Four Rivers Environmental Services Group will only use or display the information with the consent of the community.

UPDATE:

In the spring of 2015, Four Rivers Environmental Services Group acquired an unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)/drone to capture aerial imagery of the Matawa member communities. Four Rivers staff took part in training for proper use of the drone. Since acquisition, there have been dramatic changes to UAV technology (simpler and more efficient hardware and software developments resulting in simpler flight planning, better imagery resolution etc.). The Four Rivers team is working with their UAV provider (Pleson Geoscience) to upgrade our equipment and get additional training. Four Rivers Geomatics staff are working with the new equipment and software and anticipate initial deployment of the upgraded system in late summer 2016.

16	Supporting Grid-Connected Power Generation	Chief Sonny Gagnon,	Interim Chief Bruce
16-30-07-15		Aroland First Nation	Achneepineskum,
			Marten Falls First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly will only support new electricity supply solutions in which Matawa First Nations have an equity ownership and/or revenue sharing position; and

FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Matawa Chiefs in Assembly deem industrial selfgeneration proposals in the area to be unacceptable power supply solutions that will block efforts to strengthen regional power infrastructure and drive sustainable, long-term regional economic development.

UPDATE:

First Nations have been utilizing this position in their dealings with IESO through the Matawa Energy Planning Committee. The position will also be used a future reference in future potential energy opportunities.

17	Community Readiness Planning for Remote	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,
17-30-07-15	Electrification for Neskantaga and Nibinamik	Neskantaga First Nation	Nibinamik First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly support the Matawa Economic Development Department's application to the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs Remote Electrification Program.

UPDATE:

Matawa Economic Development has secured funding from the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs for this project. Project activities to date include conducting a gap analysis that will lead into the development of an action plan for Neskantaga and Nibinamik as they prepare for remote electrification in future years.

18	Development of a Stronger Aboriginal	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,
18-30-07-15	Workforce for the Forest Industry	Neskantaga First Nation	Nibinamik First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Economic Development Department to work in partnership with KKETS to secure funding through the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs for a regional training project to upgrade the education attainment and technical skills levels of our First Nations Peoples to increase their employment in the forest industry.

UPDATE:

Matawa Economic Development has assisted in establishing the Agoke Development Corporation and Ginoogam Development Corporation to maximize business opportunities in the Ogoki and Kenogami forests. These business opportunities will provide jobs for many of our people. Matawa Economic Development is working on a capacity building plan that will support the labour supply market for commercial forestry operations and forest management.

19	Matawa Support Position on the Ogoki Forest	Interim Chief Bruce	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
19-30-07-15	Management Licence & Business	Achneepineskum,	Eabametoong First Nation
	Development	Marten Falls First Nation	

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Economic Development Department to secure funding to develop a business plan for the Agoke Development Corporation which will develop forestry related business opportunities for the First Nations; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly do not support the amalgamation of the Ogoki Forest Management Unit with any other forest unit and direct the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to leave it as a stand-alone unit to support our First Nations' position.

UPDATE:

Matawa Economic Development has secured funding for a feasibility study for the Agoke Development Corporation to establish harvesting based operations. Matawa Economic Development has also secured business planning funds for a forest management entity and is collaborating with Four Rivers and the Ogoki Working Group to continue to support the First Nations' position on the Ogoki Forest and lobby for a long term license to manage the forest.

20	Matawa Chiefs Directives for Government	Chief Cornelius Wabasse,	Chief Rick Allen,
20-30-07-15	Funding for Economic Development	Webequie First Nation	Constance Lake First
			Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs direct the Matawa Economic Development Department to work with the Matawa Economic Development Committee to develop a proposal for review and approval by the Matawa Chiefs; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs do not support any government project funding for economic development or business support to any external agencies without our First Nations' written consent.

UPDATE:

The federal government such as FedNor and INAC continue to move forward with funding external organizations like NADF and are making unilateral decisions without our First Nations consent. This resolution is being ignored by the federal government bureaucrats.

21	Support for Students' Residence	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,	Chief Rick Allen,
21-30-07-15		Nibinamik First Nation	Constance Lake First
			Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct KKETS to seek other options for student residency in the City of Thunder Bay.

UPDATE:

See KKETS report under separate cover.

22	Support for Matawa Nishnawbe Worker's	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Cornelius Wabasse,
22-30-07-15	Association	Neskantaga First Nation	Webequie First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly directs the KKETS Board of Directors to develop a Matawa Nishnawbe Worker's Association that will organize our workers into a favourable position to compete for jobs and employment.

UPDATE:

See KKETS report under separate cover.

	23	Support for Kiikenomaga Kikenjigewen	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Interim Chief Bruce
2	3-30-07-15	Employment & Training Services 2016	Neskantaga First Nation	Achneepineskum,
		Strategic Business Plan		Marten Falls First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly directs the KKETS Board of Directors to present the KKETS Strategic Business Plan 2016-2020 to the Matawa Chiefs Council prior to submitting to Employment & Social Development Canada, as required by that funder or any other funder thereafter.

UPDATE:

See KKETS report under separate cover.

24	Support for Continuation for the RoFATA	Chief Cornelius Wabasse,	Chief Allen Towegishig,
24-30-07-15	Training Project as per SPF Announcement in	Webequie First Nation	Long Lake #58 First Nation
	April 2015		

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly directs the KKETS Board of Directors to develop and submit a proposal to ESDC for Phase: 2 of the RoFATA Training Project for consideration of SPF funding.

UPDATE:

See KKETS report under separate cover.

	25	Support for the Application for Sponsorship	Interim Chief Bruce	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,
ľ	25-30-07-15	for Apprenticeship Training	Achneepineskum,	Nibinamik First Nation
			Marten Falls First Nation	

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly directs the KKETS Board of Directors to apply for apprenticeship sponsorship for Matawa trainees and apprentices to MTCU.

