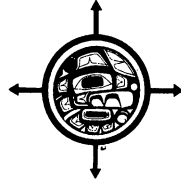


OUR LAND IS OUR FUTURE

UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA INDIAN CHIEFS

FOUNDING HEAD OFFICE
345 Yellowhead Highway
Kamloops, B.C. V2H 1H1
Tel: (250) 828-9746
Fax: (250) 828-0319



VANCOUVER OFFICE
5th Floor, 342 Water Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1B6
Tel: (604) 684-0231
Fax: (604) 684-5726
Email: ubcic@ubcic.bc.ca
Website: www.ubcic.bc.ca

UNION OF B.C. INDIAN CHIEFS CHIEFS COUNCIL VANCOUVER, B.C.

Resolution no. 2007-60

RE: Child Welfare and Shuswap Nation Tribal Council

WHEREAS the UBCIC Chiefs Council's goal is to support the work of our people in our common fight for the recognition of our aboriginal rights and respect for our cultures and societies;

WHEREAS the Chiefs Council are unified in the belief and opinion that our children are the foundation for our future and are supportive of all strategies and activities that promote the betterment of existing conditions and improve the chances for positive, healthy, safe and happy futures for our children;

WHEREAS in December, 2006 the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council passed a tribal council resolution that called for the Provincial Minister to establish a framework for negotiations that would promote the recognition of our inherent jurisdiction including the recognition of a non-delegated model for child welfare work within the communities;

WHEREAS thereafter, the Minister continued to ignore the request of the communities and instead asserted and attempted to force the delegated authority model upon all First Nations, which, by design does not recognize the culturally significant differences of First Nations and our inherent rights and jurisdiction over our own peoples;

WHEREAS in August, 2007 the Secwepemc Nation Bands signed a "Secwepemc Child Welfare Declaration" which promoted the common goal of protection of children and families and pledged a commitment to explore alternative models to establish and assert our inherent authority as a Nation;

WHEREAS the Province has made a commitment to bring about a "New Relationship" with First Nations based on respect and recognition of aboriginal title and rights, and a commitment to explore alternatives to adversarial practices that have marked the relationship between First Nations and the Province in the past;

WHEREAS the United Nations adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People on September 13th 2007 stating in; "**Article 6. No Genocide** Indigenous peoples have the collective right to

live in freedom, peace and security as distinct peoples and to full guarantees against genocide or any other act of violence, including the removal of indigenous children from their families and communities under any pretext.”

WHEREAS UBCIC Chiefs Council have supported the further development and implementation of the Vision and Goals following the Principals and Action Plans as stated in the “New Relationship” document for the benefit of all First Nations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCIC Chiefs Council fully support the initiative of the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council in their efforts to engage the BC Provincial Government in discussions that will result in the formal recognition of the inherent jurisdiction of the Secwepemc in child and family matters and say that this initiative is an opportunity for the Province to bring life to the “New Relationship” in a real and positive manner;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UBCIC Chiefs Council urge the Provincial Government to enter into a dialogue with the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council that will uphold the honour of the crown and allow the Shuswap Nation Tribal Council member Bands the opportunity to exercise their own jurisdiction over their special future resources, the children;

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the UBCIC Chiefs Council urge the Provincial Government to reconsider its decision to enact legislation to enable Regional Aboriginal Authorities until such time that MCFD fully consults and secures informed consent of the Indian Nations governing authorities.

Moved: Chief Wayne Christian Splatsin
Seconded: Grand Chief Doug Kelly, Proxy for Kwaw Kwaw APilt FN
Disposition: Carried
Date: November 22, 2007