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Over the past year, our focus has been even more closely directed not only on obtaining recognition of our jurisdiction but also on exercising that jurisdiction. Where we are able to act on our jurisdiction, independently or in true partnerships, we succeed. Where our jurisdiction is not recognized, when we are considered “stakeholders”, failure follows.

We have had a great many successes this year. Our books are yet again in the black and we have a small surplus which allows us to develop a contingency fund. Our staff of 50 – 62 persons is primarily First Nation and over half of our staff belong to member First Nations. Our communications department has begun a branding strategy so that all of our programs and actions will be recognized as ours. We are entering the world of social media with a youth Facebook page. We are making greater use of teleconferencing, web conferencing and other forms of electronic communication. We have begun a role models project honouring our citizens. We have issued 50 press releases and have had 145 mentions in the media. We are moving ahead with considering a new office space. We have been reincorporated under federal legislation. We convened a special assembly in July 2011 to consider direct elections. Administratively, NAN has had a good year.

Internet accessibility has been an extraordinary boon for NAN First Nations. However, the equipment is aging and as more and more of us become internet users, the system is becoming bloated. NAN is participating in a multi-proponent project to install broadband communication in 26 First Nations. This is a major infrastructure project which provides multiple opportunities for economic development in our First Nations. To facilitate accessing such opportunities, NAN has supported the organization of a holding company (Co. Co.) and a construction company (Con. Co). Within the next half decade these 26 First Nations will have urban level internet services at a reasonable price.

We are now participating in international dialogue on climate change. Working with a PhD student from Lakehead University, we will produce three reports based on the 45 interviews that were done in 10 NAN First Nations. This will not only add to the international information base, it will also raise NAN's profile internationally and will enhance recognition of the depth, breadth and value of our traditional knowledge. We have expanded our international work having made contact with the International Union of Concerned Naturalists, the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and the UN Commission on Human Rights. We have been in touch with the World Wildlife Fund International and keep in touch with the North America Indigenous Peoples Caucus which met in May 2011.

We continue to participate with Non-Governmental Organizations such as Right to Play, the Canadian Rangers, the Junior Rangers and the successful summer literacy project started by former Lieutenant Governor Bartleman. Project Beyshick, established in 2005, continues to provide invaluable learning experiences for our entrepreneurial youth. Graduates have gone on to start businesses and gain professional qualifications. This year, we are proposing to establish Project Beyshick as an independent charitable organization with a social venture capital fund which will fund the project as well as provide venture capital to graduates.

Along with the Union of Ontario Indians, NAN hosted the 2010 National Claims Research workshop held in Thunder Bay in September 2010. NAN collaborated with Lakehead University to put on a symposium on Treaty No. 5 and Treaty No. 9 which highlighted participation by both NAN Elders and NAN youth. We supported the one hundred year commemoration of the signing of adhesion to Treaty No. 5 through continuing research, the production of a Treaty booklet and facilitating the display of the original 1910 adhesion document in Sandy Lake and Deer Lake First Nations,
and at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery.

Our fisheries program has expanded to encompass all water related issues. We have completed a Drinking Water Study in cooperation with Health Canada. We are monitoring the implementation of Ontario’s Source Water protection project which was developed without First Nations input and which has yet to be rolled out in northern Ontario. We are providing the ammunition in the fight against Canada’s flawed First Nations Drinking Water Act (S-11) as per Resolution 10/47.

In dealings with Canada and Ontario, we are experiencing less success. In 2007, through the NAN/Canada bilateral process, NAN presented a framework to guide the process. We are awaiting agreement on the framework. However, a remote communities energy table, one element of the framework, has been established using the federal stimulus package.

We are working to assist member First Nations negotiate the labyrinth processes established with the Specific Claims Tribunal Act. We do encourage any First Nation with a specific claim in process to contact the NAN office if you receive an incomprehensible letter from Canada regarding the claim. To ignore the letter is to have the claim either rejected or settled for an arbitrary amount less than that claimed.

We are closely monitoring the development of recovery plans for sturgeon and caribou, both species have been identified as threatened. There is no involvement by NAN or our member First Nations in this work despite our people having more knowledge in one community than OMNR holds in its Peterborough databases. Indeed to know what is going on we have to invade meetings.

Our relationship with Ontario continues to deteriorate with the passing of Bill 191, the Far North Act and of Bill 151, the Ontario Forest Tenure Modernization Act. Certainly, the poor relationship with Ontario is not limited to NAN. The Ipperwash Inquiry, the Joint Intergovernmental Technical Table, is spinning its wheels. The policing sub-table continues to gather information and work on developing a model for First Nation policing. NAN is examining the revised Treaty sub-table which now is taking the preferred NAN Treaty based approach. A decision on joining the Treaty sub-table will be made by the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly. First Nations and Canada have presented their frameworks for a Treaty Commission. Ontario claims to have also such a framework but is unable/unwilling to share it. The Burial and Heritage Sites sub-table has met and proposes to continue meeting in various locations throughout the province. The communications sub-table was unable to release a second newsletter as there is no agreement on content. The resource revenue sharing sub-table continues to be active and anticipates further activity in the next year but finds a lack of commitment on the part of Ontario. The consultation and accommodation sub-table has grounds to a halt as First Nation representatives do not have the mandate to consult on a provincially developed consultation and accommodation process. The jurisdiction sub-table was not funded in 2010-11.

While NAN and its member First Nations are growing in capability, effectiveness and, that favourite bureaucratic word ‘capacity’, Ontario and Canada are retrenching, resisting and stonewalling the fundamental work on jurisdiction. With deficit reduction the dominant thrust by all governments the next few years will be a challenge for NAN and its member First Nations. We will need to be strong and united, militant and wise. We will rely upon the energy and hope of our youth and the wisdom and knowledge of our Elders. In unity is strength.

Stan Beardy
Grand Chief
Executive Director’s Report

Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) is a First Nation non-profit organization that has been and remains to be transparent to its First Nation membership. Following its mandate from the First Nation membership on an annual basis, NAN encourages and invites its membership to request for information on its procedures. NAN strives to abide by the organization’s Policies & Procedures and continually works to improve and strengthen these to provide the best guidelines for accountability by its staff.

The 2010/2011 fiscal year has proven to be more demanding than originally forecast. The mandates received through resolution require work to commence immediately and at times prior to adequate funding being received. The financial planning of our Managers, with the guidance of our Executive Council, provided NAN the resources to do this work and their success is shown in this annual report.

The Northwestern Ontario Broadband Expansion Initiative is an achievement of working together in finding ways we can better work for our people and provide them the infrastructure needed in their First Nations to do their day-to-day work and to provide youth of the NAN territory access to a wealth of information outside of their home community. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Bell Aliant was met with consultation needs that was unexpected by the Project Team however, the Project Team is taking the measures necessary to ensure First Nations are comfortable with the consultation their community receives.

Supporting First Nations in crisis continues to be an ongoing effort with NAN as the corporation is not resourced financially through our funding sources for these circumstances. NAN will continue to provide assistance wherever possible.

The 2010/2011 year brought us the first Treaty Symposium on Treaty No. 5 and Treaty No. 9. The theme being “Sharing the History – What is the future?”, a message that resonates not only to Government but to our young people. NAN is another step closer toward forming our Treaty Based, Community Driven Government with the Universal Vote at hand. And finally, NAN has gone international in taking the issues of our First Nations to an international level and demanding actions by all levels of Governments to address the shortfalls of the Canadian Government.

I will continue to work daily to support the Executive Council in their advocacy work and administratively ensure they have the resources to do the work mandated by the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly.

In Unity,

David Fletcher
Executive Director
Finance and Administration

Staff

Jeff Nelson, Director of Finance  
Paulette Desmoulin, Senior Finance Officer  
Jeff Forneri, Senior Finance Officer  
Rachel Mamakwa, Finance Officer  
Pam Fayrick, Payroll Officer  
Sabrina Marion, Director Human Resources  
Ian Beardy, Human Resource Coordinator  
Elizabeth Achneepineskum and Pauline Greene, Receptionists

Financial Position

Without stable, long-term, and sufficiently flexible funding, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) continues to struggle to plan and to meet political priorities. Notwithstanding these ongoing difficulties, NAN posted an operating surplus of $24,387 (2010= $25,761 surplus) the source of which was primarily administrative charges that NAN will retain to rebuild a small cumulative surplus to cushion the organization against unexpected future cost overruns.

NAN maintained a positive ‘working capital’ position throughout the year (cash and accounts receivable exceed accounts payable) and NAN enters the 2011 fiscal year with an overall unrestricted surplus of $24,387 (2010 = $25,761) – Less than 1% of net revenues after flow through allocations. Revenues of approximately $24 million are expected for 2011-2012 of which an estimated $19 million (80%) will flow through to First Nations and NAN service-delivery organizations.

A number of capital asset write-offs (furniture/computers) were done this year ($63,550) to make our capital assets portion of our statement into a deficit of $39,163

Human Resources

Our fulltime equivalent staff level fluctuates from 52 to 60 as projects and initiatives (generally of a time-limited nature) progress. Our staff complement is approximately 79% Aboriginal (2010 = 79%) overall while approximately 83% of NAN’s employees are registered members of NAN First Nations (2010 = 65%).
Communications and Information Technology

Staff

Amy Harris, Director of Communications
Vacant, Communications Officer
Angela Crozier, Systems Administrator

Department Overview

The Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Communications department produces, communicates, and distributes information regarding issues and events affecting the people and communities of NAN. Departmental staff works to ensure the messages and perspectives of NAN are effectively and consistently communicated and understood throughout NAN territory, among other Political Territorial Organizations (PTOs), media, and the general public on local, regional, national, and international level. The Communications department includes strategic planning for publications and communication materials, media relations, special events, consultation, and branding.

On an ongoing basis and as issues arise, the department recommends specific internal/external communication initiatives/strategies to NAN Executive Council (Grand Chief and Deputy Grand Chiefs) and NAN leadership (NAN Chiefs), NAN departments, Tribal Councils, and First Nation members.

The NAN Communications department continues to focus on increasing NAN presence and visibility in all of our communities, while maintaining efficient media-relations to communicate the challenges and efforts of the people and communities of NAN to NAN First Nation membership, PTOs, various levels of government, and the public at large.

The Communications department also includes the NAN Information Technology (IT) Unit overseen by the Systems Administrator, which manages the NAN network, including both Administration and the NAN Eastern office, offering staff training and network/software updates on an ongoing basis. Additionally, organizational website updates are coordinated through the IT Unit.

Restructuring

The NAN Communications department has undergone recent changes in terms of staffing. Amy Harris was promoted to Director of Communications in January 2011. Randi-Lisa Quedent was also hired on as a Communications Coordinator in January 2011.

Both positions have changed as the Director of Communications works on strategic planning and media-relations. The Communications Coordinator works on internal projects including: graphic design, promotional materials etc. as directed by the Director of Communications.

Despite the restructuring and shuffle of employees, the Communications and IT department continues to meet all demands by the varying units/departments within the organization. The existing staff roster is exceptional and the working relationships within the unit both compliment and provide the organization with the expertise required.

Internal Communications

The Communications department works with NAN staff to develop and encourage effective information sharing strategies within the organization. The Communications Coordinator works on daily media monitoring and includes such information on the NAN website.
Branding

A re-branding initiative is underway that will see all NAN promotional and marketing tools, advertisements, and marketing tools (dept. pull-ups, banners), adopt a new singular look comprised of new colour photo images; blue colour background with totem animals and black headers and footers to replace the former red. Staff has been notified of this change and information on how to create this ‘new look’ has been displayed in our Visual Identity Guidelines.

Policy and Procedural Development

The Communications department is working on an internal policy that outlines the protocol with developing a NAN promotional item or purchasing NAN advertising or any other publically distributed material.

Website

Since late 2009, NAN Communications and IT have undergone extensive development of a new NAN website. Through late 2010, the concept and design came to fruition. The process of upgrading and incorporating new material is ongoing.

Some features of the new NAN website include: on-demand video access, updated photos from various NAN and community events, a distinct division between the political and program side of each department within NAN, an increased volume of traditional language usage, an upcoming events calendar, day-to-day media updates, and a bright new colour palette. The site is easy to navigate through and is easily accessible. www.nan.on.ca

Social Media

The Communications department in coordination with the Inter-governmental Network, have worked together to ensure NAN Youth are able to access readily available information through other avenues than the NAN website.

The NAN youth Facebook site contains information on areas such as youth events, NAN advocacy efforts, education, social issues, Treaty rights etc. The site is a way for NAN staff to better connect with NAN youth and for youth to have open discussion regarding issues that may affect them.

Projects

The Role Models Project highlights individuals within NAN First Nations who work to positively live their lives and act as a role model to today’s Youth. Stories of these individuals include leadership roles, active in sports, active in music, have achieved awards, help out their community in a number of ways; there are no limitations. Those individuals, along with their story, have been placed on posters for communities.

The Slogans Project is posters featuring motivational statements, as well as information on First Nation rights.

Media Relations

In coordination with the NAN Executive Council, the NAN Communications department utilizes media-relations to advocate on behalf of NAN First Nations or to support the initiatives of NAN First Nations. Through consultation with NAN Executive, Chiefs, community representatives, and NAN department heads, the Communications department works to ensure accurate information is utilized during strategic planning stages.

The Communications department strives to highlight ‘good news’ stories (ie// literacy initiatives, sports programs etc.),
while positively addressing community issues that make for ‘bad news’ stories (ie// suicide, crime).

Since April 2010, the Communications department has produced and distributed more than 50 news releases, helped coordinate many press events, and assisted in the coordination and promotion of dozens of events.

NAN or the NAN Executive Council has been covered in the news more than 145 times since the beginning of April 2010. This includes news coverage on various issues spanning local, regional, national and international media sources, including newspaper, radio, television, magazine, and the web.

Information Technology

The IT unit supports communications with NAN members and partners through videoconference, webcasting, online meetings and facilitating communications needs at Chief’s Meetings and various NAN conferences.

It also provides ongoing administration of the NAN network, computer systems and internal communications.
Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN)/Canada Bilateral Protocol

Staff

Bill Nothing, Director of Policy
Gail Smith, Protocol Assistant
Yanyan Chen, Energy Strategy Manager

Summary

The Executive Council continues to work toward the implementation of the draft proposal initially presented to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) in April 2007, to make the NAN/Canada Bilateral Protocol more relevant and responsive by addressing the immediate-, near-, and long-term issues facing NAN First Nations as a whole.

Meetings have been held with INAC’s Deputy Minister Wernick and Senior Assistant Deputy Minister Wilson to consider the overall proposal and specific issues addressed within. A draft term of reference for a remote energy table has been initiated and presented to INAC’s Senior Assistant Deputy Minister Gina Wilson of the Regional Operations Sector for review.

Follow up letters have been sent to the office of the Minister of INAC indicating that it is urgent to move forward on the Protocol as promised by the Minister. A proposal has been sent to INAC for Energy under the Bilateral Protocol. We look forward to continuing dialogue in order to meet the needs and identify immediate priorities.

The Energy Table was approved for funding under the Strategic Partnership Initiatives.
Stabilization of Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Governance

Staff

Bill Nothing, Director of Policy
Gail Smith, Protocol Assistant
Yanyan Chen, Energy Strategy Manager

The Universal Vote Chiefs Steering Committee, with the support and assistance of NAN staff, continues to work toward the presentation of the report to the NAN Chiefs at the 2011 Keewaywin Conference.

Progress

Funds were secured to allow for consultation with the NAN Youth Council, the NAN Women’s Council and two First Nations. (First Nation communication was on a trial basis pending direction of the NAN Chiefs to move forward with the Universal Vote process and additional funding.)

A presentation was made to the NAN Youth Council and interest was very high. We look forward to hearing their formal response.

A presentation was made to the NAN Women’s Council at their Assembly in Timmins, Ontario on February 28th, 2011, by video-conference as well as with on-site representation. We have received a preliminary response and expect further communication from the NAN Women’s Council.

Community business, Chief and Council availability, and unfortunate unforeseen events delayed the visit to Bearskin Lake First Nation. However, these consultations have now been completed and the preliminary responses of the communities have been noted. We look forward to further communication with the communities.

An Open House consultation was held February 23rd, 2011 in Thunder Bay for NAN members living in that Urban Centre. The inclement weather of the night before may have contributed to the lack of response. Alternate modes of connecting with the NAN Urban citizens are being developed.

