



CHIEFS COUNCIL

RESOLUTION of the Matawa Chiefs passed at the 34th Annual General Meeting in Webequie First Nation to be effective from and after 1:00 pm Eastern Standard Time on July 26, 2022.

RESOLUTION #09-28-07-2022

INCREASED FUNDING FOR POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS

WHEREAS, post-secondary education is both an inherent right and a treaty right, and is part of a lifelong learning journey that has been proven to have a positive impact on the health, including mental health, and social and economic wellbeing of individuals and communities, and;

WHEREAS, the number of successful Matawa post-secondary students is increasing, along with the number of Matawa members who want to attend post-secondary institutions, while federal funding for post-secondary student support has not increased to keep up with the actual costs of attending a post-secondary institution and is insufficient to provide support for the growing number of potential post-secondary students has increased due to COVID as many potential students are unable to participate in online learning due to poor connectivity in the Matawa communities and;

WHEREAS, further delaying the post-secondary education of Matawa members may have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing of both individuals and communities at a time when there are significant challenges being faced by our communities, as well as major opportunities for growth and full participation in the economic development of our region, requiring well-educated individuals in our communities, so;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Nishnawbe Aski Nation, the Chiefs of Ontario, and the Assembly of First Nations to advocate for an immediate, substantial increase in funding for the federal Post-Secondary Student Support Program to meet the actual needs of students in the 2022-2023 academic year, and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Nishnawbe Aski Nation, the Chiefs of Ontario, and the Assembly of First Nations continue to advocate for a process that will ensure adequate, sustainable, long-term funding is available to support all First Nation post-secondary students to successfully complete their post-secondary education, and;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that owing to the estimated 300% increase required in post-secondary funding, Matawa First Nations Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa First Nations Management and Matawa Education to seek immediate and additional funding to support post-secondary students from the Matawa First Nations, and;





CHIEFS COUNCIL

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct the Matawa Chiefs' Spokesperson for Education, Matawa Education and Matawa education leadership to continue to advocate for Matawa post-secondary students with Nishnawbe Aski Nation, the Chiefs of Ontario, and the Assembly of First Nations, and;

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that Indigenous Services Canada and Canada change its post-secondary funding formula in the spirit of reconciliation immediately for the benefit of Matawa First Nation members.

MOVED BY: Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation
SECONDED BY: Chief Judy Desmoulin, Long Lake #58 First Nation

OPPOSITION(S): None
ABSTENTION(S): None

CARRIED: Consensus

Chief Executive Officer