UPDATE:

See KKETS report under separate cover.

26	Options to Enhance Supports for Boarding	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,
26-30-07-15	Home Programs	Neskantaga First Nation	Nibinamik First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to explore alternative options to provide supplementary funding for Matawa students residing with boarding home parents; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to present these options to the Matawa Chiefs at their December 2015 meeting.

UPDATE:

In partnership with Right to Play, a student recreation program was initiated in the fall of 2015 for Matawa students based on their interests. A contractor was hired January 2016 to review current policies around boarding homes and student supports, and to survey Matawa secondary students to identify their specific needs and concerns. Based on the identified needs and concerns, discussions have been initiated with the Thunder Bay hospital, city transit, and police to enable their staff to work more positively with Matawa secondary students. YES Employment has facilitated workshops for students attending the Matawa Learning Centre and some are participating in the YES program.

Since December 2015, Matawa staff have been actively involved in the inquest into the deaths of seven First Nation students in Thunder Bay. Several recommendations from the inquest are related to secondary student supports, boarding homes and racism in Thunder Bay. Contact has been made with municipal, provincial and federal departments to discuss how the Matawa Education Department can work with them to implement these recommendations.

27	Review of First Nation Remote Airport Job	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,
27-30-07-15	Description and Salary	Neskantaga First Nation	Nibinamik First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly direct MTO to work with Matawa staff to review and investigate this misclassification and provide a report back to Matawa Chiefs Council as soon as possible.

UPDATE:

Follow up on this issue continues to be ongoing between the Chiefs Council office and Matawa Technical Services. The issue was raised at the MTO Northern Transportation Study meeting that took place on July 21 – 22, 2016 in Thunder Bay. A report will be provided at the 2016 Matawa AGM.

28	Mental Health Services	Chief Sonny Gagnon,	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,
28-30-07-15		Aroland First Nation	Nibinamik First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly seek to develop options for better services, which could include a new mental health and addictions structure, emergency crisis response and financial formula, and work towards transfer to the First Nations; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding be sought to develop these options; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Matawa Chiefs seek to negotiate with the SLFNHA Chiefs Committee on Health and the various Departments/Ministries to initiate these options for better service to our community members.

UPDATE:

As part of the Health Integration Services Fund, Matawa First Nations will be embarking on a consultation process to develop a Health Co-operative Initiative. Mental Health and Addictions services will be part of this. What services, how they are provided and what structure it will look like will be decided. Additional funding will be secured to increase community mental health supports. In addition, an initial meeting between Matawa and SLFNHA Executive Director to share information on the new strategic direction took place in the fall of 2015 and the follow-up meeting did not happen due to conflicting schedules.

29	Strategy to Address Neo and Post Natal	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Rick Allen,
29-30-07-15	Effects of Prescriptions on Pregnant Women	Neskantaga First Nation	Constance Lake First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly direct the MHSSTG to develop a strategy to address neo and post-natal effects of methadone, suboxone, and subutex; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that resources be sought to develop such a strategy which will include research on the impacts of these prescriptions along with prevention and promotion of healthy parenting for mothers and fathers.

UPDATE: Due to lack of resources and other priorities, MHSSTG has not yet begun this project.

30	Funding for Nibinamik Emergency Response	Chief Cornelius Wabasse,	Chief Sonny Gagnon,
30-30-07-15	Coordinator	Webequie First Nation	Aroland First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly demand Canada (Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Health Canada, etc.) and Ontario (Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Ministry of Community and Social Services, etc.) fund Nibinamik First Nation appropriately to address this emergency crisis on the short term and their long term healing.

UPDATE:

Nibinamik First Nation secured resources for the community-based Emergency Response Coordinator.

31	Research Protocol	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,	Interim Chief Bruce Achneepineskum,
31-30-07-15		Eabametoong First Nation	Marten Falls First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly direct Matawa staff to engage with both institutions and Matawa First Nations communities to develop a protocol which will address the issues of data ownership, usage, action research, communications, First Nation credits, community interns, sale of information, usage, community wants and needs, and other conditions; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this protocol be developed prior to a support letter being sent in in early October 2015; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a full proposal will come back to the Matawa First Nations Chiefs for approval prior to submission.

UPDATE:

A proposal was sent to the Local Health Integration Network and Canada Mortgage and House Corporation but was not funded. As part of the Health Integration Services Fund, Matawa First Nations will be embarking on a consultation process to develop a Health Co-operative Initiative. Senior services will be part of this. What services, how they are provided and what structure it will look like will be decided. Additional funding will be secured to increase community senior health supports.

32	Long Term Care Costs	Interim Chief Bruce Achneepineskum,	Chief Proxy Sheri Taylor,
32-30-07-15		Marten Falls First Nation	Ginoogaming First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly direct Health Canada, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, and others to provide funding for seniors to live in safe, affordable and dignified accommodations which do not put a financial hardship on them, their families and First Nations; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations continue pursuing community based long term care facilities which are culturally appropriate and responsive to seniors health needs; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding be sought to do a long term care study of senior needs locally and at a regional level.

<u>UPDATE:</u> Matawa Chiefs Council submitted a proposal but it was not funded.

33	Support for Matawa Financial Advisory	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Sonny Gagnon,
33-30-07-15	Services Department to Seek Funding	Neskantaga First Nation	Aroland First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs direct the Matawa Financial Advisory Services Department to secure funding to work with Band Administration and Finance Officers in preparing a needs assessment for the Matawa Communities and explore potential Professional Development opportunities.

UPDATE:

The Matawa Financial Advisory Services Department was successful in obtaining funds from the Ministry of Northern Development & Mines to host a Band & Sr. Finance Officers meeting in 2015, as well as obtained funds from the FN Financial Management Board (FMB) to host a second in December of 2015. The FMB also provided funds for each FN Band Manager to attend their annual Financial Management Systems Workshop in Winnipeg in March of 2016. The department is currently in negotiations to obtain funding for an independent comprehensive skills and needs assessment with the Federal government.

