

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF CHIEFS  
Head Office: Long Plain First Nation  
January 31, 2012**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**ECC JAN-12.09  
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**Moved by:**

Chief Barry Swan  
Lake Manitoba First Nation

**Seconded by:**

Chief Murray Clearsky  
Waywayseecappo First  
Nation

**CARRIED**

**RE: SUPPORT FOR WATER AS A HUMAN RIGHT RESEARCH**

**WHEREAS**, the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC) Chiefs-in-Assembly Annual General Assembly (AGA) 2010 adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) which is an international standard and serves to uphold the rights of First Nations as Indigenous Peoples with a right to self-determination including equitable access to comparable services and resources, and equitable treatment in all aspects of cultural, economic, political and social prosperity; and

**WHEREAS**, in July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly declared “the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation is a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights”; and

**WHEREAS**, INAC's report, National Assessment of First Nations Water and Wastewater Systems states that 39 per cent of First Nation water systems and 14 per cent of the wastewater systems are considered high-risk, and that in Manitoba, 28 per cent of water systems and 10 per cent of wastewater systems on reserve have major deficiencies that pose a high risk to water quality. However, that report does not take into account the risk of living in homes without running water; and

**WHEREAS**, in June 2011, the Centre for Human Rights Research at the University of Manitoba invited AMC and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO) to join academic researchers in a potential research project on the internationally recognized human right to clean drinking water and adequate sewage services with information of potential research partnerships distributed at the AMC AGA, MKO AGA, Northlands and Island Lake. This new research consortium is focusing on drinking water and sewage issues for Manitoba First Nations. Two working groups made up of University of Manitoba researchers and Indigenous community partners are forming teams to explore legal, health, economic, technical and advocacy issues; AMC will continue to be involved by assisting in the planning of a symposium on Water as a Human Right for the spring of 2012; and

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**RE: SUPPORT FOR WATER AS A HUMAN RIGHT RESEARCH (con't)**

**WHEREAS**, representatives from the AMC have been actively involved in preliminary work to date by the Centre for Human Rights Research at the University of Manitoba to ensure Manitoba First Nations are engaged in determining the research direction and, as per the certified resolution JAN-07.01 and amendment to the AMC Constitution, that the First Nation Ownership, Control, Access, Possession (OCAP), free prior, informed consent, and First Nations Ethical Standards are followed.

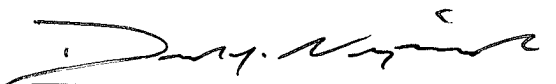
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the AMC Executive Council of Chiefs supports the involvement of AMC with the inclusion of the Southern Chiefs Organization (SCO) with the Centre for Human Rights Research (CHRR); and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the AMC encourage First Nations to partner with the CHRR and other related organizations to undertake programs of research aimed at producing evidence and advocacy to support the fundamental right of AMC members and other First Nations in Canada to safe drinking water and sewage services; and

**FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED**, that that the ECC supports AMC's involvement in the planning of a symposium on the "Human Right to Water" for interested communities in the spring of 2012 to ensure strong First Nation representation.

**CERTIFIED COPY**

**of a Resolution adopted on January 31, 2012  
Brokenhead Ojibway Nation, Manitoba**



**Grand Chief Derek Nepinak, Chair  
Executive Council of Chiefs**