



C H I E F S C O U N C I L

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

RESOLUTION #19-01-08-13

Establishment of a Matawa Regional Education Management Organization and Authority

Whereas, the Matawa Chiefs affirm the inherent and treaty rights of Matawa First Nations to govern and administer the education of their citizens, and

Whereas, the Matawa Education Department has successfully provided regional advisory services and program support and resources to Matawa First Nation schools, and post-secondary administrative and student support services for 5 Matawa First Nations; and

Whereas, the Government of Canada is creating legislation that will impact the funding, operations and programming of First Nation schools beginning in September 2014, and the content of this legislation will not be known until a draft First Nations Education Act is released in the Fall of 2013; and

Whereas, the Assembly of First Nations, Chiefs of Ontario, Nishnawbe Aski Nation and other First Nation groups and organizations have denounced this pending legislation and have indicated a need for political action to address any unilateral development and implementation of legislation that affects First Nation education; and

Whereas, there is a need to ensure the programs and services being delivered through Matawa First Nation schools continue to be supported through federal funding, and that Matawa First Nation schools are able to take full advantage of any new or additional funding initiatives that may become available through future federal programs or other sources;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the delegates of the 25th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department, in co-operation with the Regional Advisory Committee on Education and the Matawa Chiefs' Spokesperson for Education, to establish a governance and financial framework, strategic plan, and business plan for a Matawa Regional Education Management Organization and Authority and to report back to the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly for final approval and full implementation prior to September 1, 2014; and





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Further Be It Resolved that the delegates of the 25th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department and its successor organization to continue to provide support to Matawa First Nation schools to maintain and enhance elementary and secondary programs and services in their schools, and to continue to provide education advisory and post-secondary services to Matawa First Nations; and

Further Be It Resolved that the delegates of the 25th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department and its successor organization to develop and maintain effective communication strategies with Matawa First Nation communities to ensure the citizens and leadership of Matawa First Nations have input into the development and are informed of regional education activities and initiatives; and

Finally Be It Resolved that the delegates of the 25th Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly direct the Matawa Education Department to ensure that the acceptance of any federal funding for education initiatives does not imply acceptance of the pending First Nation education legislation or any abrogation of Matawa First Nations' inherent and/or treaty rights.

MOVED BY: Chief Celia Echum, Ginoogaming First Nation

SECONDED BY: Chief Johnny Yellowhead, Nibinamik First Nation

ABSTENTIONS: Chief Peter Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation

CARRIED: Yes

Chief Executive Officer