Submissions have been made to the Province of Ontario and to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) for additional funding for consultation. It is likely that additional funding will be forthcoming from the Province. INAC would not provide funding for consultation on the Universal Vote.

Key issues arising from consultation to date include the issues of: relationships of First Nations leaders with the Elected Grand Chief and the Executive Council, the cost of a universal vote and ensuring that all NAN citizens no matter where they reside can participate, and concern regarding privacy and confidentiality of the participants in the election.

Cost, Access and Confidentiality

In an effort to reduce costs, provide the greatest access and ensure confidentiality of the voter’s information during the Universal Vote, we have contacted a company that provides internet based system for elections for governments, NGO’s and other democratic institutions. This company provided the software, training and monitoring systems for the Greenstone Municipal Election. A demonstration of the software and the process is being arranged at the NAN offices. If this process proves viable for our use, a further demonstration might be arranged for NAN Chiefs at the 2011 Keewaywin Conference.

A full report regarding the work to date on the Universal Vote will be presented to the NAN Chiefs at the 2011 Keewaywin
Conference. Pending the decision of the NAN Chiefs at that time, the full communications strategy could be put in to effect and the electoral process undertaken for a vote for the Grand Chief and Executive Council by all people in 2012. Alternatively the process may be studied further or tabled at that time.
**Land Rights and Treaty Research**

**Staff**

Luke Hunter, Research Director
Joe Wheesk, Claims and Licensing Coordinator

**Specific Claims Research**

The present process for addressing past grievances of First Nations is through a “Specific Claims Policy.” A “Specific Claim” is a claim made by a First Nation against the federal government related to the non-fulfillment of an historic treaty or the mismanagement of First Nation land or assets. Only claims submitted by First Nations are covered by this policy.

Nishnawbe Aski Nation’s (NANs) research unit is mandated to carry out research on claims and other matters on behalf of its member First Nations and to continue the various projects in Treaty No.9 & Treaty No.5. We are responsible for conducting research and development of all specific claims within the NAN region. Our responsibilities include: conducting historical research, collection in indexing of documentary evidence from a variety of sources, preparation of historical reports, factual/statistical analysis, and submission of claims to Government on behalf of member First Nations. On average, we research and prepare eight (8) claims a year.

When the new Tribunal Act came into effect in October 2008, First Nation claims that were already in the system (backlogged) had to be “refreshed” in order to meet the “new minimum standards.” In November 2009 notices were sent to claimants (First Nations) so they can access funding to revamp their claim submissions so it can meet the new standards. Unfortunately, these letters were sent directly to First Nations with limited response time and most claims were not refreshed. The Tribunal Act has specific timeframes that the Government of Canada has to abide by, such as the three year limit to respond to the claimant (First Nations). Now that the three year time limit is fast approaching; Canada has to respond by October 2011 to First Nations whether their claim is accepted or rejected.

During our February 7th, 2011 meeting with Canada (SCB), we were advised that some NAN claims were not going to meet the deadline (internal review) and that these claims either will elapse resulting in rejections or acceptance of a smaller claim. In this case, First Nation claims may have to be withdrawn and resubmitted.

This poses several problems for the claimant. First, the claim is withdrawn and starts again at the back of the line. Second, if the claim is not withdrawn, there is a risk that the claim is rejected or result in a smaller claim. And thirdly, if rejected or the First Nation wishes to refer the claim to the tribunal; the legal submissions and evidence cannot be changed or refined to bring it up to date. The claim is reviewed based on the original submission. We view this to be unfair in that the claimant has waited for more than ten years to get response from government and if withdrawn, they have to wait another three years or referral to tribunal may not add new allegations or fresh evidence. SCB did commit to fast-track their review for those claims that are voluntarily withdrawn and that they would not lose their spot (not necessarily start at the end of the line).

We will work with those First Nations that are in this situation and provide assistance (research) so that their claims are reviewed and responded in a timely manner. The drop deadline is October 2011 and there is about six (6) months leeway. We encourage First Nations to notify us immediately if they receive a letter from SCB regarding this matter.

**Specific Claims Tribunal**

As part of the Justice at Last initiative that led to the establishment of the Specific Claims Tribunal Act in November 2007, First Nations can file a claim with the Tribunal. There are three scenarios in which a First Nation could file a
claim:

1. When a claim is rejected;
2. In cases where all parties agree that a claim that has already been accepted should be referred for a binding decision, and;
3. After three years of unsuccessful negotiations.

The tribunal will not address claims valued at over $150 million, land and resources, punitive damages, cultural and spiritual losses, or non-financial compensation issues.

The Specific Claims Tribunal Registry is mandated to manage the administrative affairs of the Specific Claims Tribunal. As such they are responsible for the development of the Rules of Practice and Procedure and the case management system. As of March 31st, 2011 the procedures and systems have not been completed. Therefore, the Tribunal will not hear cases until the proper administrative systems are in place.

The Tribunal’s general operations are covered directly by the treasury board and do not come from Research & Negotiations Funding Unit (RNFU) allocations. However, First Nations will receive funding from RNFU to appear before the Tribunal. It’s not clear how RNFU intends to manage the funding as in terms whether First Nation’s participation will receive grant contributions or repayable loans.

**National Claims Research Workshop**

The 2010 National Claims Research Workshop was held in Thunder Bay, Ontario, at the Victoria Inn, from September 20th to 22nd, 2010. The workshop was co-hosted by NAN and the Union of Ontario Indians (UOI). The workshops were designed to appeal to those that work in the field of specific and comprehensive land claims. The three-day event drew over 100 participants from BC to PEI regions. The workshop featured a wide variety of guest speakers, panel discussions and presentations on a range of important topics such as: Specific Claims Policy Reform, Use of Oral History in Specific Claims, Proxy Model – Definition and Application, Economic Development Zones (Urban Reserves), Use of Technology in Claims Development, Land claims and Governance topics. The next National Claims workshop will be held in Quebec City and the dates are September 26 to 28, 2011.

**Treaty No. 5 Commemoration - June 9th, 2010**

Commemorative events took place in Sandy Lake First Nation and Deer Lake First Nation on June 9th, 2010. This marked the 100th year anniversary of the 1910 Treaty No. 5 Adhesion and pay tribute to the late Chief Robert Fiddler who requested the Treaty for his people. The Treaty No. 5 First Nations had expressed a strong desire to use the Treaty commemorations as a platform to educate its youth, NAN citizens and the general public in the history, traditions and culture of the First Nation peoples of Treaty No. 5 (Northern Ontario). To this end, all activities and displays were made accessible so that the public can participate in the events.

In the morning of June 9th, commemorative activities were held in Sandy Lake and in the afternoon ceremonies were held in Deer Lake. At Deer Lake, events were held at the Treaty Point where the original treaty signing took place. Re-enactment of canoe arrivals of the treaty commissioners and the Treaty signing were observed. Dignitaries and NAN First Nations’ Chiefs were transported to Deer Lake to observe and participate in the festivities.

NAN partnered with the Thunder Bay Art Gallery (TBAG) to host the original 1910 Treaty No. 5 Adhesion document from the National Library and Archives Canada (NLAC). The historic document was flown in to Sandy Lake on June 9th for public display and over 1000 local First Nation citizens and dignitaries attended the viewing. Two RCMP officers were on hand during the Public Display so the Treaty document can be guarded, and to act as a reminder of the
Crown’s promise of protection.

The National Library and Archives Canada have provided a replication of the original Treaty No. 5 document in a digital format. NAN has received permission to reproduce copies, including the use for the Treaty No. 5 website. The Treaty document was printed in a dense paper at its original size (10x13) and packaged in scrolls for distribution to Treaty No. 5 Chiefs during the ceremonies.

Funding support was provided by Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs (MAA) and Indian & Northern Affairs Canada.

**Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement**

The five year agreement expired in 2009 and has been renewed on a yearly basis since INAC announced it was reviewing their funding authorities for all their economic development programming. INAC is currently engaging national stakeholder sessions to solicit feedback. We were recently advised by Ontario region that these sessions will not be completed until later this year and the new funding authorities will not be ready by 2012. Therefore, renewing the CORDA agreement longer than five years will not happen until the new funding authorities are completed in 2012. INAC is only prepared to recommend a one year extension for the 2011/12 fiscal year. There is no commitment that the CORDA agreement will be renewed beyond 2012.

**NAN Licensing Program**

NAN has issued close to 700 fur harvesters’ licenses for the 2010-2011 trapping season. The breakdown is as follows: 90% of the trappers are male and 10% female; and 70% are over the age of 60. Overall we maintain 2400 registered trappers in our database and there has been a steady decline in the last five years.

NAN has been working to improve the licensing program. We are currently updating and enhancing the data base system so that information management and procedural processing are more efficient. We anticipate completing these enhancements by the end of the summer.

NAN is working with the Nishnawbe Aski Harvesters Authority (NAHA) in capacity development. Once training is completed, we will be transferring the licensing program to them.

**NAN Fur Depot**

For the season ending 2010-2011, the fur depot collected only 1300 wild fur articles and 87% of the furs were marten with the remaining beaver, otter and mink. This is a decline from last year and was attributed to low fur prices. The global economic recovery in 2010 was one of the factors and the fur industry had predicted this outlook. The Canadian dollar also reached above parity against the U.S. dollar. This affected the buying power of fur buyers and investors. Combined with fur prices and the rising fuel costs, trappers were reluctant to go out to harvest (trap furbearers) as time and investment was minimal.

NAN is currently planning to host a Climate Change workshop this coming fiscal year and will be inviting traditional harvesters and trappers. The purpose of the gathering (workshop) is to identify climate change impacts to NAN harvesters and land users.
Lands and Resources

Staff

Carol Ann Audet, Political Policy Advisor/Director
Terry Wilson, Policy Analyst
Bill Maloney, Fisheries Biologist

Climate Change Research Project

Pursuant to Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Chiefs Resolution 10/08 (Support for Climate Change Research Project), NAN lands and resources, in conjunction with legal counsel, has been overseeing this research in accordance with the contract respecting collaborative research signed in October 2010.

From January to March 2011, the researcher was able to gather climate change data in ten (10) First Nations in NAN, these included Muskrat Dam, Weagamow Lake, Pikangikum, Sandy Lake, Nesquantaga, Nibinamik, Attawapiskat, Fort Albany, Kingfisher Lake and Wunnumin Lake. During this time, interviews and focus group sessions were held with Chiefs and Councillors, land users, Elders, and other community members (45 people in total). Climate change and forest science information was delivered in all First Nations, through presentations, discussions, radio shows, prize contests, during interview and focus group sessions and in classrooms at the schools. An in-depth analysis of this data has been completed.

In collaboration with NAN, the researcher will be spending the entire 2011/2012 fiscal year developing a series of publications to be published in national/international social science research journals which will become the chapters to be compiled in a final manuscript (PhD thesis). The publications have been tentatively titled as follows: (1) Collaborative Research with First Nations: Process and Methodology (2) First Nation Climate Change Observations and Perceptions in Ontario’s Far North Boreal Forest, and; (3) First Nation Engagement in Ontario’s Institutional Approaches to Mitigate Climate Change. These chapters will be reviewed by NAN legal counsel to ensure the protection of First Nation intellectual property rights and adherence to the contract respecting collaborative research. Lakehead University has also posted information on this project on their website. A link has also been posted on the NAN website.

The research is expected to conclude in March/April 2012. It is hoped that the research will provide the tools needed for NAN First Nations to be better engaged on this issue. A NAN Research Committee will also play a role in overseeing this research (see a more detailed report on the development of this Committee in Briefing Note section of the XXX Keewaywin Conference Chiefs Kit).

NAN Fish Habitat Program

The NAN fish habitat program has continued to work on several issues that could impact Aboriginal and Treaty rights and fish habitat in NAN. Specifically, it has focused on offering technical support to First Nations to address concerns regarding fish populations such as declining fish stocks and related fish health issues. The program will continue to consult and build relationships with First Nations to identify issues and objectives.

Another focus this past year has been on the issues pertaining to safe drinking water and source water protection. The three major concerns were: boiled water advisories (BWAs) and long-outstanding issues with safe drinking water and water infrastructure; Ontario source water protection legislation; and Bill S-11, the First Nations Drinking Water Act.

To help address the BWAs and infrastructure issues, twenty (20) First Nations in NAN were visited to develop a Drinking Water Study. This study compiled a snapshot of existing conditions. This information will be used as tool to advocate the improvement of drinking water conditions. It has been distributed to all First Nations in NAN also for their use.
The program has also been active in monitoring the Ontario Ministry of Environment’s (OMOE) Source Water Protection Policy and its implications on First Nations in NAN. This policy was developed with little to no involvement of First Nations. In 2010/2011, the policy had only applied to the southern portions of Ontario, with the exception of some traditional territories in the Mattagami First Nation. In 2011/2012, the government of Ontario will be considering efforts to move the policy to the north. The fish habitat program will play a role in monitoring this and providing analysis/recommendations (to First Nations and government), where appropriate.

The program has also examined federal government Bill S-11, the First Nations Drinking Water Act, and the implications to First Nations in NAN and has played a role in implementing the directives of the NAN Chiefs in Resolution 10/47 rejecting Bill S-11. It has also advocated for improved water infrastructure, increased training and enhanced funding as part of this effort. Bill S-11 was put on hold on March 25, 2011 when a federal election was called.

The program has also continued to monitor the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) sturgeon recovery process and has advocated the position of the NAN Chiefs in Resolution 09/11 rejecting this process. In June 2008, lake sturgeon in the traditional territories of the NAN First Nations were classified as a ‘special concern’ species under the Ontario Species at Risk Act. Due to this classification, the OMNR began a sturgeon recovery process, focusing most of their recovery planning around south Ontario where the species are classified as ‘threatened’ and ‘endangered.’ The program has advocated the position that, as OMNR develops recovery strategies in NAN, positions set out in NAN Chiefs Resolution 09/11 will be advocated. The program will continue to monitor this fish issue in 2011/2012.

NAN Forestry Program

The NAN forestry program, in conjunction with other organizations, has continued to work on the issue of forest tenure. This effort has been going on for several years. The program has advocated a system whereby First Nations and communities, and not the forest industry, are the managers of the forest. This is in response to the government of Ontario’s efforts to re-vamp its forest tenure system.

On February 23, 2011, the government of Ontario announced the proposed Ontario Forest Tenure Modernization Act (Bill 151). The NAN forestry program has played a role in providing analysis and required advocacy in this area and has concluded that the proposed legislation would maintain the government’s existing authority to manage this critical public resource, while bringing more competition and opportunity to the forest sector. The primary focus of Bill 151 was to provide support for a new forest management model. This model reflects the establishment of Local Forest Management Corporations. These will be government agencies that manage Crown forests and oversee the competitive sale of the timber in a given area.

The NAN forestry program has examined the province of Ontario’s future plans to introduce a second forest management model which will be based on Enhanced Shareholder Sustainable Forest Licence system (consisting of a group of mills and/or harvesters that collectively form a new company to manage Crown forests under the Sustainable Forest Licence that is issued to them). It will continue to provide advice, analysis and advocacy in this area, where required.

The program has also sat as a member of the First Nations Forestry Sector Technical Working Group formed in 2010/2011. This working group is made up of various First Nation organizations (i.e. Chiefs of Ontario and National Aboriginal Forestry Association) and will be pursuing tenure reform and other forestry issues. The terms of reference, for this working group, was approved by the Political Confederacy of the Chiefs of Ontario on Feb 3, 2011. Various meetings and teleconferences were held in late 2010/2011, including in March 2011, when it met with officials of the Ministry of Northern Development Mines and Forestry (MNDMF) on Bill 151.

The program has examined OMNR’s Woodland Caribou Draft Habitat Regulation process, providing input based on the position of the NAN Chiefs and previous involvement in the Ontario Caribou Conservation Plan, which was developed to the dissatisfaction of First Nations in NAN. On March 4, 2011, though un-invited, the program observed a ‘stakeholder
workshop’ in Thunder Bay related to the development of caribou habitat regulations. Further monitoring and reporting of this issue, in relation to other areas in NAN lands and resources, will continue in 2011/2012.

The program continues to hold committee membership in the Northern Ontario Sustainable Communities Partnership, Faculty of Natural Resources Advisory Council (Lakehead University), Lakehead University’s Living Legacy Research Program Advisory Committee and the First Nation Forest Sector Technical Working Group. Other noteworthy issues that the program has addressed this year include the economic stimulus meetings, the protection of medicinal plants, the Far North Act and various community issues.