34	Support for Kiikenomaga Kikenjigewen	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
34-30-07-15	Employment and Training Services Community	Neskantaga First Nation	Eabametoong First Nation
	Facilitation Model (Preparation Program)		

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 27th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly directs the KKETS Board of Directors to develop a Community Facilitation Model (Preparation Program) for a proposal submission to Federal and Provincial governments, and the progress be reported to Chiefs Council on a regular basis.

UPDATE: See KKETS report under separate cover.

35	Equitable Distribution	Chief Cornelius Wabasse,	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Abstention:
	of Benefits	Webequie First Nation	Neskantaga First Nation	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
35-30-07-15				Eabametoong First Nation

Opposed:

Interim Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation Chief Allen Towegishig, Long Lake #58 First Nation Chief Sonny Gagnon, Aroland First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED agreements negotiated pursuant to the Framework Agreement will respect and reflect the potential disproportionate impacts of developments on the remote First Nations.

UPDATE:

Allocation allotments remained the same for the 2016/2017 RFA TPA agreements as they were for 2015/2016 however, future allocations for Matawa member communities is still being discussed and has not yet been determined.

36	Jurisdiction	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Rick Allen,
36-30-07-15		Neskantaga First Nation	Constance Lake First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the creation of a jurisdiction working group which would:

- 1) Focus on self-government/jurisdiction issues that would bring Elder teachings, best practices and explore options from across Canada which would support First Nations in the Matawa area to address the jurisdiction issue(s)
- 2) Liaise with communities and Elders to bring a community perspective on jurisdiction
- 3) Bring jurisdiction paper(s) and engagement/training to communities for greater input
- 4) Bring jurisdiction direction to Chiefs for negotiation process

UPDATE:

A working group was formed and they have developed a terms of reference. They provided direction for the Wisdom Keepers Gathering on March 1-3, 2016. They have review jurisdiction concepts, history, the need for greater education on jurisdiction, and provided recommendations on jurisdiction to the Chiefs in their negotiations. They are seeking funding to conduct research and have greater engagement with Elders, women, youth and the community members. They are looking at Ingenious names and concepts which are grounded in Anishnawbe Omeegegwin Dibenjigawain.

37	Acceptance of Report: Kiikenomaga	Chief Sonny Gagnon,	Chief Allen Towegishig,		
37-30-07-15	Kikenjigewen Employment & Training Services	Aroland First Nation	Long Lake #58 First Nation		
	(KKETS)				
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly hereby accepts-in-principle the 2014-2015 written					
reports of KKE	reports of KKETS.				

UPDATE: See KKETS report under separate cover.

38	Acceptance of the Auditor's	Chief Elizabeth	Chief Sonny Gagnon,	Abstention:
38-30-07-15	Report - Kiikenomaga	Atlookan,	Aroland First Nation	Chief Wayne
	Kikenjigewen Employment &	Eabametoong First		Moonias,
	Training Services (KKETS)	Nation		Neskantga First
				Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly hereby accept and approve the Auditors Report for the KKETS as at March 31, 2015 as presented by Myers Norris Penny; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Myers Norris Penny be appointed as their auditor for the 2015/2016 fiscal year.

UPDATE: See KKETS report under separate cover.

2015/2016 Chiefs Meetings

SEPTEMBER 10, 2015 - EABAMETOONG FIRST NATION

39	Matawa Chiefs Position on Jurisdiction	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Sonny Gagnon,
01-10-09-15	Implementation	Neskantaga First Nation	Aroland First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that on jurisdiction:

- a) The First Nations shall assert their jurisdiction as they have done since time immemorial; and
- b) The First Nations will continue to advance community-based discussions on Jurisdiction as a priority, and develop a plan for coordinating community views on Jurisdiction through a series of meetings in the coming year; and
- c) The First Nations will develop a strategy for integrating the Jurisdictional objectives of the First Nations, and collective views, into the upcoming Negotiations efforts on the Community Benefits Fund, Enhanced Environmental Assessment, and Infrastructure for consideration by the Chiefs at the next Chiefs meeting; and
- d) The strategy will include recommendations for the structure, membership and workplan for an internal working group which will report to the Chiefs.

UPDATE:

A working group was formed and they have developed a terms of reference. They provided direction for the Wisdom Keepers Gathering on March 1-3, 2016. They have review jurisdiction concepts, history, the need for greater education on jurisdiction, and provided recommendations on jurisdiction to the Chiefs in their negotiations. They are seeking funding to conduct research and have greater engagement with Elders, women, youth and the community members. They are looking at Indigenous names and concepts which are grounded in Anishnawbe Omeegegwin Dibenjigawain.

40	Matawa First Nations Community Benefits	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,	Chief Celia Echum,
02-10-09-15	Fund	Eabametoong First Nation	Ginoogaming First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that on the Community Benefits Fund:

- a) The First Nation, along with the Advisors and Lead Negotiator shall develop recommendations to the Matawa First Nations Chiefs Council on possible structures for the Community Benefits Fund; and
- b) Each First Nation will continue working on community wants and needs studies, to assist with planning for the use of the funds; and
- The Lead Negotiator shall schedule a technical session with Ontario to discuss options regarding setting up the fund as soon as possible on the understanding that no decisions or proposals will be agreed to without full approval by communities; and
- d) Chiefs and communities will consider the pros and cons of the federal government's involvement as political events unfold; and
- e) The First Nations, along wit the Advisors, Community Reps and Lead Negotiator shall convene a brainstorming session about how monies in the Community Benefits Fund may be allocated amongst the Matawa First Nations, with attention to community impacts and needs and shall develop a list of options for consideration by the Matawa Chiefs Council at their next meeting.

