

## RESOLUTION # 0301.11

**SUBJECT: MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

---

**WHEREAS**

- A. The Minister for Children and Families invited certain aboriginal organizations to participate on an Aboriginal Advisory Committee to advise and assist him in addressing issues relating to the safety and well-being of aboriginal children and families, in particular reducing the high number of aboriginal children in care and returning those children to their communities where it is appropriate to do so.
- B. A draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) has been developed by the Ministry and the aboriginal organizations to demonstrate their political will to establish a joint dialogue process, on a government-to-government basis, to address these issues. As a political document, the signatories (Parties) will be:
- First Nations Summit;
  - Union of BC Indian Chiefs;
  - United Native Nations;
  - Metis Provincial Council of BC; and
  - Province of BC (Minister for Children and Families and Minister of Aboriginal Affairs)
- C. The joint dialogue process will be carried out through the Aboriginal Advisory Committee which will be comprised of representatives of the Parties, as well as representatives of the following aboriginal service delivery agencies, which will provide their expertise to the Committee:
- BC Association of Friendship Centres;
  - Native Courtworkers and Counseling Association of BC;
  - First Nations Agency Directors' Forum; and
  - United Aboriginal Child and Family Directors' Association.
- D. As the MOU is a political document, the aboriginal service delivery agencies will not be parties to the MOU. Rather, it is expected they will sign the MOU in a separate section to indicate their support of it as members of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee.
- E. The MOU is not intended to derogate from or displace any existing protocols, agreements or memoranda of understanding. It is also not intended to limit or replace any treaty or other negotiations, the bilateral nation-to-nation relationship between aboriginal peoples and Canada or the Crown's fiduciary obligation to aboriginal peoples.

**PAGE 2**

**RESOLUTION # 0301.11**

**SUBJECT: MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' ABORIGINAL ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE - MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**

1. That the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly approve in principle the attached draft MOU, which establishes a joint dialogue process, on a government-to-government basis, to address issues relating to the safety and well-being of aboriginal children and families, in particular reducing the number of children in care, to be carried out through an Aboriginal Advisory Committee.
2. That the Chiefs in Assembly delegate authority to the Task Group to finalize the MOU and execute it on behalf of the First Nations Summit.

**MOVED BY:** Chief Larry Baird, Ucluelet First Nation  
**SECONDED BY:** Chief Maureen Chapman, Sto:lo Nation  
**DATED:** March 9, 2001

Passed by consensus.