**Federal Intergovernmental Initiatives**

NAN lands and resources has worked with a number of federal government departments this year including the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (NAN fish habitat program), Health Canada (NAN drinking water study), Natural Resources Canada/Canadian Forest Service (panel presentation at the Council for the Development of Native Development Officers Conference and Aboriginal Forestry Opportunities Workshop/Strategic Partnership Initiative Program), and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (intergovernmental relationships and Ipperwash Enquiry discussions on policing/treaty commission). Efforts were also undertaken to engage Indian and Northern Affairs Canada on climate change adaptation/mitigation, these efforts will be ongoing as the research project on climate change proceeds.

**Provincial Intergovernmental Initiatives**

**NAN Oski-Machiitawin (OM) Bilateral Process**

The NAN lands and resources program has continued to observe the efforts undertaken by this process (formerly known as the NAN/Ontario Northern Table) and has provided advice and/or updates on relevant lands and resources issues, where required. It also played a role in providing guidance on overall intergovernmental files within NAN that may have required the attention of this process. NAN land and resources also assisted in the 3 year review of this process (copy to NAN First Nations, available upon request).

**Ipperwash Inquiry**

NAN lands and resources has been involved in this process and has reported on the Joint Intergovernmental Technical Table (JITT) and other sub-tables where involvement took place. With respect to the JITT, concerns on the part of both parties (First Nations and Ontario), continue to be expressed over the lack of progress that seems to be plaguing most of the sub-tables. A considerable period of time in 2010/2011 was spent on identifying specific concerns and mechanisms for addressing them. Bi-weekly conference calls between Ontario and the First Nations had occurred. The efforts in 2011/2012 will focus around reviewing the process and its priority areas and work plans.

In January 2011, a report entitled, ‘Renewing the Ipperwash Priorities and Action Committee (IPAC)’ was finalized. This report summed up the issues and challenges, with IPAC, to date. It also made recommendations for further progress. Priorities, for future work, were also determined. The following are specific reports of the activities of the sub-tables for the fiscal year 2010/2011:

a) **Communications Sub-Table:**

On September 28, 2010, the sub-table submitted a draft proposal to the Strategic Alliance of Broadcasters for Aboriginal Reflection (SABAR) in order to gauge interest, among the Canadian broadcasting industry on an Ontario/First Nations specific public service announcement (PSA). This was received favourably and various sample video snips
were recorded.

The communication sub-table (First Nations and Ontario) began work on its second joint newsletter (titled ‘Kidowenan’). The purpose of this publication was to inform the public of the progress being made towards implementing the recommendations contained in the *Ipperwash Report*. As per agreement, NAN will be responsible for NAN-wide distribution; printed copies will be centralized for distribution from the Thunder Bay office. It was determined that the newsletter would be seasonal and distributed four times per year. Distribution was planned for early in 2011 however based on discussions among the Task Force, it was determined that the second newsletter would not go forward due to no agreement being reached between all parties on the content of the articles. Recommendations by the Task Force were to develop a First Nations produced newsletter in order for First Nations perspectives to be heard and to eliminate any further ‘watering down’ of content. The Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs was to organize a meeting between all parties to collaboratively develop principles and guidelines in the case that another joint newsletter is established in the future.

b) **Resource Benefit Sharing Sub-Table:**

Reports to the NAN Chiefs with regards to this sub-table had been made to the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly directly on a number of separate occasions in 2010/2011, along with at All-Ontario Chiefs COO Assemblies. These reports have included the current status of the sub-table with respect to their discussions with the Province of Ontario (Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs). Hardly any substantive progress has been made with regards to Premier McGuinty’s 2008 announcement of a $30 million down-payment towards resource revenue sharing in Ontario, many NAN First Nations have felt that commitment from Ontario, to-date, has fallen short. This sub-table has been very active in dialogue and discussion with Ontario government bureaucrats in 2010/2011 and will continue to do so in 2011/2012.

c) **Policing Sub-Table:**

This sub-table was looking at finalizing a jurisdictional scan of First Nation/Tribal/Indigenous Police Services both domestically and internationally. A meeting between the First Nations Chiefs of Police was held on February 11, 2011 to discuss various legislative issues. Two sessions with First Nation Chiefs of Police and First Nation civil authorities, to review the information collected thus far and begin shaping models for a legislative basis, were undertaken. One was held in Toronto on March 1-2, 2011 and the other was held in Thunder Bay on March 8-9, 2011.

On March 30, 2011 the Chiefs of Ontario released the report entitled, ‘*Community Policing, Creating a Vision for First Nations Police Services.’* This document looks at the operational perspectives and challenges facing First Nations community policing.

d) **Consultation and Accommodation Sub-Table:**

Early in the 2010/2011 the sub-table developed a terms of reference and an action plan which included the development of training/workshop modules for First Nations on the Chiefs of Ontario *Consultation and Accommodation Toolkit* which was developed by the First Nations component of this sub-table the previous year (2008/2009). One joint meeting with Ontario (Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs) took place early in the fiscal year and the sub-table became in-active starting from May 2011. Ontario had indicated that they had been developing consultation/accommodating policy and were seeking to have a policy forum with facilitated discussion on common principles with First Nations. The First Nations Task Force has expressed the lack of mandate, at their end, to participate in the development of common principles.

e) **Jurisdiction Sub-Table:**

Over the past two years, commitment on the part of the Province of Ontario to move forward on this sub-table did not appear to be evident. It was not funded in the 2010/2011 fiscal year. The issue of jurisdiction negotiations is an issue
that, currently, has to be resolved by the Chiefs of Ontario Political Confederacy.

f) **Treaty Commission Sub-Table:**

As a result of the recommendations made at the COO *Think Tank on Treaties* (held on October 21, 2010), and after having received direction from the Chiefs of Ontario Chiefs-in-Assembly, this fiscal year, this sub-table altered their approach to treaty commission development to a manner that was more in-line with NAN Chiefs Resolution 09/61 (treaty based). This sub-table also recently established a Chiefs Advisory Committee. As a result of these changes, in January/February NAN began representation on this sub-table. A pilot project concept was explored. In this regard, the First Nations completed and submitted their framework for setting up a Treaty Commission. The federal government did the same. Ontario has drafted their framework, but did not present it to the other two parties during the 2010/2011 fiscal year.

g) **Heritage & Burial Sites Sub-Table:**

On January 12, 2011 the First Nations Task Force met with officials from Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs and Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MTC) to discuss this sub-table and other pertinent issues. It was decided to hold various meetings, across Ontario, with First Nation communities etc. on this topic. A meeting, applicable to the NAN First Nations, was held on March 22, 2011 (in Sudbury). Another meeting had been planned for April 20, 2011 (in Thunder Bay). The MTC covered travel costs for one representative per First Nation in NAN. The meeting agendas covered the establishment of the sub-table under Aboriginal Burial and Heritage Sites - Ipperwash Inquiry Recommendations; MTC’s *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* and Aboriginal Cultural Planning and Cultural Tourism.

**International Intergovernmental Initiatives**

The program has been active in the pursuit of, and participation in, international intergovernmental initiatives that were related to lands and resources. Some of these included the *International Union for the Conservation of Nature’s (IUCN) Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy*, development of correspondence to *World Wildlife Federation International*, domestic activities related to the *United Nations (UN) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (pursuant to direction provided in NAN Chiefs Resolutions 10/53 and 10/65), and activities related to the *UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII)* that was held in May 2011, including the meeting with a Special Rapporteur of the *UN Commission on Human Rights* (see XXX Keewaywin Conference Chiefs Kits for more information). The program had also kept appraised of the preparatory activities of the *North American Indigenous Peoples Caucus* (NAIPC) and other indigenous group activities, leading up to the PFII.

**Other Collaborative Initiatives**

Depending on the respective lands and resources issue, various other collaborative initiatives took place this year. This included collaboration with First Nations and national First Nation organizations (such as *Assembly of First Nations* and *National Aboriginal Forestry Association*) on the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement, with *Lakehead University/University of Manitoba* on climate change and conservation issues, *Institute for International Education* on NAN’s participation in an international conference in January 2011, and *First Peoples Worldwide* on some work started in the area of responsible investment.
Treaty Discussion Forum (TDF)

Staff:

Vacant – Director, Treaty Discussion Forum
Stephanie Taylor – Coordinator, Treaty Discussion Forum

Treaty No. 5 Research

A meeting was held on April 13 and 14, 2010 in Sioux Lookout with the Treaty No. 5 Chiefs and Elders. Our researcher Dr. Janet Armstrong briefed the Chiefs and Elders on the research findings of The Treaty No. 5 research Phase 1. Once all the information on the research was given to the Chiefs and Elders they had the opportunity to discuss all that they were given. The Chiefs and Elders then told the researcher to go ahead and go into the Phase 2 of the research. They want to get this phase done as soon as possible as the Elders are getting older. Phase 2 of the Treaty research involves visiting Treaty No. 5 communities and interviewing the Elders. While we were there, the researcher was able to start a few interviews with the Elders that were present at the meeting. She has been working on translating the interviews and transcribing them.

Panorama

We are now on Draft #5 of the Panorama. There were a few minor changes made on the Panorama, we changed some wording and some of the pictures. In addition, we made it slightly smaller than the original one. We were given a budget of $19,087.00. With this money, we were able to make 57 copies. We have sent out one copy to all 49 Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) communities with a letter of explanation of what the Panorama was for. We have had a lot of positive feedback on this project. In the near future, we would like to be able to have these in all NAN First Nation Schools and also would like to add the Treaty No. 5 research to it once it is completed.

Treaty No. 5 Booklet

Dr. Armstrong, Northwest Communications, and Bruce Beardy were hired to complete a Treaty No. 5 Booklet for the Treaty No. 5 Commemoration using the research that was found by Dr. Armstrong. The commemorations were being held in Sandy Lake First Nation on June 9th, 2010. There were 500 copies brought to Sandy Lake First Nation and 400 copies went to Deer Lake First Nation. Once our distribution plan was approved by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) we were able to send out copies to all Treaty No. 5 communities on July 19, 2010.

Treaty No. 5 Medals and Pins

The Treaty Discussion Forum (TDF) was given the responsibility to have some Treaty No. 5 medals and pins made and printed out. These would be given out to all Treaty No. 5 Chiefs, Councillors and the community members that attended the commemoration. There were 8 Chief’s medals, 50 Councillors medals and 2000 pins. They were printed out by Cal-Law Ltd. a company from Manitoba.

TDF - BBQ - Sandy Lake First Nation

The Treaty Discussion Forum decided that they would hold a BBQ during the commemoration that was being held in Sandy Lake First Nation. We were able to purchase the food from National Grocers in Thunder Bay and from there the groceries were transported to Sandy Lake by plane. The TDF BBQ went well as stated by others and we were able to feed all of the people that were at the gathering.

Treaty Symposium 2011- Treaty No. 5 and Treaty No. 9
The NAN/Canada TDF in partnership with Aboriginal Initiatives of Lakehead University hosted a Treaty Symposium on Treaty No. 5 and Treaty No. 9. The Theme was “Sharing the history-What is the Future?” The Symposium was held at Lakehead University in one of the lecture rooms. A complete report will be completed by Wallace McKay, Treaty Discussion Forum Facilitator and be available to all parties.

**Academic Presenters**

Dr. John Long
Dr. Janet Armstrong
Dr. Peter Russell
James Morrison

**Student Panel – Lakehead University**

Kirsty Williams- Moose Cree FN
Kyle Elliot-Kilgour – Thunder Bay, ON
Diana Lidemark – Thunder Bay, ON
George Edwards – Fort Albany FN

**Elder and Presenter**

Elder’s Panel

Louis Bird – Weenusk FN

**Elder Louis Bird – Weenusk FN**

**Treaty Five Adhesions**

Elders from Treaty No. 5 and Treaty No. 9 could not attend for health reasons

**Leadership Panel**

Chief Andrew Solomon – Fort Albany FN – Treaty No. 9
Chief Adam Fiddler – Sandy Lake FN – Treaty No. 5
Food Security

Staff

Wendy Trylinski, Community Program Manager

Summary

Food Security has no designated funding but Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) has received small amounts of funds throughout the year to provide some support to the issue and has collaborated with other organizations that have provided time and expertise at no cost.

Action

Five garden sessions were held via video conferencing on a variety of gardening topics. Seven NAN communities participated. Feedback was very positive and people would like to see it continue May-August of 2011. These sessions will include more on-site demonstration with local farms, home gardens, greenhouses and raising animals for eggs and meat.

There have been ongoing discussions with local producers and retailers to find creative ways to get fresh, affordable, organic, and nutritious foods into NAN communities.

In collaboration with Quality Market, True North Community Cooperative and Wasaya Airways, we provided 12 communities with fresh and nutritious foods by road and air. The 12 communities of Deer Lake, Kashechewan, Neskantaga, North Caribou Lake, Mishkeegogamang, Moose Cree, Muskrat Dam, Sandy Lake, Wahgoshig, Wapekeka, Poplar Hill, and Keewaywin received food boxes that included items such as: locally produced whole wheat/rye flour, barley pancake mix, bran muffin mix, whole wheat pizza dough, oats, natural cheese, local honey, herbal teas, and local ground beef along with fruits, vegetables, rice and beans. Each food box also contained information on the farmer, where some of the foods were produced and healthy low-fat recipes. Funding for this initiative was through the Girl Power/Wolf Spirit program.

Additional funds through the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) has allowed us to develop a pilot project involving Fort Albany and Harvest Moon, a farm outside of Winnipeg Manitoba. Harvest Moon builds combination chicken/greenhouse coops as well as mobile coops for meat birds. In June, Robert Guilford, will travel to Fort Albany and spend a few days with the community putting the chicken coops together and teaching how to look after laying hens and meat birds. Other communities will be invited to attend to see how the coops are built and hopefully build their own. Fort Albany plans to have families with young children involved in the project.

The remaining funds were used to purchase Co-Operative Community Supported Agriculture boxes for 8 NAN communities, they will receive a box every 2nd week with fresh produce, milk, eggs etc starting end of June.

“Earth Boxes” and heritage seeds were be sent out before the end of March to the communities who are interested.

A proposal was submitted to Ministry of Health and Sport Promotion to fund 4 pilot “school garden” programs over a 2 year period beginning in 2011. Confirmation has not been received yet.

There is an increase in people in the communities who are growing their own food and who want to learn more. NAN will continue to support and build on communities’ enthusiasm to become self-reliant and food secure. This will be extremely important as continued increases in fossil fuels and climate change will increase the cost of purchasing food. Some foods have already increased by 15%.

NAN has supported communities’ applications for funding for breakfast programs through Onex One Foundation and
has purchased start up equipment and supplies. This year Eabametoong, Kashechewan, Nibinamik and Brunswick House have successfully applied for funds.

NAN supported both Quality Market and True North Community Cooperative in their successful application for Nutrition North Canada food subsidy. This will provide NAN communities with more access to equitable, healthy foods.

**Recommendations:**

To work with communities, eligible under the Nutrition North Canada program, to develop nutrition programs through the funding received by Health Canada. Each community will be receiving $35,000 annually to be used towards increasing healthy eating.

To secure funds to bring community members, Elders and youth together to learn and share knowledge on gardening, greenhouse production, animal husbandry, food gathering, medicines and preserving food and to find ways to support each other in the development of local food production.

To work with communities to develop local Food Policies to advocate for healthy food choices and to implement those policies in community programs, schools, daycares, etc.

To advocate for inclusion of all eligible communities in the Nutrition North Canada program through INAC.

To develop a stronger distribution system between local retailers/producers to ensure regular scheduled shipments to NAN communities
Northwestern Ontario Broadband Expansion Initiative

Staff

Travis Boissoneau, Director of Special Projects (Broadband)
Melinda Meekis, Assistant

Summary

The Northwestern Ontario Broadband Expansion Initiative (NWOBEI) was presented to the Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Chiefs-in-Assembly on August 13th, 2010; Resolution # 10-01 provided the direction necessary to pursue this initiative.

The NWOBEI is a collective effort which includes participation by NAN, The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), Industry Canada, Health Canada, The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation and Bell Aliant. The total budget for the NWOBEI is $81.4 million.

Twenty-six First Nations, 24 of which are part of NAN, will be the benefactors of state-of-the-art communications, bringing greater bandwidth at affordable rates.