UPDATE:

- a) Matawa community advisors, along with the lead negotiator's staff have developed several versions of a "Trust" structure they recommended to the Chiefs. The latest draft will be revised based on comments from the Chiefs at the June 27th 2016 meeting.
- b) Community wants and needs are being compiled by every community and are at varying levels of completion.
- c) The Lead Negotiations team has met with Ontario reps to discuss details regarding various structures such as a Trust, however no specific structure has been agreed to yet by the Chiefs, however they continue to work on this.
- d) Chiefs and communities have encouraged the Lead Negotiator to engage the federal government in negotiations, however, have had no formal response as to their involvement with the RFA negotiations.
- e) The First Nations, along with the Advisors, Community Reps and Lead Negotiator have not yet convened a brainstorming session about how monies in the Community Benefits Fund may be allocated amongst the Matawa First Nations, however, the Matawa Chiefs have received a briefing note from the negotiations team on suggested allocation considerations. No decisions have been made yet, however, it will be the Matawa Chiefs who meet to determine the suggested allocations and then it will be considered by communities.

41	Matawa First Nations Position on Enhanced	Chief Sonny Gagnon,	Chief Wayne Moonias,
03-10-09-15	Environmental Assessment	Aroland First Nation	Neskantaga First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that on jurisdiction:

- a) The First Nations shall assert their jurisdiction as they have done since time immemorial; and
- b) The First Nations will continue to advance community-based discussions on Jurisdiction as a priority, and develop a plan for coordinating community views on Jurisdiction through a series of meetings in the coming year; and
- The First Nations will develop a strategy for integrating the Jurisdictional objectives of the First Nations, and collective views, into the upcoming Negotiations efforts on the Community Benefits Fund, Enhanced Environmental Assessment, and Infrastructure for consideration by the Chiefs at the next Chiefs meeting; and
- The strategy will include recommendations for the structure, membership and workplan for an internal working group which will report to the Chiefs.

UPDATE:

The First Nations have asserted their jurisdiction and have sent a letter to Premier Wynne to meet on the topic. She has not yet accepted the invitation to meet and discuss jurisdiction. The Matawa communities have held gatherings to attempt to gather data on jurisdiction including a 3 Nations gathering in July 2015 to determine Guiding Principles, and a Wisdom Keepers Conference. The subject continues to be discussed in communities and at RFA and Chiefs meetings in an attempt to coordinate community views on Jurisdiction. The First Nations have formed a Chiefs' Sub-Committee to develop a strategy for integrating the Jurisdictional objectives of the First Nations into the RFA Negotiations by attempting to define jurisdiction and how it applies to the CBF, EEA and Infrastructure. The Sub-Committee has developed a Terms of Reference which have been submitted to the Chiefs for consideration.

42	Matawa First Nations Position on	Chief Cornelius Wabasse,	Chief Rick Allen,
04-10-09-15	Infrastructure	Webequie First Nation	Constance Lake First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that on infrastructure:

- a) The Chiefs express their profound concern in writing to the province that studies have been undertaken by the Ring of Fire Secretariat and Infrastructure Ontario without consideration or approval by the First Nations, and insist that respect must be shown to the government to government relationship. The Chiefs and communities reaffirm that in no way are they bound by either the process or the results of Ontario's studies; and
- The Advisors and Lead Negotiator shall raft an Infrastructure Study Proposal based on the details set out in our Infrastructure Concept Paper, and shall ensure that the Proposal incorporates existing community road studies; and
- Once the Matawa communities and Chiefs approve of the Infrastructure Proposal, the Lead Negotiator shall share the draft with Ontario and schedule a technical session to discuss it and insist that any additional studies proposed by the First Nations must be funded by the Province; and
- The Advisors and Lead Negotiator shall review the ongoing Ontario infrastructure studies as they are completed by the Province of Ontario, and recommend to the Matawa Chiefs Council where properly funded supplementary studies are needed; and
- The Lead Negotiator shall continue to insist that Ontario respond to Marten Falls about the road proposal that it has presented to Ontario and that the agreements with both Marten Falls, Webequie and/or other Matawa First Nation(s) agreements must be respected.

UPDATE:

The Chiefs received a copy of all of the infrastructure studies the Province initiated once they were complete. The Advisors and Lead Negotiator drafted an Infrastructure Study Proposal and submitted it to the province through the RFA negotiations process. This concept paper included all of the discussion points the Chiefs noted as priority, however no response has been received from Ontario yet on it. The province has verbally agreed to ensuring Marten Falls gets their community access road built, and work is underway by the province working with Marten Falls to see that process through.

43	Matawa Chiefs	Chief Sonny Gagnon,	Chief Allan Towegishig,	Opposed:
05-10-09-15	Council Working	Aroland First Nation	Long Lake #58 First Nation	Interim Chief Bruce
	Group			Achneepineskum,
				Marten Falls First Nation
				Chief Rick Allen, Constance
				Lake First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Matawa First Nations Chiefs form a working group to direct this process, to include Willie Magiskan, Peter Moonias, Gordon Wabasse, Wally McKay and Charlie Okeese which will provide options for Chiefs Council review, including their political role; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Management seek financial resources to implement this resolution.

UPDATE:

A working group was formed and they have developed a terms of reference. They provided direction for the Wisdom Keepers Gathering on March 1-3, 2016. They have review jurisdiction concepts, history, the need for greater education on jurisdiction, and provided recommendations on jurisdiction to the Chiefs in their negotiations. They are seeking funding to conduct research and have greater engagement with Elders, women, youth and the community members. They are looking at Indigenous names and concepts which are grounded in Anishnawbe Omeegegwin Dibenjigawain.

