



CHIEFS COUNCIL

RESOLUTION of the Matawa Chiefs passed at the 37th Annual General Meeting in Aroland First Nation to be effective from and after 1:00 pm Eastern Standard Time on July 29, 2025

RESOLUTION #11-31-07-2025

CALL FOR COORDINATED RESPONSE AND ADVOCACY TO ADDRESS THE DEATH OF NESKANTAGA FIRST NATION YOUTH MACKENZIE MOONIAS

WHEREAS, Mackenzie Moonias was a 14-year-old youth attending the Matawa Education and Care Centre (MECC) for her first year of high school, and she went missing on December 13, 2023. Mackenzie was later found deceased at the Thunder Bay marina on December 18, 2023, and;

WHEREAS, since the passing of Mackenzie Moonias, her family, friends and community of Neskantaga First Nation have not been provided with any insight into the circumstances surrounding Mackenzie's death, and inadequate information or further updates from the Thunder Bay Police Service (TBPS) on the status or outcomes of an investigation, and;

WHEREAS, the prolonged lack of answers and closure for the family, friends and community continues to add to the grief from this significant loss and trauma from this event, so;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Matawa First Nations Management (MFNM) CEO's Office to prepare a coordinated response and advocacy plan to demand a formal written response from the Thunder Bay Police Service (TBPS), other related law enforcement agencies if required, and the Ontario Coroner, and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that MFNM CEO's Office work with Nishnawbe Aski Nation and Matawa organizations to coordinate additional supports such as legal advice, advocacy, grief and trauma supports for the family, friends and community of Mackenzie Moonias, and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs-in-Assembly acknowledge that there are other missing persons, deaths and unexplained circumstances of our Matawa people, and this specific resolution for Mackenzie Moonias is requested by her family, friends and community of Neskantaga First Nation, and;

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the MFNM CEO's Office and necessary technical staff to report on this resolution as the Matawa Chiefs Council continue to monitor and direct.

MOVED BY: Chief Gary Quisess, Neskantaga First Nation

SECONDED BY: Chief Sheri Taylor, Ginoogaming First Nation





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

CARRIED.

Chief Executive Officer

QA #: COM TEM 007

Issue Date: July 2, 2014 | Revision #1 - Nov 2, 2018 | Revision: #2 – June 8, 2022

Department: Communications

Approved by: COM Manager



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