This initiative has been broken down into five distinct projects for purposes of construction. The NWOBEI will place approximately 2,600 kilometres of fibre-optic cable and Ethernet transport equipment in northern Ontario over the next 4 years.

Representatives of the 26 First Nations that will be receiving the broadband service have formed a for-profit corporation called Coordinating Company (Co Co). Through Co Co, a construction company was developed named Construction Co. (Con Co.) NAN’s intentions are to capitalize on any opportunities for the 26 First Nations that arise as a result of the NWOBEI, including opportunities to supply services, equipment, labor and future opportunities that may include building roads and providing maintenance for the fiber-optic network. Certainly, it is important to achieve the best economical outcome throughout this initiative. Therefore, Con Co. was designed to compete during the tendering processes.

NAN’s Role

NAN’s overall role in the NWOBEI is a two-pronged approach. First, it is NAN’s intention to ensure the NWOBEI proceeds along the projected timelines in a manner that best suites the needs of the communities. Secondly, is to ensure contact is made at the community level to develop an equipment and skills inventory for employment opportunities by the general contractor at each project section.

Communication

Communication at the community level is a key component to successful implementation of this project. A communication strategy is in progress that includes media efforts such as a radio show and commercials delivered via Wawatay Radio in timely intervals explaining the overall benefits to be achieved for the communities. Furthermore, guest columns will be developed for Wawatay to share the progress of construction as well as highlight specific benefits in detail. More information is available at www.nanbroadband.ca.

Band Council Resolutions

In order for the NWOBEI to proceed, Band Council Resolutions (BCRs) are required, allowing Bell Aliant access to install the fibre-optic cable from the reserve boundaries to the Bell Stations. This particular BCR triggers what INAC refers to
as a 28(2) permit. In addition, the environmental assessments will not be approved if the permits are not provided. NAN has committed to assisting in the information sessions regarding the BCRs. It is the intention of NAN staff to ensure that the needs of the individual communities are met prior to forwarding BCRs.

Currently, only a few BCRs have been forward to INAC. There have been many challenges when attempting to discuss the permit at the community level. The challenges range from scheduling conflicts, to ownership of the overall initiative. Discussion in the information sessions vary from community to community, based on their needs. NAN's focus has always been and will remain on the many economic benefits and opportunities as a result of the end product. NAN staff will continue to assist in ensuring the needs of the communities are met.

**Construction**

To date, no construction contracts have been awarded. There have been delays in construction due to the fact that there was a limited winter road season. In addition, the environmental assessments are an extensive process.

**Co Co.**
Board Members:

Gordon Beardy  
Rodney Mckay  
David Fletcher  
Roy Dale Meekis  
Rod Winnipetonga  
Adam Fiddler

One of the main purposes of the First Nations creating Co Co, was to develop a coordinated effort for the 26 communities involved in regards to project as a whole and to oversee the development of a construction company.

Furthermore, where major contracts or subcontracts are awarded to third parties, other than Con Co, there must be assurance that we capture the opportunities for First Nations to provide workers, equipment, materials and services, either directly with Bell Aliant or with the successful contractor. Working with the First Nations to provide these opportunities is a stipulation emphasized within the memorandum of agreement between NAN and Bell Aliant.

**Con Co.**
Board Members:

Darby Harper  
Harry Meekis  
Bruce Sakakeep Dean Cromarty

The newly formed construction company was created to be able to bid, as a contractor, on the various projects connected to the construction build. We need to capture as much of the estimated $50 million in construction costs, for First Nations and First Nations people, as possible.

Current issues Con Co is facing are bonding, and health and safety issues. As a newly formed company, there is no track record to ensure these requirements are met. Therefore, the board of directors has been given the support to exercise strategic decision making authority to create the necessary partnerships to meet these requirements.
Halfway through my second term as Deputy Grand Chief and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Elders, women, men, youth, and children of Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN). I value the wisdom and friendship you have continued to share with me as we have worked together to meet the many challenges that face our people and I thank you for your continued support.

This Annual Report provides an opportunity to present all of the activities that have been undertaken in the program areas under my portfolio. The work that has been done, reflects how NAN is supporting and assisting with the challenges faced at the community level. A lot of work has been done this year to address these fundamental issues, and they are covered in greater detail in other sections of this report.

For years, our agenda has been dominated by issues resulting from the negative consequences of being under the control of the governments of Canada and Ontario. Progress has been made, but it is not keeping up with our growing population and the basic needs of First Nations such as safe drinking water, adequate housing, and a quality education for every student. But despite the challenges, I see hope and opportunity in our future. In fact, I believe there are fundamental changes underway that will forever impact the lives of our members and our communities.

The Ring of Fire and other resource-based projects hold the opportunity for meaningful participation in the development of the riches of our lands through job creation, business development, training and education. The development of our resources - by our people - has the potential to break generations of welfare, poverty and despair. By taking advantage of these opportunities our youth will be able to look to the future with a sense of hope, and our Elders can envision a lifestyle that re-establishes our pride and self-worth.

I travel across NAN on a regular basis and I can state unequivocally that we have the quality of leadership, the wisdom of Elders, the vision of youth, and the strength of our women – everything we require to take advantage of these opportunities for the benefit of this generation and those generations yet come. We must believe in ourselves, and we have every reason to do so.

**Education**

Education is a top priority as our Treaty and Inherent rights to life-long learning continues to be threatened. From the underfunding of our education programs and services, to the infrastructure crisis that exists in many of our communities, the gap continues to grow for our First Nations.

The outdated formulas used to fund education programs and services on-reserve continues to impede our education systems. As the Education Authorities by which Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) funds education on-reserve are set to expire in 2011-2012, and First Nations do not know what type of funding will be available for education programs in 2012-2013, NAN continues to participate at the regional and national level to voice concerns.

One of the key areas of concern for the Authority Renewals is post-secondary education. Over the past year the NAN Chiefs Committee on Education and the NAN Education Committee have played a direct role in bringing the concerns of the potential transfer of the Post-Secondary Student Support Program to the forefront. From a motion made at a joint CCOE/NEC meeting in July 2010 NAN partnered with Chiefs of Ontario and subsequently the province of Quebec, Saskatchewan and the Assembly of First Nations to coordinate a rally on First Nations Education on September 23, 2010 on Parliament Hill. Despite the lack of clear information made available regarding Post-Secondary Education, NAN
continues to work with Oshki-Pimache-O-Win and the First Nations Education Coordination unit to voice concerns over any unilateral changes to the program.

Another key issue affecting NAN is the High Cost Special Education Program. The All-Ontario Chiefs-in-Assembly mandated the Ontario Special Education Working Group to undertake an audit and evaluation of this program, and from this report and recommendations the Chiefs-in-Assembly adopted a new funding formula. This new formula comes into effect in September 2011 and there will be a communication plan implemented to assist communities. In response to this, the NAN Education Committee directed the Education Unit to coordinate a Special Education Forum for NAN First Nations in the spring.

The Education Reform Program introduced by INAC in late 2008, includes three areas: the Education Information System, the First Nations Student Success Program, and the Education Partnerships Program. The Education Information System is intended to collect and manage all First Nations Education Data. Many concerns have been identified including the need to ensure that the OCAP principles are implemented and respected by INAC. The NAN Education Committee has requested that INAC attend the next NAN Education Committee to hear the issues and concerns identified by the committee.

Currently in NAN there are four FNSSP projects: the NAN Partners, Sandy Lake First Nation, Matawa First Nations Management and Mushkegowuk Council. The primary focus of this program is literacy, numeracy and student retention. Through the on-going efforts of all involved, Education programs and services at the First Nations level are receiving much needed resources. A newsletter was inserted in the March 31 edition of Wawatay highlighting the many great initiatives underway.

The Education Partnerships Program is part of the Education Reform announced by the federal government in 2008 and is an opt-in program for First Nations. The program supports the establishment and advancement of formal partnership arrangements that aim to develop practical working relationships between officials and educators in regional First Nation organizations and schools, and those in provincial systems. This program allows for up to 18 months to complete the Partnerships Establishment Phase. NAN has completed the initial six months of the Partnerships Establishment Phase and will move into the final 12 months in the 2011/2012 fiscal year.

Another major education issue I have focused on is the Experts Panel on First Nations Education announced by the National Chief on December 9, 2010. Many issues were identified with the panel process, including the extremely tight time frame, the three chosen panelists, and concerns over potential impacts of the process. NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly have since passed a resolution rejecting the panel process and have called on the federal government to work directly with the true experts on NAN education, which are the leaders, Elders, and educators in our First Nations.

Child Welfare

The well-being of our children and families has always been one of my priorities, and activity in child welfare has increased significantly. For the past year we have focused our efforts on attaining designation for Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services as one of NAN’s three fully mandated Child Welfare Agencies. But we are also putting an emphasis on First Nations jurisdiction when it comes to the care of our children in the Ontario child welfare system.

Since October 2009, NAN has been working with the Chiefs of the Kunuwanimano catchment area and the Board of Directors on the designation of Kunuwanimano as a fully mandated Children’s Aid Society. We have met directly with the Minister of Children & Youth Services and senior officials to present our concerns regarding child welfare in our First Nations, and the Minister has outlined her commitment to the designation of Kunuwanimano. In fact, the Minister has appointed an Assistant Deputy Minister to oversee the designation process. We have agreed to a capacity development process for the designation of this agency and a leadership Steering Committee has been established to expedite the designation process.
We are also working with Tikinagan Child & Family Services on a variety of advocacy issues, including the possibility of having this agency provide care to NAN members who come into contact with the child welfare system in the Thunder Bay district. As a major urban centre, there continues to be a large influx of NAN First Nation members into the Thunder Bay area. From time to time our members come into contact with the Children’s Aid Society of the District of Thunder Bay, but as it currently stands our members are transferred into the care of another First Nations child welfare agency that serves the 1850 Treaty area.

Many Chiefs have told me that this is unacceptable, and we have begun discussions with the Minister to investigate how this agreement was reached and under who’s authority. As well, we are currently working with Aroland First Nation to implement an existing protocol with the Thunder Bay CAS for the transfer of children in care to Tikinagan.

In fall 2009, the Commission to Promote Sustainable Child Welfare Discussion of Aboriginal Child Welfare was appointed to review child Ontario welfare agencies. NAN Chiefs passed a resolution opposing the Sustainability Commission, and I personally informed them of that. But despite First Nation objections, the Commission is proceeding with its examination of the child welfare system. We continue to monitor their work and will work with our three child welfare agencies to mitigate any negative impacts the final report may hold for NAN First Nation.

**Governance**

For more than 10 years we have been working toward taking a step on the path to reconstitute self-government and self-determination for our communities through self-government negotiations with Canada. We have reached an Agreement-in-Principle with Canada which sets out key provisions and an agenda for Final Agreement Negotiation.

I am pleased to report that we have now exceeded the minimum number of First Nations who have indicated that they will participate in the Final Agreement negotiations. To date, 25 of the 37 First Nations eligible to participate have submitted BCRs. But it is important to understand that moving to Final Agreement negotiations will not obligate any First Nation to sign a Final Agreement – it simply allows us to see exactly what Canada is prepared to put on the table in terms of powers and funding.

I see hope and opportunity as we plan to begin these Final Agreement negotiations. With the recognition by Canada of our jurisdiction in most areas impacting our communities, we can re-establish local and regional governments that will govern our communities under our constitutions, our laws and our policies. But these and other opportunities will be lost unless we are ready to do our part to ensure that we have the will and the courage to believe in ourselves enough to accept these opportunities. The status quo is often the easiest solution, but seldom the right decision.

**Water Project**

Access to clean and safe water continues to be a fundamental concern for all of our communities. In 2010 former Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Minister Chuck Strahl introduced Bill S-11, *The Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act*, which would impose regulations for First Nation communities that would ‘mirror provincial standards’, without any meaningful consultation with NAN First Nations.

Unfortunately, it is likely that most of our communities will not be able to meet these regulations as there are so many outstanding capacity issues such as including inadequate water treatment plants and sewage plants, insufficient training for water plant operations, inadequate funding to handle proper maintenance, and inadequate funding provided by the First Nation Water and waste Water Action Plan.

NAN Chiefs have passed a resolution opposing Bill S-11 and we are actively fighting this government initiative on their direction. Additionally, NAN delivered a written submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples...
on March 4, 2011 outlining our concerns and our opposition to this bill. We also emphasized the need for increased funding to support community water infrastructure and training.

Much excellent work is also being done at the community level to help improve the well-being of our First Nations. Programs we help coordinate to address Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and child nutrition have now been funded through to March 2014. We have developed specific recommendations on how to address FASD in NAN First Nations, and we continue to support efforts in improving child nutrition including pilot projects creating partnerships to get fresh produce to our communities. As well, the Aboriginal Responsible Gambling Strategy continues to develop and deliver holistic approaches that address mental health and addictions in a culturally appropriate manner through prevention and education initiatives, resource development, staff training, advocacy and support.

Moving Forward

NAN First Nations face so many challenges that the majority of our efforts are needed to secure bare minimum levels of services and programs that many people in the rest of Canada take for granted. But while it is easy to get discouraged, I believe there is a future for all of us in which we will once again govern our communities and enjoy the benefits that our traditional territory will provide to the original stewards of the land – the people of Nishnawbe Aski.

We need to start building our future on our terms, and we have to stop blindly following government-directed processes that lead our people nowhere. We must not allow others to make decisions for us, and we cannot allow industry or the federal or provincial governments to pit one First Nation against the other in an attempt to divide us.

For generations the people of NAN have survived despite the best efforts of those who advocate for our assimilation. But I have faith in our strength and resilience not only to continue to survive, but to grow and prosper in a promising new era that will not be handed to us, but that we will build together.

Terry Waboose
Deputy Grand Chief
AIDS and Healthy Lifestyles Program

Staff

Gwen Medicine, HIV program coordinator

Summary

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) is present in First Nation communities. First Nations are affected by many social, economic, and behavioral factors, such as high rates of poverty, substance abuse, sexually transmitted infections and limited access to or use of, health care services, all of which increase risk to HIV.

Nishnawbe Aski Nation’s (NANs) Healthy Lifestyles Program continues to educate NAN communities and organizations upon request; develop education resource materials; acquire and distribute appropriate First Nations-specific materials; promote awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS; provide training sessions to encourage positive living and; make responsible healthy choices.

Education:
• Community visits by invitation – NAN First Nation community schools, Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School, Lakehead University, church groups, youth, elders, community sessions, band staff, clinic staff, local radio and television programs and others as requested by community
• Video Conferencing – KNET
• Education Booths and Displays – NAN wide health fairs, youth and elders conferences, workshops, Chiefs Meetings and other community events

Training:
• University Placement Student – May 2011
• 5 day Youth Peer Education Training, in collaboration with the Ontario First Nations HIV/AIDS Education Circle – September 2010 (annual)
• “Hangin with the Boys” Project – February 2011
• “Girl Time” Project – March 2011
• 2 day Elder/Church Leader Education Session – March 2011 (annual)
• PATH Workshop – Elders HIV Education Session – March 2011
• PATH Workshop – Women’s Council Conference – March 2011

Resource Development:
• Curriculum grades 1-8 and grades 9-12 and the youth peer education manual which has been reformatted, printed and to be distributed spring 2011
• Public Service Announcements produced and completed end of March 2011
• In collaboration with the Ontario First Nations HIV/AIDS Education Circle video produced for Ontario First Nations Youth
• Education kits are acquired and distributed annually to encourage ongoing education in communities
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Staff

Wendy Trylinski, Community Program Manager

Summary

Funding for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and Child Nutrition has been extended through the Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS) for 3 years, ending March 31st, 2014. Funding levels remain status quo.

Additional funds were received by First Nation Inuit Health (FNIH) to design a Community Tool Kit to be used by front line staff in raising awareness of FASD and the impacts on individuals living with this disability. FNIH has prioritized funding in the new fiscal year to provide training on implementing the kits.

An orientation training session provided information on program mandate and reporting requirements.

MCYS sponsored front line staff from 10 communities to attend the Provincial FASD Conference. NAN sponsored an additional 2 communities to attend.

NAN developed a draft paper outlining recommendations to develop a Northern strategy to begin to address the many issues and challenges of FASD across sectors, including education, child welfare, and justice. A proposal to FNIH and the MCYS will be submitted in new fiscal year for funding to have an Elders gathering to share knowledge and guidance on developing the strategy to ensure it is community led and will meet the identified needs of the communities. A focus on alcohol use, early intervention, education, assessment/diagnosis, lifelong support services, circle of care for women and families using the indigenous knowledge and culture unique to each community.

