



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 #07-31-07-2025

REJECTION OF HERBICIDE SPRAYING IN MATAWA TERRITORY AND HOMELAND

WHEREAS, the Matawa member First Nations People and future generations possess and assert their Inherent Aboriginal rights as land stewards, protectors and guardians to prevent damage to our environment, ecosystems, territories and homelands, and;

WHEREAS, the Matawa member First Nations People and future generations possess and assert their Treaty right to hunt, fish, trap, gather and access their territories and homelands – Treaty rights that are recognized and affirmed by the *Constitution Act*, 1982 Section 35, and;

WHEREAS, the Matawa member First Nations People are advised of the continued practice of herbicide spraying is planned by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) as part of provincial forest management operations without direct dialogue and consent of the Matawa member First Nations, and;

WHEREAS, the Matawa member First Nations have significant concerns arising from herbicide spraying and the potential health risks posed to humans, wildlife, vegetation, soils, air and water, so;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the territory and homeland-wide rejection of herbicide spraying within all forest management units including industry corridors, easements, and rights-of-way that impact Matawa First Nations' community traditional territories, the asserting of our rights including the provision of free, prior and informed consent to this activity and the protection of the Matawa territory and homeland from this Treaty-right infringement of our health and environment, and;

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Matawa Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Matawa First Nations Management (MFNM) CEO's Office, necessary technical staff (Chiefs Council Office, Lands, Resources & Rights, Communications, Four Rivers Environmental Group), and First Nations-owned forestry corporations to support the advocacy requirements on this issue as the Matawa Chiefs Council may continue to monitor and direct.

MOVED BY: Chief Rick Allen, Constance Lake First Nation

SECONDED BY: Chief Sheri Taylor, Ginoogaming First Nation

OPPOSITION(S): 0

ABSTENTION(S): 0





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CARRIED.


Chief Executive Officer

