OUR LAND IS OUR FUTURE

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UNION OF B.C. INDIAN CHIEFS
CHIEFS COUNCIL
JUNE 1ST - JUNE 2ND, 2011
VANCOUVER, B.C.

Resolution no. 2011-28

RE: Support of the Native Indian Football Association of BC (NIFA) Soccer Programs

WHEREAS the Native Indian Football Association (NIFA) is the Aboriginal soccer body for developing and providing soccer opportunities for Aboriginal players from the grassroots to the International forum;

WHEREAS NIFA is recognized for developing a high standard of coaches who in turn support and coach community village teams and Aboriginal Team BC, and coaching must be of the highest standard;

WHEREAS the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* sets out in Article 24(2) that "Indigenous individuals have an equal right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health";

WHEREAS NIFA is recognized for hosting provincial soccer tournaments and coordinating youth soccer camps across BC and Canada, and NIFA has built elite soccer teams and programs that play at provincial, national and international level tournaments;

WHEREAS NIFA has been given the opportunity to develop a national level program of men and women, which will be based in BC, working with other provincial Aboriginal soccer partners, that will select national level elite soccer players to participate in a pilot project of friendly matches in Brazil in 2013, and ultimately compete at the Inaugural Indigenous World Cup in 2016 in Brazil.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs Council fully supports the Native Indian Football Association (NIFA) in organizing more youth and senior soccer tournaments and to raise the standard of coaches in the Aboriginal Community;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs Council fully supports the development of elite youth soccer teams that have the opportunity to participate at international

competitions through NIFA, as well as the development of a National Level Soccer Program of Men and Women to compete at the inaugural indigenous Soccer Programs in Brazil in 2011 and 2013;

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED the UBCIC Chiefs Council calls on the mainstream soccer community in BC and Canada to partner with NIFA in development and preparation of soccer teams that will travel to and compete at the Indigenous Pilot Soccer matches and the Inaugural Indigenous World Cup in Brazil.

Moved: **Chief Geronimo Squinas, Lhooskuz Dene Nation**
Seconded: **Chief Lenora Fletcher, High Bar First Nation**
Disposition: **Carried**
Date: **June 2nd, 2011**