Child Nutrition

Child Nutrition is included in the funding received by the MCYS for FASD. Communities continue to use part of the funding to support nutrition programs for children.

Child Nutrition is becoming more challenging as the cost of food and fuel increases. Community projects continue to offer a variety of nutrition programs, including breakfast, lunch, snack, food baskets, baby food making, and community kitchens. One of the recommendations is to find ways to support moms to breastfeed their babies for as long as possible, the World Health Organization recommends up to the age of three and to encourage introduction of foods such as fruits and vegetables and minimizing foods high in sugar.
Aboriginal Healthy Babies/Healthy Children

Staff

Wendy Trylinski, Community Program Manager

Summary

Funding will be continuing as status quo for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. During this time, Ministries will hold community consultations to determine program direction after March 2012. This year, 14 communities have received new laptops to replace outdated computer equipment. All communities now have new computers for the program. Some communities were able to purchase computers through own program funds.

Orientation training for 26 communities was completed via tele-health video conferencing. Ongoing training provided through community visits, office visits, and phone support.

In June 2010, a team of six parenting facilitators representing four NAN communities met in Wunnumin Lake First Nation to participate in a 5-day training session in “Make the Connection: Birth to One.” This pilot training took place “on-the-job” as the six facilitators planned and facilitated a “Make the Connection” (MTC) adapted program with a group of Wunnumin parents and their infants. Facilitators were guided by Claire Watson of First Three Years, the developer of the MTC program.

Rachel Mamakwa, our host and the Healthy Babies Healthy Children coordinator at Wunnumin Lake, recruited families with babies around the age of one to attend the program. The five other facilitators came in from Cat Lake – Nathan Stewart, Deer Lake – Charlene Meekis and Judy Rae, Sandy Lake – Gail Anishinabie and Irene Goodwin.

Funding for the project was provided equally by NAN and by a grant awarded to First Three Years from the Toronto chapter of an international foundation called The Funding Network who are dedicated to social change. The $22,000 budget went largely to travel costs and accommodation, staff time and parenting resources for the families.

“Make the Connection” is a research-based parenting program which is used by trained facilitators across Canada and in First Nation communities to help parents form a strong bond (attachment) and responsive communication with their infants. Children who are securely attached to at least one significant caregiver have been found to do better in school, make friends more easily and break old cycles of unstable parenting in future generations. A further goal of the MTC program is to help parents feel more confident in their parenting role.

Based on the success of this program, a second training was held March 22-24, 2011 and attended by AHBHC staff from Fort Albany, Eabametoong, Wunnumin and North Spirit Lake. The weeklong “on-the-job” training will be held in June or July in Cat Lake.

AHBHC trained facilitators were invited to present the program at the Provincial FASD conference in February 2011 in Toronto.

Breastfeeding resources developed in partnership with Meno-Ya-Win and NAN were distributed to all NAN communities. Introduction to the materials were provided via tele-health video conferencing. One time funding from AHWS to host a Lactation training March 19-20-25, 2011 participants from NAN AHBHC program. A session was held on PDA and breastfeeding by PRIMA Health which focuses on a model of care for women with addictions. Breastfeeding is how nature intended infants to be nourished. Breastfeeding provides a strong bond between mother and child and research has shown that breastfed babies have a reduced risk of getting Type 2 Diabetes, obesity, ear infections, dental problems (jaw/teeth formation, bottle rot, and speech problems).
Artificial baby milk (ABM) poses many risks to the infant and to the environment. There are many challenges to increasing the rates of moms who breastfeed in some communities, one crucial challenge is current hospital practices which interfere with breastfeeding and non-insured health benefits that do not provide funding for an escort to support mom during delivery and post-partum.

Work needs to continue in the promotion of breastfeeding using traditional knowledge of Elders, especially with young women, with FNIH to provide funding for escorts who can support mothers, hospitals to respect a woman’s right to breastfeed exclusively.

NAN staff and community staff from Fort Albany, Deer Lake, and Constance Lake received training on Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) and Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope (P.A.T.H.). ABCD is based on the premise that all communities have assets and gifts that can be utilized to address issues and challenges and many times these assets are not utilized. P.A.T.H. is a community planning tool that allows people to dream of all the possibilities open to them and begins to build concrete action plans on working towards the dream or vision. Actions are community led and are based on what is positive and possible. People participating in the P.A.T.H. process feel energized and hopeful that they can accomplish what they have set out to do. P.A.T.H. can be done in groups or on an individual basis. Trainers have been using both ABCD and P.A.T.H. at the community level and at the NAN Women’s Council conference held in March 2011. Staff have received positive feedback on the process to date and will apply for funding to sponsor community workers to attend the training in May 2011. Resolution 11/08 was passed at Chief’s meeting March 24, 2011 supporting the NAN Women’s Council to submit proposals for further training.
Aboriginal Responsible Gambling Strategy (ARGS)

Staff

Kathy Adcock, Program Coordinator

Summary

The Aboriginal Responsible Gambling Strategy (ARGS) is a Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport program supporting communities in their efforts to reduce the harm associated with problem gambling.

Our program mandate is to develop and deliver holistic approaches that address mental health and addictions in a culturally appropriate manner through prevention and education initiatives, resource development, staff training, advocacy, and support.

Annual Events:

- National Addictions Awareness Week (November 2010) - media resources, youth projects, development/distribution of community resource bundles
- Annual Gambling Addictions Training (January 25 – 27 2011, Thunder Bay) - development and facilitation for front line workers
- Problem Gambling Prevention Month (March 2011) - resource distribution

Highlights:

- Wunnumin Lake First Nation - children’s art project and display
- Regional poster campaign – development and distribution - NAN/Wunnumin Lake First Nation – National Addictions Awareness Week
- Fort Albany First Nation Community Health and Lending Library – phase 2
- 3 Provincial Problem Gambling Resource Tool Kits – train the trainer (Jan.) with distribution to all communities
- Completed final edit from elders and storytellers on Grades 1 – 12 Curriculum
- Fort Albany First Nation Community Wellness/Fundraising Project completed
- New Look – see ARGS section on NAN website
- 21 children’s/youth requests completed for classroom presentations, youth gatherings, career fairs, displays, resource packs and special projects
- 25 community special requests also completed for community workshops and staff training; program, resource and support group development; special events, projects and community development initiatives
- Grateful to have received ABCD and PATH Community Development training – this was incorporated into our January front line training
Education

Education is our Treaty right. It is a right that entitles each and every member of our First Nations to a quality education, and it is our belief that right entitles us to Life Long Learning.

Education Strategic Plan

There are seven priority areas that have been identified in partnership with the Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Education Committee and presented to First Nations educators and leaders for input at the Education Strategic Planning forum in March 2007. They are:

1). To ensure provision of appropriate special education funding and programming for NAN students.
2). Education Capacity Development in NAN First Nation Communities.
3). The availability of adequate, needs-based funding for education programs and services within NAN.
4). The availability of appropriate curriculum in NAN First Nation schools.
5). Education infrastructure including additions, renovations, new facilities and operations and maintenance.
7). Education Jurisdiction negotiations and the codification of NAN education laws.

In 2010/2011 the NAN Education Committee focused on the Education Reform Programs, Education Awareness, and Special Education. One of the key challenges in lobbying, advocacy and building the business case for the above strategic goals is the lack of authentic data available to the First Nations, Tribal Councils and NAN. The 2011/2012 fiscal will be the end of the five year strategic plan, over the next year, the NAN Chiefs Committee on Education and the NAN Education Committee will be reviewing the progress to date and determining next steps.

Education Capital/Infrastructure

In NAN territory, the 12 -15 year backlog in new school construction continues. Despite some new School Construction through Canada’s Action Plan, many First Nations in NAN territory are still waiting for confirmation of when their First Nation is slated for new school instruction. The majority of NAN schools are over ten years old and many face issues such as overcrowding, mould, air and water quality issues as well as many other health and safety concerns. Exact timelines for new school construction, additions, and/or major renovations are not confirmed and thus many First Nations are continuing to advocate in order to meet the basic infrastructure needs for the communities. In the 2010 budget, there was no reference to new School Projects.

Band Operated Funding Formula

In 2009, at the All Ontario Chiefs Conference the First Nations Education Coordination Unit was given a mandate from the Chiefs in Assembly to adapt and apply the draft First Nations Education Council (Quebec) Band Operated Funding Formula to council operated schools in Ontario. Work was undertaken to fulfill this mandate, including an overview of the work required to undertake this adaptation. INAC reviewed the proposal and funding was not provided in the 2010/2011 fiscal year however, the proposal is being reviewed for funding in the 2011/2012 fiscal year.

Education Awareness

The Education Awareness activities that are undertaken by the working group play an important role in promoting Education both internally and externally.

The NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly passed resolution 08/05 creating NAN Education Awareness Week, declaring the third week of May annually as Education Awareness Week. There has been good response to Education Awareness Week
since the resolution was passed, and has included many community based events.

Working with the NAN Education Awareness Working Group, the third Annual Education Awareness Week was celebrated by First Nations across NAN, as well as in Thunder Bay where there were panels on Kindergarten to Grade Twelve Education, Post-Secondary, and Education & Training was held at the Valhalla Inn and web casted for those who were unable to attend.

However, due to scheduling challenges with other important education events, a request was made to the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly to change the dates. The NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly recognized the importance of Education Awareness Week and mandated the NAN Education Committee to determine the best dates in May annually for NAN Education Awareness Week. The fourth annual Education Awareness week is scheduled for May 23 - 27, 2011.

**High Cost Special Education**

The Audit and Evaluation of the High Cost Special Education Program in Ontario that was to be completed in June 2009, under the supervision of the Ontario First Nations Special Education Working Group, was delayed until November 2009. When the Audit and Evaluation was presented to the Chiefs-in-Assembly, it was clear that there were gaps in the information, especially as it was related to the distribution and administration of funding.

The All Ontario Chiefs in Assembly extended the mandate of the Ontario Special Education Working Group until the All Ontario Chiefs Assembly (AOCC) in June 2010, to ensure that the required information was compiled along with recommendations for the administration of the High Cost Special Education Funding. Due to issues with quorum at the AOCC, the report was delayed until November 2010.

At the Chiefs of Ontario Special Chiefs Assembly held in November 2010, a new formula for the distribution of High Cost Special Education funding was passed by the All Ontario Chiefs in Assembly. The change in the formula was based on recommendations made in the Audit and Evaluation of the High Cost Special Education program undertaken by the Ontario First Nations Special Education Working group.

The current formula which will **remain in effect for April, May and June 2011** is based on:

Every First Nation/organization with a nominal roll, regardless of where students attend school (Provincial or Council Operated) receives:

- A base of $72,000

The remainder of the funding is distributed as follows:

- 70% is applied to a nominal roll factor(using a 15% incident rate)
- 10% is applied to a small school factor (under 100 students)
- 10% is applied to a northern factor (all NAN First Nations receive this)
- 10% is applied to an isolation factor (based on INAC’s definition)

**The new formula will come into effect in September, 2011** and is based on:

Every First Nation/organization with a nominal roll, regardless of where students attend school (Provincial or Council Operated) receives:

- A base of $72,000
The remainder of the funding is distributed as follows:

- 70% is applied to a nominal roll factor **(using a 20% incident rate)**
- 10% is applied to a small school factor (under 100 students)
- 10% is applied to a northern factor (all NAN First Nations receive this)
- 10% is applied to an isolation factor (based on INAC’s definition)

The change in the new formula is an increase in the incident rate from 15% to 20% to reflect the position that 20% is a more accurate reflection of the rate of High Cost Special Education students’ normally resident on-reserve. Red circling also remains in effect to ensure that no First Nation falls below the funding level they received in the 2006/2007 fiscal year.

The Ontario First Nation Special Education Working Group is currently undertaking the development of a communication plan for the High Cost Special Education program and will be implementing it once it is approved.

High Cost Special Education continues to be an area of great need across NAN. This programming is for students who attend Council Operated School on Reserve as well as for students who attend Provincial Schools under Tuition Agreements or Education Services Agreements and are normally resident on-reserve.

The NAN Education Coordinator/Advisor Co-chairs the Ontario Special Education Working Group with an INAC Senior Education Officer from the Education Directorate, Ontario Region Indian and Northern Affairs Canada.

**Post-Secondary Education**

In the 2010 budget First Nations Post-Secondary Education was referenced:

“In addition, the Government will engage in a new approach to providing support to First Nations and Inuit post-secondary students to ensure that students receive the support they need to attend post-secondary education. The new approach will be effective and accountable, and will be coordinated with other federal student support programs”.

The Federal Government has formally announced that it is looking at ways to administer the Post-Secondary Education Program (Post-Secondary Student Support Program, University and College Entrance Program and the Indian Studies Support Program).

Post-Secondary Education is a key to the future success of First Nations and Post-Secondary funding and must remain under the administration and control of First Nations. First Nations are accountable in the delivery of the Post-Secondary Education Program and are willing to work to develop improved program quality and sounder reporting.

At this time, very little information has been made available by the Federal Government through Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. NAN is currently working on confirmation of the status of the program, as well as potential changes.

**Education Rally:**

In July 2010, a joint NAN Chiefs Committee on Education and NAN Education Committee meeting was held. During this meeting it was suggested that a rally should be coordinated to bring forward concerns relating to the potential transfer of the Post-Secondary Student Support Program. From this, NAN contacted the Chiefs of Ontario and subsequently, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and First Nations Education Council in Quebec to explore the potential of jointly hosting regional activities focusing on PSE. From this, contact was made with AFN to seek support.

September 23, 2010 was identified for the National Rally on First Nations Education. The rally was a peaceful demonstration regarding our Treaty Right to Education and the key messaging was that the under-funding of First Nations Education will no longer be tolerated and the Post-Secondary Education Program must remain under the administration and control of First Nations. The rally was very well attended and helped to bring the issue of underfunding and the potential transfer of the Post-Secondary Student Support Program to a broader audience.

Experts Panel on Education

On December 9th, 2010 in the House of Commons the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada announced the appointment of an Experts Panel on First Nation Education. National Chief Shawn Atleo welcomed the announcement and the opportunity for First Nations to work in partnership with the Federal Government to improve First Nations Education.

Within the Government’s process, the Minister received Cabinet authority to establish the Panel to be an independent body reflective of areas of expertise: federal, provincial and First Nations respectively.

First Nations leadership and technicians raised many concerns regarding the proposed National Expert Panel on First Nations Education as the process was not entirely clear and the press release issued stated the mandate of the panel to “explore and advise on the development of options, including legislation, to improve elementary and secondary education outcomes for First Nation children who live on-reserve.”

The panel that has been appointed by the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada is comprised of David Hughes, who is currently the President and CEO of Pathways to Education Canada, George Lafond who is from Muskeg Lake Cree Nation, Treaty 6 territory, Saskatchewan and is the Aboriginal initiative special advisor to the University of Saskatchewan’s president, along with Caroline Krause, a faculty associate at the University of British Columbia.

NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly rejected the Experts Panel on Education, and called on the federal Government to work directly with NAN First Nations education experts. Subsequently, a resolution was passed by the All Ontario Chiefs in Assembly also rejecting participating in the panel.

Quebec and Saskatchewan have also rejected the Experts Panel process and there is a discussion taking place regarding the possibility of Ontario, Quebec, and Saskatchewan working jointly on a separate process. Further information will be made available as it is confirmed.

Education Reform Programs:

Education Partnership Program

“The Education Partnerships Program is part of an overarching commitment of the Government of Canada to set the foundation for long-term reform of First Nations education. A key component of the broader Reforming First Nations Education Initiative, this proposal-driven program is designed to promote collaboration between First Nations, provinces, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), and other stakeholders towards improving the success of First Nation elementary and secondary students in First Nation and provincial schools.

The Program supports the establishment and advancement of formal partnership arrangements that aim to develop practical working relationships between officials and educators in regional First Nation organizations and schools, and those in provincial systems. These partnership arrangements open the way to sharing information and better coordination between First Nation and provincial schools. The result will be concrete benefits for the students, teachers and administrators involved.

2 AFN Press Release, AFN Welcomes Commitment by Government of Canada to Work with First Nations to Improve First Nations Education
Funding is available on a proposal basis to eligible regional First Nation organizations for:

- the negotiation and drafting of tripartite education Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and joint action plans where they do not already exist (partnership establishment); and,
- the drafting and implementation of joint action plans within established partnerships where there is an MOU or similar formal partnership agreement already in place (partnership advancement).

