



## CHIEFS COUNCIL

*RESOLUTION of the Matawa Chiefs deferred from the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting in Neskantaga First Nation to be effective from and after 9:00 am Eastern Standard Time on September 18, 2024*

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### **RESOLUTION #07-18-09-2024**

#### **SUPPORT FOR ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH, ADDICTIONS, AND SUICIDE PREVENTION**

**WHEREAS** Matawa Chiefs' *Resolution 08-11-09-2020* identified mental health, addictions, and suicide prevention as critical health concerns for Matawa First Nations community members, particularly amongst Matawa youth; and

**WHEREAS** the rates of death due to intentional and unintentional injuries are 4.6 times higher for Matawa First Nation members compared to the rest of Ontario, as identified in the Mamow-Ahyamowen Partnership's report *Learning from our Ancestors: Mortality Experience of Communities Served by Matawa First Nations (2020)*; and

**WHEREAS** the Matawa Education and Care Centre currently supports Matawa students and youth through in-school programming and supports, as well as through its various after-hours student support services, including the Safe Sobering Site, On-call Service and Outreach Program;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa Education to continue to develop, effectively implement and enhance programs focused on mental health, addictions, and suicide prevention among Matawa students and youth; and

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa Education to work with other Matawa agencies, organizations and programs, such as the Awashishewiigiihiwayin Next Steps Program, to ensure Matawa students and youth have access to culturally appropriate supports and services that meet their needs; and

**FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED** nothing in this resolution will interfere or conflict with community or other corporate initiatives that might be similar; and

**FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Matawa Chiefs in Assembly direct Matawa Education to access funding and resources to effectively develop and implement these programs for Matawa students and youth.



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**MOVED BY:** Proxy Councillor Colleen Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation  
**SECONDED BY:** Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation

**OPPOSITION(S):** 0  
**ABSTENTION(S):** 0

**CARRIED:**

Chief Executive Officer