



CHIEFS COUNCIL

RESOLUTION of the Matawa Chiefs passed at the 33rd Annual Matawa Chiefs Assembly in Thunder Bay, Ontario to be effective from and after 1:00pm Eastern Standard time on September 16, 2021.

RESOLUTION #15-16-09-2021

FUNDING FOR MATAWA EDUCATION AND CARE CENTRE STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

Whereas in 2016 the Matawa Education and Care Center (formerly known as the Matawa Learning Centre) as one of the testifying parties, and the Matawa First Nations welcomed the recommendation in the inquest into the Death of Seven Youth and in particular recommendation 52 which refers to First Nation schools off-reserve have adequate funding for building operations and maintenance and student accommodations operated by First Nation organizations off-reserve; and

Whereas the Matawa Chiefs Council, through **Resolutions #13-28-07-16** and **#05-03-08-17** have endorsed and supported the development of the Matawa Education and Care Centre (MECC) to provide accommodation and wellness support services for Matawa students attending secondary school in Thunder Bay; and

Whereas renovations to the Matawa Education building in Thunder Bay are near completion and on-site accommodation for MECC students will be available in February 2022 and will require stable and secure funding to ensure the on-going provision of accommodation and related student wellness services at the MECC; and

Whereas in the fall of 2018, former Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) Minister Philpott stated that funding to support student accommodation and support services would be discussed once the residential portion of the facility was ready to receive them; and

Whereas funding for secondary student accommodation is provided through the federal private home placement allotment, which currently is provided to First Nations for dispersal to providers of student accommodation; and

Whereas direct payment of the federal private home placement allotment to MECC for students residing at the MECC facility would provide a timely, stable and reliable method of funding these essential services for Matawa secondary students;





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Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Matawa Chiefs Council direct the Matawa Education Department to meet with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to follow up on the previous commitment made by former ISC Minister Philpott to have MECC identified as a recipient of federal private home placement allotment funding, and that this be in place prior to February 1, 2022; and

Further Be It Resolved that the Matawa Chiefs' Spokesperson for Education and Matawa education leadership provide advocacy and support to ensure MECC is identified as a recipient of federal private home placement allotment funding; and

Finally, Be It Resolved that the Matawa Education Department provide regular updates to the Matawa education leadership and the Matawa Chiefs Council.

MOVED BY: Chief Solomon Atlookan, Eabametoong First Nation
SECONDED BY: Chief Sheldon Oskineegish, Nibinamik First Nation

OPPOSED: None.
ABSENTIONS: None.
CARRIED: Consensus (X)

Chief Executive Officer

QMS #: COM TEM 008
ISSUE DATE: July 2, 2014

DEPT: Communications
REVISION # / DATE: _____ / _____

APPROVED BY: COM MGR