44	Matawa Chiefs Position on Tikinagan Services to	Chief Sonny Gagnon,	Chief Wayne Moonias,
06-09-09-15	Matawa First Nations	Aroland First Nation	Neskantaga First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Tikanagan Child and Family Services work to implement the recommendations of the Tikanagan Review in the Matawa First Nations; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Tikanagan Child and Family Services support pilot projects in each Matawa First Nations community to initiate flow-through agreements for family support workers (FSWs) who will provide family support services, customary care promotion, family prevention services, and to work in partnership with Tikanagan Child and Family Services.

UPDATE:

A position paper on securing First Nation control over their children and supporting First Nation jurisdiction over children has been prepared and forwarded to Chiefs and Councils for review. This includes a proposed direction to bring back family support workers under First Nations control to support parenting and community customary care

45	Matawa Chiefs Position on	Chief Elizabeth	Chief Johnny	Abstention:
07-09-09-15	Jurisdiction with Child and	Atlookan,	Yellowhead,	Chief Allen Towegishig,
	Family Services	Eabametoong First	Nibinamik First Nation	Long Lake #58 First Nation
		Nation		

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Matawa First Nations Chiefs direct Tikanagan Child and Family Services and Dilico Child and Family Services to come together and make an agreement which support the Matawa First Nations service needs in Thunder Bay based on Mamow Obiki-Ahwahsoowin Service Agreement; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Matawa Chiefs support the Tikanagan Chiefs committee with the Dilico Chiefs committee to resolve the services delivery issues in Thunder Bay for Matawa children and families; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, the Ministry of Community and Social Services, and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care/LHIN direct their agencies, including Thunder Bay Child and Family Services, to establish a parallel protocol agreement with Tikinagan Child and Family Services.

UPDATE:

Matawa appointed Louis Sugarhead to the Joint Tikinagan/DILICO committee. Ministry of Youth and Children Services have been informed of the Matawa Chiefs position. A position paper on securing First Nation control over their children and supporting First Nation jurisdiction over children has been prepared and forwarded to Chiefs and Councils for review.

46	Un-spent Funds from Aboriginal Skills	Chief Sonny Gagnon,	Chief Rick Allen,
08-10-09-1	Advancement Program	Aroland First Nation	Constance Lake First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that KKETS not be penalized for efficiencies and partnerships developed and thereby have to return funding to MTCU; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED any surplus the ASAP program be redirected into job-readiness programs for Matawa members to improve their employability as per the original intentions of the program.

UPDATE: See KKETS report under separate cover.

NOVEMBER 19 - 20, 2015 - MATAWA BRANCH OFFICE - THUNDER BAY

47	Regional Framework Next Steps	Chief Dorothy Towedo,	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum,
01-20-11-15		Aroland First Nation	Marten Falls First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MATAWA FIRST NATIONS CHIEFS DIRECT THAT:

- 1) The Lead Negotiator shall share with Ontario the Enhanced Environmental Assessment Process Agreement, the Ring of Fire Infrastructure Development First Nations Consulting Assistance Request for Proposals, and the Proposal for Community Development Fund Discussion Paper (collectively, the "Proposals");
- 2) The Lead Negotiator shall schedule sessions with Ontario to discuss the Proposals, with priority on the proposals on infrastructure and the community development fund;
- 3) The Lead Negotiator shall regularly report back to the Chiefs on the progress of the discussions;
- The First Nations will continue to engage their respective community-based processes, which have made substantial contributions to discussion documents on the Community Development Fund, Environmental Assessment, and Infrastructure, and will actively plan for upcoming discussions with Ontario in all areas referenced in the Regional Framework Agreement as well as the continuing internal discussions on Jurisdiction;
- At the direction of the Chiefs Council, the Lead Negotiator will schedule follow-up meetings with Ontario and the presentation of further Proposals. All discussions with Ontario will reflect the commitment to a community driven process as well as respect for Indigenous jurisdiction;
- This resolution will not negatively impact or undermine any existing or future community agreement, protocol or process (i.e.: MOUs, MOCs as per the Regional Framework Agreement);
- The lead negotiator will continue to assist in communications, engagement, education and reporting back to community members on all processes, as invited by the Chief(s).

UPDATE:

Concept Papers have been submitted to Ontario in November 2015 re: a) Enhanced Environmental Assessment b) Ring of Fire Infrastructure Request for proposals and c) Community Benefits Fund. MNDM has responded with an Enhanced Environmental Assessment – Agreement in Principle – which is being re-drafted once again to return to Ontario.

48	Matawa Chiefs Council Working Group -	Chief Allen Towegishig,	Chief Cornelius Wabasse,
02-20-11-15	Amendment	Long Lake #58 First Nation	Webequie First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Chiefs amend the Chiefs Council Working Group Resolution #05 – 10/09/2015 to include Lawrence Baxter.

UPDATE:

See update on Resolution #05-10-09-2015 on page 21.

49	Membership Program at Matawa First Nations	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
03-20-11-15		Neskantaga First Nation	Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nation Chiefs supports the continuation of their membership program at Matawa First Nations Management for Aroland, Eabametoong, Marten Falls, Neskantaga, Nibinamik and Webequie First Nations; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the latest form of photo identification be made available to Matawa First Nations Management for their members; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that additional support be provided to Matawa First Nations Management to provide additional identification services to First Nation members who needs support securing other forms of identification.

UPDATE:

Membership Services has been following its continued support and mandate to provide the six communities mentioned in the resolution and administered by Matawa. The identification services have been channeled through giving members awareness through newsletters, etc. and other resources that are available.

50	Membership Study at Matawa First Nations	Chief Dorothy Towedo,	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum,
04-20-11-15		Aroland First Nation	Marten Falls First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nation Chiefs supports the Research Proposal; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations staff assist in developing the proposal, including adhering to the Tri-Council Policy on Research Involving the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples of Canada, recognizing the principles of Ownership, Control, Access and Permission (OCAP) of information; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED Matawa First Nations continue to work with parents, communities, agencies, hospitals, and governments to assist with identification policies that are effective, confidential and non-discriminatory.