One of the components of the Education Partnerships Program report from the conference, held in November 2009, is the Partnerships Risk Analysis and this must be considered before it is decided if the development of an MOU in any way jeopardizes the Treaty Right to Education or the delivery of any aspect of Education funding, programs and services. NAN is currently working with INAC and the Ministry of Education to determine priority issues should the Education Partnerships Proposal continues into the second phase.

The Education Partnerships Program is part of the Education Reform announced by the Federal Government in 2008 and is an opt-in Program for First Nations. The Program supports the establishment and advancement of formal partnership arrangements that aim to develop practical working relationships between officials and educators in regional First Nation organizations and schools, and those in provincial systems.

The EPP has three phases for which INAC will provide funding:

- Preliminary Consultations Phase
- Partnership Development Phase
- Partnership Implementation Phase

The initial NAN Education Partnership Proposal was developed in consultation with Tribal Council and other NAN education representatives and submitted in February 2009. The proposal included Independent First Nations Alliance, Keewaytinook Okimakanak, Shibogama, Windigo and Wabun Tribal Councils. In early 2011, Matawa First Nations Management confirmed their participation in the NAN wide process. Mushkegowuk Education staff have also indicated that they will participate in the NAN process, and a meeting will take place to further discuss and confirm their participation.

At the 2011 Winter Chiefs Assembly, a resolution was passed supporting NAN to move forward in the EPP process and to report back to the Chiefs regularly. The Education Partnerships Program allows for up to 18 months to complete the Partnerships Establishment Phase. NAN has completed the initial 6 months of the Partnerships Establishment Phase and will move into the final 12 months in the 2011/2012 fiscal year.

First Nations Student Success Program (FNSSP)

“The First Nation Student Success Program (FNSSP) is part of an overarching commitment of the Government of Canada to set the foundation for long-term reform of First Nation education. A key component of the broader Reforming First Nations Education Initiative, the FNSSP is a proposal-driven program designed to support First Nation educators on reserve (Kindergarten to Grade 12) in their ongoing efforts to meet their students’ needs and improve student and school results. In particular, the program will help First Nation educators to plan and make improvements in the three priority areas of literacy, numeracy and student retention.”

The FNSSP has three components:

- **School Success Plans:** To introduce a consistent and comprehensive school success plan and support the development and implementation of activities outlined within the plan;
- **Student Learning Assessments:** The results of student learning assessments are used to identify areas for
improvement. At a minimum, schools will participate in their respective provincial standard testing process. The FNSSP will support First Nation schools in selecting and implementing student achievement testing tools;

- **Performance Measurement**: To support a First Nation school’s ability to monitor the progress of students, manage schools and program-related information, and make it easier to gather, analyze and report on financial and performance indicators.

Funding is available on a proposal basis to eligible recipients who undertake all three components of the FNSSP within a three year period.\(^4\)

Currently in NAN there are four FNSSP projects. Sandy Lake First Nation and NAN completed the second year of their FNSSP projects and Matawa First Nations Management and Mushkegowuk completed the first year of their FNSSP projects in the 2010/2011 fiscal year.

Although the timely release of funding has impacted the ability of all those administering the program to undertake work over the fiscal year and within time lines identified in work plans, there has been improvement on the amount of time it takes for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to flow FNSSP funding.

**NAN FNSSP Partners Update**

The NAN FNSSP project includes a partnership between the following organizations: Nishnawbe Aski Nation, Kwayaciwin Education Resource Centre (KERC), Kuhkenah Network (K-Net), Northern Nishnawbe Education Council (NNEC), Keewaytinook Internet High School (KiHS), Keewaytinook Okimakanak Student Support Services, Shibogama Student Support Services, Weenusk First Nation, and Mattagami First Nation with support from Windigo Tribal Council and Independent First Nations Alliance.

The NAN Partners FNSSP Project had the benefit of the pre-existing second level organizations that were able to quickly commit and begin the work. The funding for the first year of the FNSSP was received in December 2009 with a full year’s work being completed from January to March 2010. The second year of the FNSSP was the 2010/2011 fiscal year.

Kwayaciwin Education Resource Centre (KERC) assisted the majority of the community schools with developing their school improvement plans, although the communities ultimately decide on the programs and resources they will utilize. Some examples of the programs and resources that KERC delivers to the communities include the following: JUMP Math, Remediation Plus, Digital Camera Project, Front Row, and the Who is Nobody? Project.

Kuhkenah Network (K-Net) has coordinated the performance management component of the FNSSP for the majority of the schools. Dadavan software has been the main software used at the community level for the Data Management portion of the project. This software is highly customizable and can be modified to suit each community needs. Each community has complete ownership over the data that is gathered with this software. The ownership, control, access, and possession (OCAP) principals have been adhered to throughout the implementation of the school database system. The majority of K-Net’s partner schools have the Dadavan system and have had on-site servers installed, with a backup server maintained by K-Net in Sioux Lookout.

Each of the 23 schools serviced by KERC and K-Net has received funding for a Community Liaison Worker (part time) with costs being shared by KERC and K-Net. The responsibilities of these workers include data collection in the schools and promotion of the goals of the FNSSP – literacy, numeracy and student retention - throughout the community. K-Net provides Dadavan training and support to the Community Liaison workers in the communities. K-Net also developed and maintains the “FNSSP Meeting Place.” This website is an online open forum for sharing best practices

\(^4\) http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/edu/ep/ssp-eng.asp
through forum discussions, archived training and resources. Please visit http://fnssp.knet.ca for more information.

The majority of elementary schools have used the Canadian Test of Basic Skills (CTBS) to satisfy the Student Learning Assessment component of the FNSSP. Northern Nishnawbe Education Council (NNEC) have used the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT), Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) test, Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test (C-CAT) and a few additional tests in Pelican Falls First Nation High School and Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School.

The FNSSP Partner organizations provide many services to the schools. A summary of those includes, but is not limited to: Keewaytinook Internet High School (KiHS) partners with KERC to deliver secondary school services online. Keewaytinook Okimakanak Student Support Services and Shibogama Student Support Services provide student retention services to their secondary school students. Weenusk First Nation and Mattagami First Nation deliver the program in their respective communities. NAN provides administrative and advocacy services for the project and partners, including the coordination of proposals, funding, reporting, and communication.

NAN and the FNSSP partners hosted an FNSSP conference in Thunder Bay, on December 1, 2 and 3, 2010. Approximately 100 participants attended the 3-day event. The conference provided an opportunity for the project partners and experts to provide training on a number of topics including the following: developing literacy in a First Nations context, student retention and parental involvement, Dadavan training, and how we can use assessments to improve school outcomes. The conference ended with a presentation to the Education Directors, Principals, and teachers in attendance on the proposed work plan for the third and final year of the NAN FNSSP project. Overall, the conference was a success with positive feedback received from those in attendance.

The FNSSP has provided much needed resources for the schools, teachers and students. Every project partner is very committed to the program and it is already making a difference. In addition to the direct impact on the students, the organizations involved have taken advantage of the increased opportunities to collaborate and partner on other initiatives.
Social Services

Staff

Lawrence Baxter, Director of Social Services

Commission to Promote Sustainable Child Welfare

In July 2009, the Government of Ontario established the Commission to Promote Sustainable Child Welfare to propose changes for Children’s Aid Societies (CASs).

On November 26, 2009 Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Chiefs-in-Assembly passed Resolution 09/76 against participation in any review process designed without NAN First Nation input.

Members of the Commission visited Thunder Bay on January 21, 2010, where NAN Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose delivered a statement voicing NAN’s opposition to the Commission as it pertains to Children’s Aid Societies in Ontario.


The Commission has set out a Strategy for Sustainable Aboriginal Child Welfare...

“A modernized child welfare system providing integrated child-focused services fully aligned with the broader network of children’s services to improve outcomes for children and youth. In which... Aboriginal children, whether on-reserve or off-reserve, will have access to services that reflect their needs and are delivered in ways that respect their culture, heritage and traditions.”

...which includes:

1. Reconfigure the organization of CAS structures and service delivery.
2. Change the approach to funding child welfare.
3. Implement a new approach to accountability and system management.
4. Strengthen and improve service delivery.
5. Advance broader integration of services for vulnerable children and families.
6. Advance Aboriginal approaches to child welfare.

The Commission has found that child welfare services for Aboriginal children and families have many of the same challenges and demonstrate many of the same strengths of child welfare services across the province. However, the Commission found differences in how Aboriginal children are served across Ontario such as:

1. some are served by the six mandated Aboriginal Children’s Aid Societies;
2. some through mainstream CASs; and
3. some are served through inter-agency service agreements.

The Commission has concluded that:

• Children (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal) in many communities would be better served by larger agencies more able to achieve economies of scale.
• In some rural communities, scale and sustainability may be best achieved by joining with other agencies.
• There may be ways to move towards larger and more sustainable agency models by improving collaboration between Aboriginal agencies or sharing support services and areas of expertise.

• One size does not fit all. The way services are organized, managed and delivered must take into account the needs of the children and families served, as well as the social and economic circumstances of the communities and the availability of other services and supports.

• The size of the Aboriginal child population in Ontario is growing rapidly, unlike the non-Aboriginal child population.

• Aboriginal children are significantly over represented in CAS in-care population.

• Northern communities have few services available, costs for basic goods and services are high, and transportation is difficult and expensive.

• Aboriginal children are often placed hundreds or thousands of kilometres away from their home with limited ability to maintain connections with their family, community and culture.

Moving forward, the Commission will:

1. Conduct more dialogue with Aboriginal agencies and communities; and
2. work with John Beaucage (Aboriginal Child Welfare advisor to MCYS Minister Laurel Broten) to identify culturally specific solutions to improving outcomes for Aboriginal children and youth.

John Beaucage is organizing an Aboriginal Child Welfare Summit: scheduled for April 18-19, 2011 at Fort William First Nation. MCYS is soliciting for advice and input into the format, potential topics and speakers.

Status:

NAN continues to monitor the Commission’s work, and is preparing for the release of a final report that could include recommendations unfavorable to NAN First Nations.

NAN will ensure that our three child welfare agencies (Payukotayno James & Hudson Bay Family Services, Tikinagan Children & Family Services, Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services) are prepared for this, and will work with these agencies to mitigate the impacts of the Commission’s recommendations impacts on our First Nations.

Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services

Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services and Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services continue to work on capacity development for the designation of Kunuwanimano as a fully mandated child welfare agency.

On February 18, 2010, NAN Deputy Terry Waboose, Chiefs from the Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services catchment area, and Kunuwanimano Executive Director Vicky Hardisty, met with the Hon. Laurel Broten, Minister of Children & Youth Services (MCYS), and senior officials in Toronto to present concerns regarding child welfare in their communities and to press the Minister regarding the designation of Kunuwanimano.

The Minister has indicated that she is committed to moving forward with the designation and eventual mandating of Kunuwanimano as a fully mandated child welfare agency. She committed to a follow-up meeting to provide a detailed update on the status of the designation process for Kunuwanimano.

Status:

Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services and the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services have agreed to a capacity development process for the designation of Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services as a fully mandated Children’s Aid Society.
Since October 2009, NAN has been working with the Chiefs of the Knuwanimano Child & Family Services catchment area and the Board of Directors on the designation of Knuwanimano Child & Family Services as a fully mandated Children’s Aid Society.

On February 18, 2010, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Deputy Terry Waboose, Chiefs from the Knuwanimano Child & Family Services catchment area, and Knuwanimano Executive Director Vicky Hardisty, met with the Hon. Laurel Broten, Minister of Children & Youth Services (MCYS), and senior officials in Toronto to present concerns regarding child welfare in their communities and to press the Minister regarding the designation of Knuwanimano as a fully mandated child welfare agency.

A follow-up meeting was held April 20, 2010 where the Minister outlined her commitment to the designation of Knuwanimano as a fully mandated child welfare agency. However, there were issues and concerns than needed to be resolved in order for designation to occur. To facilitate this, the Minister appointed an Assistant Deputy Minister to oversee the designation process and report directly to her.

Since May 2010, NAN has worked with the Chiefs, MCYS and the Knuwanimano Board of Directors to address these issues of concern, with meetings held June 23, July 12, August 9, May 20, May 26, October 28, November 22 and December 3.

A leadership Steering Committee has been established to expedite the designation process. This has resulted in an operational review of the agency scheduled for completion on March 31, 2011.

**Support for Sixties Scoop Litigation**

Between 1965 and 1985 an estimated 16,000 Aboriginal children in Ontario, including members of NAN First Nations, were removed from their homes and placed in other communities. An entire generation lost its Aboriginal identity and culture during the “Sixties Scoop.”

On February 9, 2009, Marcia Brown and Robert Commanda launched a lawsuit against the Attorney General of Canada in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice under the Class Proceedings Act. Marcia Brown is a member of NAN. Robert Commanda is a Union of Ontario Indians member.

NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly agree and support the First Nations people and communities including Marcia Brown (aka Sally Mathias) in their efforts to support with litigation proceedings through Resolution 05/55B.

**Status:**

A certification hearing was held April 26-28, 2010 in Toronto to determine if the case can proceed as a class action lawsuit.

On October 14, 2010 Justice Paul Perell issued an order that the suit had been certified for claims of negligence and breach of fiduciary duty by the government. The case is moving forward as Brown and Commanda v. Attorney General of Canada Class Proceedings Act (Ontario) lawsuit.

All First Nations who were apprehended in the Sixties Scoop have been encouraged to register with the class action. A website (www.sixtiesscoopclaim.ca) has been established to assist with registration and provide updates on legal proceedings. Approximately 700 claimants have registered to date.
Treaty Implementation Framework

Staff

Bentley Cheechoo, Governance Manager
Melinda Sault-Coates, Administrative Assistant (Governance Secretariat)

Summary

Similar to 2009/2010, there has been very little activity within Treaty education and awareness for the past four years due to the lack of resources. In 2005/2006, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) was successful in bringing the Treaty education and awareness process to 80 per cent of its First Nations, but was unable to bring the process to 20 per cent of the Treaty No. 9 communities due to the lack of resources.

NAN worked with the Treaty No. 5 First Nations on their commemoration, which was launched in June 2010. The Annual 2010 Keewaywin Conference was held in Sandy Lake First Nation in conjunction with the Treaty No. 5 commemoration.

At the March 29-31, 2011, NAN Winter Chiefs Assembly, a report on the recent findings of Treaty No. 9 Commissioner Daniel MacMartin’s lost diaries, was given to the NAN Chiefs. The MacMartin diaries confirm what our Elders have been saying; we never gave up the land but agreed to share. The diaries also contradict Government of Ontario’s interpretation of Treaty No. 9 and will impact Treaty No. 5.

Consideration:

That the NAN Chiefs continue to support the completion of the Treaty work (Treaty No. 5 and Treaty No. 9) as it is an important part of our history that should be recorded and clearly understood by the people of NAN.

Strategy needs to be developed on the implementation of NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly resolution 11/25 with respect to legal proceeding that would be based on MacMartin diaries.

Deputy Grand Chief Les Louttit

It will be twenty (20) months into my term as Deputy Grand Chief and I am pleased to present this report to the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly at Keewaywin 2011 to provide an update on my activities during the last fiscal year from April 2010 to March 2011 as per the portfolios assigned from the mandates you have provided the Executive members.

This past year has been very challenging but despite the many complex issues that are experienced by NAN and Independent First Nations, my staff and I are making substantial progress on the Chiefs’ Resolution mandates provided within my portfolio.

I am pleased that I have now been provided with resources to hire a Policy Advisor on Economic Resource Development as well as acquiring existing staff under the Oski-Machiitawan (OM) Bilateral Process, Intergovernmental Network (IGN-Youth Issues) and Governance Secretariat.

This report will cover the following:

- Portfolio issues assigned:
  - Housing/Infrastructure
  - Economic/Resource Development
  - Oski-Machiitawan (OM)
  - Intergovernmental Network
  - Governance Secretariat

It will also cover priority issues being addressed by my portfolio staff as well other issues related to the assignment of Executive Portfolios based on individual experience and knowledge of certain sectoral areas, First Nation issues (local/regional), committees and boards assigned to me.

