



## CHIEFS COUNCIL

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

### RESOLUTION #14-28-07-2022

#### DEVELOPMENT OF A MATAWA FIRST NATIONS YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH STRATEGY

**WHEREAS** First Nation youth have a growing rate of mental health concerns such as, but not limited to: Addiction, Anger, Anxiety, Bullying, Body Dysmorphia, Depression, Eating Disorders, Educational Disparity, Family Violence, Gender Identity issues, Loss and Grief, Peer pressure, Psychosis, Trauma, Self-Harm, Stress, Substance Abuse, and;

**WHEREAS** First Nation youth are experiencing compounding mental health crises due to barriers such as, but not limited to, wait times, travel constraints, housing limitations and that these mental health issues go unacknowledged, untreated and unseen, and;

**WHEREAS** as a result of unchecked and untreated mental health issues, First Nation Youth have an increased suicide rate that is growing in our communities, so;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly mandate Matawa First Nations Management to develop a *Matawa First Nations Youth Mental Health Strategy* that will include the organization of a Matawa Youth Gathering, identification of needs for holistic, culturally appropriate mental health services to our youth, and;

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED** that, as part of this Strategy, current mental health service delivery models be identified and reviewed by a Matawa First Nations Youth Council to identify all perceived service gaps and access barriers, and;

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED** that, the Matawa Chiefs Council support the application to various funders such as, but not limited to: Jordan's Principle, Indian Residential School Funding, Indigenous Services Canada, Ministry of Long-Term Care for capital, travel, equipment and staffing to support children and youth at the community level, and;

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED** that the *Matawa Youth Mental Health Strategy* will not conflict with community mental health initiatives already funded at the community level, however, will support the expansion and accessibility of existing community programs access and delivery models.

**MOVED BY:** Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation

**SECONDED BY:** Chief Bruce Achneepineskum, Marten Falls First Nation





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

**CARRIED:** Consensus

Chief Executive Officer