UPDATE

The Membership research proposal has been completed and the information will be forwarded to First Nations and the membership department to better serve communities.

FEBRUARY 2 - 3 - PRINCE ARTHUR HOTEL AND FEBRUARY 4, 2016 - MATAWA BRANCH OFFICE - THUNDER BAY

51	Health and Social Planning Progress and	Chief Dorothy Towedo,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
01-04-02-16	Implementation	Aroland First Nation	Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MATAWA FIRST NATIONS CHIEFS SUPPORT:

- 1) To establish a group consisting of Matawa Manager of Health, (3) community Health Directors and Elder Advisor to examine a Matawa Health Authority and/or alternate Health & Social Delivery System for communities to take over their services by looking at models, best practices, engaging with governments and agencies, etc.
- 2) Matawa First Nations Management to seek funds to retain 1 Regional Consultant and 9 Community-based Health & Social Facilitators to map out all the current health and social services/staff for Matawa First Nations and to develop options, recommendations, plans, phases, timelines and budgets.
- Matawa First Nations Management to seek funding from current programs and other funders both this and the next fiscal year, such as Regional Framework, Strategic Partnership Initiative, Health Canada Social Services Integration Funding, and others to develop the plan and its various components.
- That the recommendations of the working group be presented at the Matawa Annual General Meeting in July 2016.

UPDATE:

Matawa applied and recently received funding from the Health Integration Services Fund. Matawa First Nations will be embarking on a community consultation process to develop a Health Co-operative Initiative. Mental Health and Addictions, Senior Services, Nursing and Physicians Services will be part of this. Goals:

- 1. To improve the health and wellbeing of Matawa communities and community members;
- 2. To coordinate and integrate health and social services for Matawa communities; and,
- To develop and implement health and social services infrastructures in preparation for future regional mineral and resource developments.

Community and culturally appropriate services will be looked at to see how this can be provided and what will be the governing structure.

Health Update:

- 1. Not yet discussed with the MHSSTG continuing to seek funds for the group to meet.
- 2. Proposal that was submitted to HISF by Chiefs Council was approved. Secured a Regional Consultant but nothing for the Community-Based Facilitators.
- 3. Submission to SPI and waiting for response.
- 4. Working Group will be established at the next MHSSTG meeting on July 28, 2016. No recommendations coming froth from the MHSSTG.

52	First Nations' State of Emergencies –	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
02-04-02-16	Suicide Epidemic	Neskantaga First Nation	Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs Council direct Matawa Health Task Group with Matawa First Nations Management to begin the process of establishing a strategy on how the First Nations can start a process of establishing suicides to meet definition under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*; and FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Management work with Nishnawbe Aski Nation to work on this process; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the recommendations from the Selena Sakanee Inquest and the Bruce Moonias Inquest and any other inquiries/reports which have not been implemented, be acted upon immediately; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Management start working with the Matawa member First Nations to identify options to present to the Matawa Chiefs at the 2016 AGM with a final report on a Matawa wide strategy on suicides; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Management seek resources to begin to work on this development expediently as possible.

UPDATE:

MHSSTG has not been able to meet to discuss and revise the strategy (Draft Suicide Prevention 2010 and Crisis Management Strategy 2013).

53	Neskantaga First Nation Suicide Epidemic	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
03-04-02-16	State of Emergency	Neskantaga First Nation	Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nation Chiefs demand that the governments of Canada and Ontario adequately fund Neskantaga First Nation to meet the full costs of the State of Emergency as defined under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the governments of Canada work with Matawa First Nations and Nishnawbe Aski Nation to formally recognize suicides as an epidemic that meets the definition as an emergency under the *Emergency Management* and *Civil Protection Act*;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the recommendations from the Selena Sakanee Inquest and the Bruce Moonias Inquest and any other Inquiries/Reports, which have not been implemented, be acted upon immediately.

UPDATE:

Matawa participated in the NAN Technical Working Group meetings related to the state of emergencies declared. A Joint Political Table was established to address the issues.

54	Creation of a Matawa Environmental	Chief Johnny Yellowhead,	Chief Dorothy Towedo,
04-04-02-16	Technical Committee	Nibinamik First Nation	Aroland First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs Council support the development of a Matawa Environmental Technical Committee to provide advisory supports to the Four Rivers department and its initiatives; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that funding be sought to support the work of the committee;

UPDATE:

Four Rivers have completed presentations on the Matawa Environmental Technical Committee (METC) and its vision to Chiefs as well as to MMTC members. Follow up letters have been sent to Chief and Councils with requests for community member delegates to sit on the METC. Currently we have received delegates from Aroland First Nation, Ginoogaming First Nation, Marten Falls First Nation, Long Lake #58 First Nation and Eabametoong First Nation. Unfortunately, funding to support this initiative has yet to be secured. Proposals to each individual community have gone out for their review and consideration to advance funding supports.

55	Matawa First Nations Comprehensive	Chief Celia Echum,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
05-04-02-16	Community Planning and Regional Plan	Ginoogaming First Nation	Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs direct Matawa First Nations Management to secure financial and human resources that is outside or in additional to the Ring of Fire Framework Agreement funding to assist in the development of a comprehensive community plan in each of our nine First Nations; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that once each comprehensive community plan is completed that a Tribal Council Regional Plan for Matawa First Nations Management be developed to support the implementation of our First Nations comprehensive community plans; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that funding requests should not compete with current community processes that are underway and Matawa First Nations Management should make efforts to enhance current community planning processes through capacity building and other means as directed by the communities.

