

TREATY No. 6



TREATY No. 7



TREATY No. 8

## ASSEMBLY OF TREATY CHIEFS RESOLUTION

**RESOLUTION:** 27-01-2010/#002 R

**SUBJECT:** FIRST NATIONS INFORMATION GOVERNANCE CENTRE

**WHEREAS** the Chiefs of Treaty No. 6, Treaty No. 7, Treaty No. 8 (Alberta) known as the Assembly of Treaty Chiefs did meet in a duly convened Special Chiefs Assembly on Health held at the Edmonton Marriot, River Cree Resort & Casino at Enoch Cree Nation on January 26 & 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010; and

**WHEREAS** The First Nation Communities in Treaty No. 6, Treaty No. 7, Treaty No. 8, have been actively involved and strongly supported the First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey (**RHS**) process over the past 14 years from its evolution as a pilot survey to the present day; and

**WHEREAS** The RHS is the only national research initiative carried out under the complete control of First Nations in keeping with the First Nations principles of Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (OCAP) and has served as the expression of self determination and exercise of First Nations jurisdiction over information. This initiative has supported First Nations capacity - regionally , locally and nationally in information management, data collection, analysis and interpretation, dissemination and protecting individual and collective privacy rights while creating the base for a First Nations health information structure (First Nation Information Governance Centre); and

**WHEREAS** The Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Chiefs Committee on Health (CCOH) passed a motion on June 23, 2009 to support the establishment of a First Nations Information Governance Centre as a stand alone entity. The AFN Executive Committee agreed on July 19, 2009; and

**WHEREAS** a Resolution was passed at the AFN Special Chiefs Assembly in December 2009 in support of a National Stand Alone Entity; and

**WHEREAS** This new Centre will be structured as a national hub, with satellite regional offices, similar to the current RHS model, that will support and house the First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey (RHS) as well as other research, information management and surveillance initiatives; and

**WHEREAS** The Centre will promote, protect and advance the First Nations Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (OCAP) principles, the Inherent Right to self determination and jurisdiction in research and information management; and

**WHEREAS** The Centre will build the research and information management capacity of First Nations, serve as a training centre, support knowledge transfer, act as a data repository and be the premier source of relevant, quality information and data on the social, health and wellness of First Nations which will serve to support policy development and informed decision making at all levels; and

**WHEREAS** The RHS has evolved to a level of development at the regional and national levels whereby a dedicated, self sufficient First Nations Information Governance Centre comprised of regional satellite offices and a central office is now required to ensure a strong research and data collection and protection process that is compliant with a First Nations cultural framework and the principles of Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (OCAP) and will remain accountable to the First Nations communities and leadership; and

**WHEREAS** The AFN adhering to First Nations regional approval processes will communicate and seek approval, by resolution, on a proposed federally incorporated framework, organization and accountability structure of the Centre; and

**WHEREAS** The Centre will continue under current financial resources dedicated to the RHS process to support the infrastructure regionally and nationally. The Centre will seek and capitalize on funding opportunities that target First Nations information, research, training and data activities which can best be addressed through this First Nations driven and accountable organization. Funding allocations for completion of the RHS will be transferred to this new Centre; and



**WHEREAS** The development of the Centre is now necessary for First Nations at the local, regional and national level to continue to support the exercise of First Nations jurisdiction over information, to obtain and use credible First Nations data to make informed decisions about the health, social wellness and impacts in First Nations communities, and to facilitate responsible and effective communications and information sharing based on that credible information.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Chiefs-in-Assembly:

1. Support the development of the First Nation Information Governance Centre that will be comprised of satellite offices in each region as determined under our regional strategy and design pending regional support resolutions. The Center will be structured as a federally incorporated Centre and governed by a mandate board that will be directly accountable to First Nations through existing practices and structures; and
2. Requests the Assembly of First Nations and its mandated governing bodies, such as the Chiefs Committee on Health and the First Nations Information Governance Committee, support and seek the necessary financial resources and commitment from the Federal Government for the First Nations Information Governance Centre at the regional and national levels; and
3. That a letter be prepared and signed by the Grand Chiefs of Treaty No. 6, Treaty No. 7 and Treaty No. 8 to the Federal Minister of Health and Indian and Northern Affairs, indicating that the First Nation Communities in Alberta supports the development of a First Nations Information Governance Centre, and that the resources allocated to obtain First Nations information, data collection, health surveillance and information management processes be directed to support First Nations regional and national capacity and institutional developments as governed by and for First Nations; and
4. That the established First Nations Information Governance Centre at both, the regional and national levels, will not interfere with or hinder any FOIP processes that the First Nations may have established within their communities.

**MOVED BY: CHIEF CHARLES WEASELHEAD,  
BLOOD TRIBE**

**SECONDED BY: CHIEF CLIFFORD POUCKETTE,  
WESLEY – STONEY FIRST NATION**

**QUESTION CALLED**


**VOTE: CARRIED**

**FOR: 30**

**AGAINST: 0**

**ABSTENTIONS: 2**

**RESOLUTIONS CHAIRPERSON:**

  
**Marlene Poitras**