The high priority areas that I have been working on during this past fiscal year is to address the following issues:

- On-Off Reserve Housing needs of NAN First Nation members;
- INAC’s Major Capital funding reductions in the Ontario Region which will be diminishing during the next ten (10) years;
- Economic and Resource Development issues which will impact NAN First Nation communities such as the proposed “Ring of Fire”;
- Resource Revenue Sharing for NAN First Nations as impacted by the all-Ontario model by COO;
- Nishnawbe Aski Development Fund issues relating to the NADF Review Resolution;
- Independent Power Authority (IPA) First Nations and their aging diesel generators which are maxing out their electricity capacity;
- Energy Issues such as power grids to eventually replace all diesel generators across the NAN Territory;
- Climate Change as it continually shortens the Winter Roads delivery of fuel and other essential foods and goods;
- All weather roads in discussions with Ministry of Transportation of Ontario officials
- Northern Ontario Growth Plan as it will impact NAN First Nations’ Regional Economic Development Strategy
- The NAN First Nations Economic Summit which took place in February 2011, with over 200 participants in attendance with great success
- NAN Mining involvement in revisions to the mining regulations that are currently being drafted to support the new Mining Act.
In summary, I would like to inform NAN Chiefs that NAN needs to be more pro-active, more assertive and more vocal in conveying your issues to governments. In this regard, I am proposing that a new bilateral process is still required but it must be at the Ontario Cabinet level with the direct and full involvement of NAN Chiefs - not just between NAN Executives and Ministers.

This new bilateral process will also initiate new discussions towards negotiating a major Economic Development, Trade and Commerce Agreement between NAN First Nations and Ontario that will alleviate and improve the standard of living within all NAN and Independent First Nations.

With impending resource sector issues on the rise, NAN as a political organization, must now be directly involved in the Ring of Fire discussions. NAN has a responsibility to uphold and continually protect the Inherent and Treaty Rights of the Nation as a whole. We must now seriously consider how all future resource developments may benefit all NAN and Independent First Nations in all areas such as economic opportunities, business/employment opportunities and financial compensation.

The following sections will provide more detailed overviews and high-lights of each of the above-noted priority issues which my staff are diligently working on.

Les Louttit
Deputy Grand Chief
**Intergovernmental Network (IGN) on NAN Children and Youth**

**Staff**

Corinne Fox, IGN Director  
Shirley Salt, Project Coordinator  
Donna Simon, Youth Initiatives Coordinator  
Stephan Kudaka, Youth Council Coordinator

**Summary**

Over the past year we have continued work with the official tripartite table which NAN is involved in - the Intergovernmental Network on Nishnawbe Aski Nation Children & Youth (IGN). NAN, along with provincial and federal government officials meet three times per year on the issue of children and youth resiliency in NAN in response to suicide. In June 2009, a revised Terms of Reference and a Three-Year Strategic Framework was adopted by the IGN. The next step is to have meetings between the Deputy Grand Chief and the federal and provincial ministers represented at the IGN table.

Since Keewaywin 2010, the IGN has continued administering and providing training, program evaluation and strategic planning supports to Prevention through Social Development Initiatives in a number of NAN communities and oversees all Youth initiatives at NAN.

**Youth Issues**

During the last year IGN has focused its efforts on youth issues, and as a result has undertaken a major youth resiliency initiative and produced a phase one photo voice project with the NAN “Oshkaatisak” Youth Council. IGN have continued to make contacts with the private sector and foundations on fundraising for the reestablishment of the NAN Youth Charitable Trust Fund.

IGN is undertaking a major youth resiliency project with a budget of approximately $1.3 million. This is a community-based and strategic approach to enhance the health and resilience of NAN Youth through the implementation of the Girl Power/Wolf Spirit program in 10 communities.

As you can see, this past year has been extremely rewarding. IGN is pleased to have contributed positively to the development of our people and communities.

The sixth annual Seven Sacred Teachings Youth Gathering took place from February 11 to 15, 2011 at the Best Western Nor’Wester Resort Hotel in Thunder Bay with 246 delegates in attendance. The gathering focused on strength building practices of the Cree, Oji-Cree and Ojibway people of NAN. Funding was provided by Ministry of Education, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the NAN Family Healing Initiative.

The Girl Power and Wolf Spirit Pilot Project completed the second year of its three year pilot-project. This project was funded by Health Canada, Ministry of Children and Youth Services (MCYS), Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), the World Primate Relief Development Fund, and Communities in Action Fund grant provided by the Ministry of Health Promotion.

The Girl Power and Wolf Spirit Pilot project provided or enhanced existing self-esteem and culturally relevant programming to 10 NAN First Nations.
Training sessions were held in July 2010 and March 2011 to train a Girl Power and a Wolf Spirit worker from each community. The trainings provided facilitation and planning skills with the goal of each community worker providing a program to youth in their respective communities. As developed between NAN and Carleton University to provide a community development tool as a resource to the Girl Power and Wolf Spirit Programs. The tool is currently being offered to three communities which are: North Caribou Lake First Nation, Mishkeegogamang First Nation, and Sandy Lake First Nation. The VSP tool (Values, Structures, and Process) is a process that will be incorporated into the Girl Power and Wolf Spirit programs with the goal of building a sustainable community driven program.
Economic & Resource Development

This report will cover the duration from September 27, 2010 (date in which the Policy Advisor position was filled) to March 31, 2011.

Staff

Kirstine Baccar, Policy Advisor, Economic and Resource Development

Projects

NAN First Nations Economic Summit
Regional Housing & Infrastructure
Energy
Regional Economic Development

NAN First Nations Economic Summit

With more than 200 participants, the inaugural Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) First Nations Economic Summit is being touted a success.

The three-day event (February 22-24, 2011) in Thunder Bay, Ontario, featured a wide variety of guest speakers, panel discussions and presentations on topics including: the NAN regional economy, negotiating fair and equitable economic/resource development business deals, the environmental assessment process, resource benefit sharing, business development and opportunities, and impacts of the global economy within NAN territory. There was also discussion around land-use planning, Northern growth, training opportunities, loan opportunities, and energy. Prior to the event, a committee was formed which consisted of representation from First Nations, Tribal Councils, Businesses and Organizations. Weekly meetings were held and minutes distributed to all NAN First Nations on all levels.

Funding in the amount of more than $360,000 was leveraged from Ministries, Organizations, Industry and Private Sector sources.

The report and recommendations were presented in Timmins, ON at the NAN Winter Chiefs Assembly in March 2011.

Below you will find a visual timeline which will showcase the work completed, and work that is in progress and forthcoming:

Regional Housing and Infrastructure

NAN Housing and Infrastructure has been working on three significant projects:

a) NAN Housing and Infrastructure Corporation

An application for funding to support the development of a business plan has been completed and requires review prior to submission. This funding will be utilized to form a NAN Housing and Infrastructure Corporation that will centrally administer NAN First Nations Housing.

The Housing Corporation, in partnership with NAN communities, will establish a process of rent collection for First Nation owned housing, develop a revenue budgeting process to allow for planning of spending on housing and other
projets, establish a process for the design and construction of sustainable and durable housing units based on the revenues received from rent collection, establish a process of maintenance and repair of existing housing units based on revenue from rent collection, and will apply for funding for new housing and repair programs to be applied to revenues generated from rent collection.

b) NAN Housing and Infrastructure has developed a position paper to secure funding and secure partners for a capacity building course for First Nation housing decision makers.

Confederation College in Thunder Bay, ON has agreed to work with NAN on this project. The course will be designed to first, provide a one week intensive program to improve on the results of decisions when planning a housing project, and will offer a lengthier program improving on decisions to design and build more sustainable, durable and quality housing units.

c) NAN Housing and Infrastructure has developed a position paper to secure funding and secure partners for a research project to document current infrastructure in NAN communities and to develop a model of more sustainable infrastructure systems that are more appropriate to the community, energy efficient, and employ more local people in the construction and operation of infrastructure.

Lakehead University has agreed to work with NAN on this research project. We have engaged funders and will begin to leverage funding to support these initiatives.

Energy

Four (4) proposals have been developed to support the Energy sector.
(1) Energy Director (position)
(1) Energy Assistant (position)
(1) Energy Analyst (position)
(1) Energy Round Table
These submissions are still in progress.

Regional Economic Development

First Nation Project assistance:
Tourism projects, arena/multi-purpose centers, restaurant & laundry mat business, resources for feasibility studies and business plan development, resources for information/research, funding sources, technical resources, templates, advice, tools and more.

A proposal has been submitted to the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, and Forestry to support the hiring of a Regional Economic Policy Planning position to advocate, provide resources and support for the First Nations economic and resource projects. Also submitted was a proposal to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) to support an intern position within our department.

A review/briefing note/resolution was prepared regarding the Northern Ontario Growth Plan that was released in March 2011 and delivered to the Chiefs–in-Assembly at the NAN Winter Chiefs Assembly. A meeting has taken place with the Ministry of Transportation Ontario regarding NANs participation in a transportation infrastructure study that is going to be conducted in relation to the Growth Plan implementation process. A meeting with the city has now opened the door for NAN to become full participants in the process of implementation of the Growth Plan.

Meetings have taken place with educational institutions looking to work on research projects within the NAN territory, with groups regarding tourism initiatives, mining, energy, resource development and more.
It has been an extremely busy and exciting time over the past six (6) months and we look forward to moving forward on the initiatives that have been identified above.
Nishnawbe Aski Nation Economic Development
A Timeline

2009:
- "The Future of NAN's Economy" discussion paper presented
- Resolution 09/89: NAN Economic Development Regional Strategy and Framework

2010:
- Policy Advisor, Economic & Resource Development hired

Jan-Mar 2011:
- Economic Summit held

Apr-May 2011:
- Economic Summit Report & Recommendations finalized
- Economic Development Intern position proposal submitted to NOHFC

June-Dec 2011:
- 1st Economic Development Committee meeting
- Inventory Completion

2012:
- Call for Committee Representation to all NAN First Nations
- Regional Economic Strategy Plan (RESP) draft
- Conference Board of Canada Study on the Economics of the NAN Territory

2013 - ??:
- Proposal submissions — Regional Economic Strategic Plan, Community Inventories Proposals, and Youth proposal
- Study on the resource extraction within NAN Territory since time immemorial

Community, Regional, Territorial Data Base

Business Portal

NAN Environmental Office

Feb 2011:
- NAN First Nations Economic Summit held

March 2011:
- Economic Development Summit Follow-up meeting
- Economic Development Intern position proposal submitted to NOHFC

May 2011:
- Economic Development Summit held
- Economic Development Intern position proposal submitted to NOHFC

June 2011:
- Inventory Completion
- Youth Initiatives

March 2012:
- Regional Economic Strategy Plan (RESP) draft
- Conference Board of Canada Study on the Economics of the NAN Territory

May 2011:
- Finalized Economic Summit Report & Recommendations
- Call for Committee Representation to all NAN First Nations

April 2011:
- Economic Development Team/Department established
- Conference Board of Canada Study on the Economics of the NAN Territory

Oct 2010:
- Policy Advisor, Economic & Resource Development hired
- NAN Economic Development Regional Strategy and Framework

March 2011:
- Finalized Economic Summit Report & Recommendations
- Economic Development Intern position proposal submitted to NOHFC

June 2011:
- 1st Economic Development Committee meeting
- Inventory Completion
- Proposal submissions — Regional Economic Strategic Plan, Community Inventories Proposals, and Youth proposal

May 2011:
- Economic Development Intern position proposal submitted to NOHFC
- Conference Board of Canada Study on the Economics of the NAN Territory

March 2012:
- Regional Economic Strategy Plan (RESP) draft
- Conference Board of Canada Study on the Economics of the NAN Territory

Nishnawbe Aski Nation Economic Development
A Timeline

Unity • Strength • Success
NAN/Canada Bilateral Protocol Energy Table

Staff

Bill Nothing, Director of Policy
Gail Smith, Protocol Assistant
Yanyan Chen, Energy Strategy Manager

NAN/Canada Bilateral Energy Table

Through the NAN/Canada Bilateral Protocol process, a Terms of Reference was established with INAC to address issues and initiatives in electrical energy in NAN Territory in December 2010. Initial meetings of Bilateral Energy Table have been held with INAC, NAN, First Nations and Tribal Councils.

It is intended that this table and the technical tables that will support it, will allow NAN to open political doors for NAN First Nations Electrical Initiatives and ensure that the legislative and regulatory environment is supportive of those initiatives.

A NAN/INAC Technical working group meeting was held March 2 & 3, 2011 with 31 delegates attending, representing six Tribal Councils, six First Nation communities, NADF, INAC, FedNor, and NAN. The open table discussions provided insights and constructive suggestions particularly in the areas of community needs, generation and transmission. Comments indicated that a common table of this kind was important; that the presence of NAN First Nations representatives from the North, South East and West of NAN territory was good and presented a much needed opportunity to exchange information, experiences and challenges.

The ongoing exchange of information and mutual support was seen to be essential for NAN to provide the advocacy and political leadership required to allow communities to have their Electrical Energy needs met and to ensure the success of their energy initiatives. On going communications was flagged as essential.

It was suggested that a technical table be established to facilitate the exchange of information regarding all aspects of generation, transmission and the supporting infrastructure and technologies. This table and the Bi Lateral Table would provide the underpinning for the development of a strategy to ensure that NAN First Nations participate in and benefit appropriately from, the generation, transmission, storage and use of electrical energy in our territory.

Terms of reference for the technical table(s) are being worked out and we look forward to establishing an environment of trust and mutual support so that all NAN First Nations can have their needs met and their potential in generation and transmission realized.

The Grand Chief has stated that Electrical energy is one of the three fundamental elements of infrastructure needed to build the foundation of productive economy in our region, under our control and for our benefit.

A first and crucial task in setting up this Bilateral Energy table is collecting and collating information about the needs, potential, initiatives and realized electrical projects in our communities and in our region. The roll up of information is essential if NAN is to support the initiatives and strategies of individual First Nations and groups of First Nations in the political and investment arenas.

NAN Chiefs Special Assembly on Electrical Energy

One of the strongest tools we have in ensuring that our electrical energy needs are met, and our potential in the areas of generation and transmission are realized, is to have a clear understanding of those needs and potentials expressed in solid policy. While the Bilateral Electrical Energy table will be an ongoing tool for dealing with current and emerging
issues, particularly with respect to the involvement of INAC, a broader forum is required to allow the NAN Chiefs to discuss and debate with each other the direction that should be taken with regard to Energy. At this point in time regulatory and planning control in this area lies in the hands of others. The regional needs and potential of NAN First Nations need to be recognized and supported with specific planning and resourcing.

To discuss these issues further, we are planning a NAN Specific Electrical Energy Special Assembly in the fall of 2011. There have been a number of energy conferences over the past three years, including the Energy and Mining International Indigenous Summit in Niagara Falls, in June of this year, hosted by the AFN. However, we believe it is important for NAN First Nations to have a debate among themselves regarding their needs and potential in the area of energy. This debate will act as the underpinning for the NAN Canada Bilateral Table and for NAN's work in supporting the initiatives and needs of the NAN First Nations.

Advocacy and Political Support

NAN continues to monitor the legislative, regulatory and planning activities of the governments regarding Energy. NAN has intervened on behalf of NAN First Nations in a number of issues before the Ontario Energy Board this year. Among these were the OEB’s Regional Infrastructure Planning consultation and the Application by Hydro One remotes for Exemption from the Distribution System Code.

NAN has also maintained its monitoring of the Provinces planning for electrical energy. In February 2011, the Minister of Energy Brad Duguid issued a Supply Mix Directive to the Ontario Power Authority to produce an Integrated Power System Plan for the next twenty years.

Upon reviewing that plan, NAN discovered that northern Ontario and NAN territory west of James Bay, did not appear in the plan at all. In early December 2007 NAN applied for Intervener status at the Ontario Energy Board hearings that would approve considers the economic prudence and efficiency of the plan.

NAN made presentations pointing out the needs of the remote communities and the need for the extension of the Ontario grid to facilitate the electrical energy generation potential in NAN territory. The Grand Chief also established a solid working relationship with then Minister of Energy George Smitherman that contributed to the halting of the OPA hearings before the Ontario Energy Board until the plan had been modified to allow greater participation by First Nations people in energy generation and transmission, a better consultation and accommodation process for First Nations and the increase in renewable energy and the transmission facilities to reach that energy in the plans mix.

The hearings were adjourned in September of 2008 while the OPA went back to the drawing board to change the plan. They were to come up with an improved plan in six months.