UPDATE:

Matawa First Nations has been challenged by NADF with securing funding to implement this resolution. INAC and FedNor continue to utilize NADF as a service delivery organization to complete comprehensive community plans despite our First Nations lack of support for funding to be allocated to NADF.

56	Tribal Chair/Spokesperson	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Celia Echum,
06-04-02-16		Neskantaga First Nation	Ginoogaming First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE MATAWA CHIEFS SUPPORT:

- 1) That the Matawa First Nations Chiefs delegate the Chiefs Working Group to come up with a job description, selection process, terms of reference and budget for a Tribal Chair/Spokesperson; and
- 2) Matawa First Nations Management to seek funds to secure any technical support and travel for the Chiefs Working Group to develop and make recommendations; and
- 3) The Working Group work with the Matawa First Nations Management and Board of Directors to plan for this in the next fiscal year; and
- That the recommendations of the Chiefs Working Group present their recommendations to the Matawa First Nations Chiefs Council early in the new fiscal year 2016.

UPDATE:

A working group was formed and they have developed a terms of reference. They provided direction for the Wisdom Keepers Gathering on March 1-3, 2016. They have review jurisdiction concepts, history, the need for greater education on jurisdiction, and provided recommendations on jurisdiction to the Chiefs in their negotiations. They are seeking funding to conduct research and have greater engagement with Elders, women, youth and the community members. They are looking at Ingenious names and concepts which are grounded in Anishnawbe Omeegegwin Dibenjigawain. The working group has made recommendations to the Chiefs to support a more co-ordinated political approach to the Chiefs Council.

MARCH 5, 2016 - TORONTO

57	Matawa First Nations Support for Interim	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum,
01-05-03-16	Satellite Infill Project	Eabametoong First Nation	Marten Falls First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs Council support K-Net Services proposal and applications for funding for the Additional Infill Satellite Broadband Capacity as an interim solution until fibre cable reaches the First Nations, and;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Matawa Chiefs direct the Matawa Broadband Working Group to continue to pursue capital funding to construct a fibre option inter-community network.

UPDATE:

The proposal was submitted to NOHFC and FedNor however they have rejected due to it being a temporary solution. The Matawa Chiefs discussed this resolution in April 2016 and directed that the Regional Framework Agreement Lead Negotiator raise this project with the Province of Ontario to seek funding immediately. The Matawa Broadband Working Group continue to pursue capital funding to construct a fibre option inter-community network.

58	Regional Framework Agreement for	Chief Rick Allen,	Chief Veronica Waboose,
02-05-03-16	Community Health and Social	Constance Lake First Nation	Long Lake #58 First Nation
	Wellness Pillar		

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THE MATAWA FIRST NATIONS CHIEFS DIRECT THAT:

- Regional Framework Agreement funding in the 2015/2016 fiscal year currently allocated to communities can be used for First Nation Health Departments to help begin the planning process through various forms of community engagement and research, and
- 2) That reports for this engagement will be rolled into the First Nations Final Report.

UPDATE:

Matawa has sought to bring a stronger health and social wellness component to the Regional Framework. This included supporting the HISF application regionally. It has lobbied Ontario to open up the Regional Framework Contribution Agreements so communities could more access these funding for health planning.

59	Mineral Development Information and	Chief Celia Echum,	Chief Rick Allen,
03-05-03-16	Support Officer Continuation	Ginoogaming First Nation	Constance Lake First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs support continuing the position of a Mineral Development Information and Support Officer at Matawa First Nations, Four Rivers; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Mineral Development and Support Information Officer (MIDSO) Position Proposal include additional funding for additional capacity building and supports at the First Nation level to take on added responsibility and that this training position be multi-year funded.

UPDATE:

The MIDSO Position has been approved for funding and will continue for another 3 years, currently there are two new funding streams associated with the MIDSO position which are 'Education' and 'Geomatics'. Collaboration with the Economic Development department has taken place in order for the EC DEV office to apply for the 'Education' stream as there has been a shift in the role of the MDISO position. Four Rivers is currently completing an application to the 'Geomatics stream'.

APRIL 27, 2016 - MATAWA BRANCH OFFICE - THUNDER BAY

60	Negotiations Funding for Regional	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,	Proxy Lawrence Baxter,
01-27-04-16	Framework in 2016/2017/2018	Eabametoong First Nation	Marten Falls First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs Council hold Ontario to its commitment of \$5,000,000.00 as base funding for the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 fiscal years for Regional Framework Negotiations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding flow as close to April 1st in each year so each community can spend their full allocations and not be burdened by banking service charges; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that additional funding be sought for each First Nation with workplans and budgets that exceed the annual allocation and to conduct studies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding flow to Matawa First Nations as a flow through to First Nations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding to communities be based on the 2014/2015 community allocations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that reviews be conducted by the communities and Matawa First Nations to monitor community deficits and surpluses, and with community approval, to reallocate resources for financial shortfalls or other collective community priorities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the regional allocation or community allocations under the Regional Framework Funding will not negatively impact any community Memorandum of Understanding with Ontario.

UPDATE:

Matawa has assisted communities with the flow through of funds for 2016/2017 funding year. RFA funds received by MNDM June 2, 2016. RFA funds deposited by Matawa into First Nations' accounts on June 3, 2016. Regional Framework Department has solidified additional funds from MNDM to host quarterly meetings for the RFA TPA Joint Workplan Team. The Team is comprised of Matawa First Nation community members, Regional Framework Department staff and 2 representatives from MNDM. The Team will collaborate and be proactive in improving and streamlining the workplan reporting and funding processes and to maximize efficiency of the administration of the RFA overall. Goals of the RFA TPA Joint Workplan Team includes: reviews; monitoring of deficits and surpluses; and community approved reallocations of surpluses for financial shortfalls. 2016-2017 funding to communities was based on the 2014/2015 community allocations and did not negatively impact any community Memorandum of Understanding with Ontario.

