OUR LAND IS OUR FUTURE

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UNION OF B.C. INDIAN CHIEFS
CHIEFS COUNCIL
MARCH 9TH - 10TH, 2011
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Resolution no. 2011-14

RE: Independent Assessment Process of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement

WHEREAS the overarching goals of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement (IRSSA) are healing and reconciliation;

WHEREAS compensation components of IRSSA are the Common Experience Payment (CEP) ad Independent Assessment Process (IAP) as well as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and Commemoration;

WHEREAS the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights on Indigenous* Peoples sets out that:

- **Article 7(2):** Indigenous peoples have the collective right to live in freedom, peace and security as distinct peoples and shall not be subjected to any act of genocide or any other act of violence, including forcibly removing children of the group to another group.
- **Article 8(2)**: States shall provide effective mechanisms for prevention of, and redress for:
  (a) Any action which has the aim or effect of depriving them of their integrity as distinct peoples, or of their cultural values or ethnic identities;
  (c) Any form of forced population transfer which has the aim or effect of violating or undermining any of their rights;
  (d) Any form of forced assimilation or integration;

WHEREAS there is a shortage of Resolution Health Support Workers (RHSW) and Cultural Support Workers (CSW) to provide adequate health support to former Indian Residential School Students, and they are not adequately trained to deal with the trauma associated with sexual abuse and violence; and,

WHEREAS the IAP has a process where Persons of Interest (POI) are identified and the current process is a "cold call" to the alleged perpetrator, which threatens the health and safety of former Indian Residential School students who are contacted as POI;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs Council directs the UBCIC Executive to request a meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister Elisabeth Chatillor; Director General of Operations of Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement, Luc Dumont; and the Assistant Minister of Health Canada to:

a) Change the policy for contacting Persons of Interest (POI);
b) Establish a protocol for contacting POIs that will ensure the health and safety of former Indian Residential School students impacted as a POI;
c) Implement the protocol as soon as possible, due to the short time frame remaining for the AIP, September 19, 2112; and
d) Advise Canada we will support any legal action necessary resulting from the POI porcess

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UBCIC Chiefs Council direct the UBCIC Executive to advocate for adequate numbers of RHSW and CSP workers with appropriate training to deal with IAP applications and trauma associated with disclosures in the IAP process.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a process be establish to collaborate with British Columbia First Nation Treatment Directors Association to include trauma treatment to respond to the needs of the IAP process.

Moved: **Chief Wayne Christian, Splatsin**
Seconded: **Chief Micheal LeBourdais, Whispering Pines Indian Band**
Disposition: **Carried**
Date: **March 10, 2011**