61	Permits in Eabametoong Traditional	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,	Chief Rick Allen,
02-27-04-16	Territory	Eabametoong First Nation	Constance Lake First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Matawa First Nations Chiefs Council resolves to support the efforts of Eabametoong First Nation to obtain a meaningful consultation and accommodation process in relation to permits issued for exploration, and to support their legal efforts to quash any permits issued without adequate consultation, should legal action be determined necessary by Eabametoong.

UPDATE: Resolution provided to Eabametoong First Nation.

62	Continuation of Four Rivers Services	Proxy Lawrence Baxter,	Chief Rick Allen,
03-27-04-16		Marten Falls First Nation	Constance Lake First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs support continuing the current services offered by Four Rivers at Matawa First Nations Management; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs support working jointly with Four Rivers to secure additional sources of funding to further support community initiatives; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs support the expansion of Four Rivers' services to include community environmental wellness initiatives and regional infrastructure project support.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED the Matawa First Nations Member First Nations Chiefs call on the federal and provincial governments and their appropriate departments to support Four Rivers and provide the necessary funding for these critical services.

UPDATE: Four Rivers is currently in conversations and no commitments have been received to date.

63	Permits in Aroland Traditional Territory	Chief Dorothy Towedo,	Chief Rick Allen,
04-27-04-16		Aroland First Nation	Constance Lake First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs Council resolves to support the efforts of Aroland First Nation to obtain a meaningful consultation and accommodation process in relation to permits issued for exploration, and to support their legal efforts to quash any permits issued without adequate consultation, should legal action be determined necessary by Aroland; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs Council acknowledge that Aroland First Nation will seek legal counsel from Kate Kempton, OKT, to handle legal matters related to the KWG file for Aroland First Nation, irrespective of the work of OKT for the Matawa First Nations Regional Framework.

UPDATE: Resolution provided to Aroland First Nation.

MAY 16, 2016 - TIMMINS

64	Nishnawbe Aski Legal Services	Chief Rick Allen,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
01-16-05-16	Corporation Board Appointment	Constance Lake First Nation	Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs appoint Chief Celia Echum as their Board of Director on Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services Corporation.

UPDATE: Resolution provided to Nishnawbe-Aski Legal Services Corporation.

JUNE 1, 2016 - TORONTO

65	Regional Framework 2015/2016	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum,	Chief Rick Allen,
01-01-06-16	Unexpended Funds	Marten Falls First Nation	Constance Lake First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Chiefs Council travel in 2015/2016 and Four Rivers travel and work pertaining to the Regional Framework be able to be charged this holdback funding so as much of the original five (5) million can be expensed in 2015/2016; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that \$100,000.00 for Ginoogaming First Nation be made available to them for costs incurred during the 2015/2016 fiscal year.

UPDATE:

Matawa has sought to negotiate with Ontario for any overage in uncommitted funding to support additional costs incurred in the Regional Framework discussion. Negotiations are ongoing and difficult.

66	Indigenous Health Investments in the	Chief Cornelius Wabasse,	Chief Celia Echum,
02-01-06-16	Ontario First Nation Health Action Plan	Webequie First Nation	Ginoogaming First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Chiefs call upon Ontario to direct funding to a Matawa Frist Nations allocation so First Nations can develop their own community based solutions and/or Matawa Regional Health Services Delivery Options; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Federal Government makes similar investments in First Nations health and that Matawa have a similar allocation.

UPDATE:

Since the State of Emergency was declared, Matawa First Nations Chiefs have sought support for their own processes to better respond to their needs. They have lobbied both Federal and Provincial Ministers of Health and INAC, presented papers to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Youth Suicide and lobbied the staff in the various ministries, and Nishnawbe Aski Nation.

67	ROFATA II: Nishnawbe Trades Training Program	Chief Celia Echum,	Chief Dorothy Towedo,
03-01-06-16		Ginoogaming First Nation	Aroland First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs hereby direct KKETS to develop the ROFATA II: Nishnawbe Trades Training Program to continue with the training and enter into negotiations with Human Resources Development Canada for the continuation of the ROFATA Project and its training regime; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the partnerships will outline direct job commitments a head of time and that these partnerships will be communicated to the First Nations before any agreements are finalized.

UPDATE: See KKETS report under separate cover,

68	Jurisdictional Letter to Premier and Prime	Chief Wayne Moonias,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
04-01-06-16	Minister	Neskantaga First Nation	Aroland First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs authorize electronic signatures be used for a joint letter to Premier Wynne and Prime Minister Trudeau.

<u>UPDATE:</u> Letter sent to Premier Wynne and Prime Minister Trudeau.

69	Acceptance of the Matawa Energy Planning	Chief Veronica Waboose,	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
05-01-06-16	Committee Terms of Reference	Long Lake #58 First Nation	Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs accept the Energy Planning Committee Terms of Reference as presented and authorize the member First Nations Economic Development staff to work together to leverage the economic development initiatives of our communities and our Region under the Terms of Reference; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs direct Matawa First Nations Management to advocate on the Committee's behalf for funding and support for all its projects, priorities and activities.

UPDATE:

The Matawa Energy Planning Committee is developing a workplan and setting up a meeting with the IESO to table discussions on moving forward to implement this resolution.

70	Regional Economic	Chief Bruce Achneepineskum,	Chief Celia Echum,	Abstention:
06-01-06-16	Development Strategy	Marten Falls First Nation	Ginoogaming First	Chief Elizabeth Atlookan,
			Nation	Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa First Nations Chiefs support seeking funding for an economic development strategy and start-ups associated with the strategy; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that a report be given at the upcoming Matawa Annual General Meeting and on-going Chiefs meetings.

UPDATE:

Matawa Ecoomic Development is developing a proposal to secure funding to development an economic strategy with the Matawa Economic Development Committee (EDOs).



















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