On February 17, 2011, the current Minister of Energy, the Honourable Brad Duguid issued a new Directive to the Ontario Power Authority to produce a new plan. It is important to note that this directive replaces the directive of 2008 which spelled out specific items regarding First Nations people that had to be included in the plan.

This plan is designated as IPSP II, The New Twenty Year Plan for Ontario since it follows the original IPSP tabled in 2008.

As in the original IPSP, the OPA has conducted a “consultation”. It is noteworthy that the original work of NAN has born fruit in that the OPA in its latest “consultation plan” indicated that it would not only hold regional consultation sessions but that it would also visit First Nation communities.

Extension of a transmission system into NAN territory is also identified both in the Ministers Directive and in the New Twenty Year Plan. As well, provision of affordable, reliable electrical energy in remote NAN communities is also noted.
as part of the planning process to be undertaken by the OPA.

The quality and suitability of the transmission initiatives and the means and effectiveness of providing electrical energy to the remote communities continues to be monitored.

Since NAN’s intervention in proceedings in 2007/2008, an improved relationship has been developed between First Nations in Ontario and the OPA. We wish to ensure that the New Twenty Year plan will continue to enshrine the special needs and potential of NAN First Nations in the areas of electrical supply, generation and transmission.

NAN will continue as an intervener in the Ontario Power Authorities Integrated Powers Supply Plan hearings before the Ontario Energy Board to ensure that the interests of NAN First Nations are heard, understood and integrated, where appropriate, into the New Twenty Year Plan.
**Oski Machiitawin**

**Staff**

Lydia BigGeorge, Economic and Resource Development Manager  
Jason Smallboy, Economic and Resource Development Coordinator

**Summary**

Funding and activities for 2010-2011 were agreed to with the Province of Ontario in the early part of the 2010 fiscal year. Oski Machiitawain (OM) provided limited discussions on the issues related to Bill 191 and Bill 173. In January and February of 2011, the focus of OM was the Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) First Nations Economic Summit.

At the March 2011 Winter Chiefs Assembly in Timmins, ON, NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly passed resolution 11/26 to terminate the NAN/Ontario letter of political agreement which was called “Oski Machiitawin”. The Ontario Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs (MAA) has committed to NAN to provide funding for 2011/2012 so that NAN could work on the recommendations of the 2011 NAN First Nations Economic Summit.

MAA has also agreed to cover staff support to assist with completing the TEK protocol and to wrap up other outstanding activities to deal with the Mining Technical Table and Licensing and Permits Technical table.
Deputy Grand Chief Mike Metatawabin

Chiefs, Elders, Women, Children and Youth, Booshoo, Wacheeya:

I have served two years into my term as Deputy Grand Chief and it continues to be an honour and privilege to serve the people of Nishnawbe Aski Nation. The departments under my portfolio have worked to execute the mandates established by Nishnawbe Aski Nation Chiefs; resourcing for proper health infrastructure and timely quality care, resourcing of immediate and long-term solutions for community-based initiatives in the fight against the prescription drug abuse epidemic, suicide, diabetes, community prevention programs such as smoking prevention and cessation and many more.

Among First Nations people, indicators of health continue to lag behind the general population of Ontario and Canada and the gap continues to widen. As one measure in addressing this issue in NAN territory, the Health Policy & Planning Unit, assisted by the Health Advisory Group, and very soon, the Chiefs Political Group, have identified community priorities and will create the lobbying strategies for funding required for existing and future initiatives. These priorities will be presented at the NAN Keewaywin Chiefs Conference in Nibinamik First Nation in August 2011.

As the Deputy Grand Chief tasked with the Health portfolio, I remain committed to targeting the challenges faced by NAN community members and future efforts of the Health Policy & Planning Unit and other departments under my portfolio will continue the effort of striving for healthy communities in our territory.

I am also pleased to inform you that the NAN Women’s Council has had a busy year. I was able to participate in an International Conference Women’s World and present the NAN Women’s Project to the Canadian Human Rights panel. The direction of the Women’s Council this year is to create a NAN specific sexual abuse/assault strategy for women and children and to continue participating within the various NAN committees to move the agenda forward.

The departments within my portfolio continue to develop and implement initiatives that will focus on NAN youth as they are the key to healthier communities in the future. We will continue to encourage the pursuit of education and a supportive environment from the community. The long-term goal will be the development of well-rounded adults who have a strong sense of identity, pride, and a commitment to make their communities a better place. By investing in our youth, we are investing in the future health of our communities as they are the leaders of tomorrow.

I remain committed to developing relationships with all the NAN communities in our effort to make progress toward a healthier territory. I thank my fellow members of the Executive Council for their continued support and I wish you all the best in the coming year.

Mike Metatawabin
Deputy Grand Chief
Health Policy & Planning

Staff

Susan Bale, Health Liaison
Jason Beardy, Senior Health Advisor
Wendy Caruk, Health Manager
David Pierce, AHHRI Coordinator
Leesa Wabasse, Health Policy Analyst
Vacant, Health Coordinator

Aboriginal Health Human Resources Initiative (AHHRI)

With the renewal of AHHRI to the year 2015, there has been a refocus of the initiatives framework. The development of approaches and strategies for the retention of healthcare providers and increasing the level of cultural competency of health care providers have been shifted from regional to national priorities. At the regional level the emphasis is now on health careers promotion (targeted at youth), post secondary student support and the training of existing community based workers.

Highlights of ongoing activities of the NAN AHHRI include:

- NAN AHHRI Working Group Meetings
- NAN Health Careers Role Model Search
- Participating in the Ontario Region AHHRI Steering Committee and Proposal Review Committee for Ontario Region’s Request for Proposals.
- Completion of a draft Recruitment and Retention Strategy for NAN Health Care Personnel
- NAN Health Careers Promotion Survey – the survey has been distributed NAN Wide with a low response rate. Collection of the surveys continues.

Indian and Inuit Health Careers Program (IIHCP)

The Indian and Inuit Health Careers Program (IIHCP) was established to increase the number of Aboriginal professionals in the health care industry. The IIHCP provides program contributions to support participation in education and activities leading to professional careers in health.

NAN Health Careers Program

Highlights of ongoing activities of the NAN Health Careers Program include:

- Maintenance of the NAN AHHRI/IIHCP Website and newsletter to promote health careers and highlight activities.
- Development of health careers promotion resources for distribution to NAN communities and/or at career fairs and special events.
- Administering the community based health careers grant program which aims to fund awareness/promotion projects targeting NAN Youth. Fourteen (14) projects were approved to receive grants in the 2010/2011 fiscal year.
- Planning for a NAN “Health Careers Expo and Science Fair” to take place in the fall of 2011.
- Production of a short documentary showcasing NAN Health Careers titled Leading the Way has been completed and will soon be ready for mass production and distribution.
Native Nurses Entry Program (NNEP)

NAN continues to administer funding for the Native Nurses Entry Program (NNEP) housed at Lakehead University.

Instrument Air Approaches and other First Nation Airport Concerns

Since July 2010, NAN has been actively involved in addressing the lack of instrument air approaches and the potential for detrimental health effects (e.g., emergency medivacs, evacuations) on four NAN remote communities. NAN has been invited to sit in on NAVCAN meetings and teleconference calls to discuss First Nations concerns with NAVCAN’s Manager, Marcel Pinon and Airline representatives. This provides a forum for communications with NAVCAN that has not occurred before. NAVCAN teleconference calls are scheduled quarterly with a yearly meeting and NAN is included in these communications process.

Local Health System Integration Act, 2006 Proposed Regulations

Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) is listed by Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) in the proposed Aboriginal and First Nations Health Council as one of the prescribed organizations for appointment to this Council. The Local Health System Integration Act (LHSIA) 2006 received Royal Assent on March 2006.

In May 2007, NAN submitted comments to MOHLTC for the previous version of the proposed regulation. The MOHLTC also sought input from the Chiefs of Ontario Health Coordination Unit and the Ontario Chiefs Committee on Health (OCOCH) in November 2010 on the draft membership and terms of reference for the proposed Ontario First Nations Health Council.

On November 17, 2010 NAN recommended to Chiefs of Ontario (COO) to seek an alternative approach under the COO Health Accord.

In February 2011 the MOHLTC contacted NAN to seek input and comments on the revised proposed regulations. The response from Deputy Grand Chief Mike Metatawabin is attached.

NAN will have to decide how to respond and address the regulations once it is clear what they will look like (when the version will be presented to, and signed into law, by the Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC) and then filed with the Registrar of Regulations). The discretionary power held by First Nations to participate or not to participate, is recognized and honored by NAN in the comment submissions.

Aboriginal Healing and Wellness Strategy Renewal (AHWS)

In August 2010, the Ontario government announced the direction of the AHWS Renewal.

The key elements of the proposed new AHWS framework include:

- Ministry of Children and Youth Services will become part of the Strategy.
- Aboriginal Health Access Centers funding will be removed from the Strategy and will be directly funded by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.
- Transition approach includes use of bridging agreements for 2011/12 (status quo including same report/performance measures and without the Joint Management Committee (JMC) oversight and approval process) towards the direct service delivery contract model to be implemented on April 1, 2012, (under the Ministry of Community and Social Services’ (MCSS) Transfer Payment Budget Package process).
- Existing programs and services funding levels will remain the same during the transition.
- AHWS Secretariat and JMC structure will be dissolved March 31/11 and the AHWS office will be housed in
MCSS.

- Two key activities during the 2011/12 transition year: developing a new overarching agreement and moving to new contracts.

Following the announcement by Ontario, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) and other Political Confederacy (PC) members expressed concerns to the AHWS Ministers on September 16, 2011 regarding Ontario's unilateral decision-making process and implications of a new agreement, specifically on the removal of financial guarantees as currently protected under the evergreen clause in the present agreement. NAN further expressed disappointment on the lack of a government-to-government relationship and the replacement of the JMC collaborative model with a direct service delivery contract model. NAN requested the present model be continued beyond March 31, 2011 until a proper agreement was reached and that there be a temporary suspension of any discussion on transition until NAN has completed an impact assessment on the new framework.

The PC obtained a joint legal review of the Phase III agreement that determined a weak position for a legal challenge on a breach of obligation by the Province. NAN and the other PC members then sent a letter to the AHWS Co-chairs requesting the use of the dispute resolution mechanism. The Province did not allow that process.

In December 2010, after many attempts by the PTOs to halt movement towards the transition, Ontario issued termination notices of the current AHWS Phase III Agreement effective April 1, 2011. The Province will send grant letters to provide funding for the 2011/12 transition year by April 1, 2011, and will flow the same level of funding to the AHWS programs and services.

On January 7, 2011 Grand Council Treaty #3 (GCT3) met with NAN to discuss common concerns and the concept of a 'northern table' under the AHWS governance model. The GCT3 and NAN technicians will continue to explore this and other options.

On February 28, 2011 the PC met with Ministers Meilleur, Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS) and Bentley, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs (MAA). The PC reiterated the concern on the lack of government-to-government relationship and its need for improvement for the transition discussions. NAN reminded the Province the First Nation JMC technicians have the proposed First Nation Specific model that can be revisited in the upcoming discussions. The Province was to send a letter to the PC within two weeks after the meeting to reaffirm the flow of 2011/12 funds and commitment to the transition discussions.

The First Nation JMC representatives and technicians have not met to date with the Province to begin the negotiation on the overarching agreement and the direct service agreement model. NAN Staff will continue to work on transition.

Public Health

The First Nations Public Health Advisory Committee (FNPAC), comprised of federal, provincial, and First Nations representation has completed the following: draft principles that supports a possible tripartite legal agreement option (e.g., non-derogation of existing First Nation Treaty Rights); draft MOU that is not legally binding and allows for improved cooperation without limiting any First Nation or PTO/IFN interested in undertaking a legal agreement; draft local agreements for the use of First Nations interested in entering into service agreements in coordination and cooperation with local Public Health Units (PHUs); and finally a checklist that would identify a range of services for First Nations to use in negotiating public health services from their local PHUs.

Health Promotions

The Ontario First Nations Integrated Health Promotion Strategy (OFNIHPS) Tripartite Working Group comprised of PTOs, Health Canada Ontario Region, and the Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport, have completed an environmental
scan of Ontario First Nations to obtain an inventory of community-based health promotion resources, facilities, training needs, human resource capacity, and programming; Asset Mapping and Diabetes training workshops; the “Our Time, Our Health” web portal; a communication strategy; and a website. First Nations will be given this information to assist in proposal development, planning and priorities planning.

**Diabetes**

NAN was approved for funding from the Northern Diabetes Health Network (NDHN) - Northern Ontario Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative (NOADI) program to implement the “Its All Good” (IAG) Diabetes Prevention and Management Education Program, a NAN-specific Diabetes initiative. The IAG program was delivered in three phases and a manual was developed specific to NAN. By facilitating one of these 5 modules within communities, the community-based health workers had an opportunity to put into practice what they have learned in the IAG program, that is, plan, implement and facilitate diabetes workshops in their communities.

**Chiropody**

NAN received funding from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) to provide Chiropody services to the NAN First Nations during the 2010/2011 fiscal year. The Chiropodist will travel to NAN First Nations and provide direct diabetic foot screening, risk assessment and medical care when necessary.

Due to increased demand for this service, the Chiropodist has increased the number of days spent in each community which allows for more patients to be seen. NAN has submitted a continuation proposal to MOHLTC to ensure this service is provided in the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

**Tobacco – Smoking Cessation Education Project**

NAN received funding from Health Canada’s Federal Tobacco Control Strategy to implement a NAN-specific Smoking Cessation Education Project, the Quit Coach™ Program that trained 10 community-based health workers to become Assistant Quit Coaches. This program assists and supports individuals interested in quitting smoking and is currently based in the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre. This innovative smoking cessation is being implemented in NAN via videoconferencing in a collaborative effort with the staff of KO Telemedicine (KOTM) and the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre. The Assistant Quit Coaches were given the necessary tools and equipment needed to assist in the delivery and implementation of this program. An additional one-day session was offered to the community workers in January 2011 to provide additional hands-on training.

**Pfizer Health Investment Initiative**

NAN received approval for a one-time grant from Pfizer Health Investment Initiative that addressed tobacco reduction - “Reducing Tobacco Use within NAN First Nations through Promising Practices”. This one-time grant funding provided additional training to the Assistant Quit Coaches to educate and present helpful tools for starting a community initiative to promote in becoming a smoke-free community. NAN was approved for this grant because of its’ innovative programs within NAN First Nations. Pfizer has requested a Public Relations release to highlight NAN’s projects and has offered to support and assist in coordinating this public relations event with the NAN Communications department.

**Health Coordination Unit**

The HCU is a technical and advisory body operating under the umbrella of the Chiefs of Ontario. It is comprised of the representatives of the four PTOs and one representative from the Independent First Nations. The HCU receives support through the coordinating capacity of the Chiefs of Ontario office and is responsible to the Political Confederacy (PC) of the Chiefs of Ontario and is further responsible to provide the Ontario Health Portfolio with issues, briefing
papers and specific strategies for political action.
The NAN representative on the COO Health Coordination Unit is Jason Beardy.

**Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative (ADI)**

In 2010, ADI received $110 million for another 2 years (ADI Phase 3 2010-12) with funding directly going to First Nation communities. This fiscal year the focus will be:

- Support health promotion initiatives.
- Disease prevention activities and services
- Increase screening component.
- Capacity building/training for community diabetes workers and health service providers.

Additional programs that will be part of ADI resources are Food Security and Home & Community Care worker training in Diabetes.

**Cancer Surveillance**

Resolution 09/33 mandates the Health Coordination Unit (HCU) and the Ontario Chiefs Committee on Health (OCCOH) to explore the development of a process for creating an ongoing First Nation cancer surveillance system. In March 2010, a Cancer Surveillance Working Group (CSWG) was established with representatives from the Health Coordination Unit (HCU), Cancer Care Ontario, and First Nation Inuit Health. The PC has further directed to include other chronic diseases and develop a Health Information Surveillance System and pursue this with the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES) and seek external funding that will not impact First Nation funding. A draft Data Governance Agreement between COO and ICES will be prepared by legal counsel which will be taken back to the AOCC in one year. An application will be made to INAC to access the Indian Registry System and prepare the data governance agreement for review.

*Community Based Reporting Templates*

“Health Canada, First Nation Inuit Health (FNIHB) Program Authorities, that govern the delivery of program and services through Contribution Agreement (CA) are subject to renewal on April 1, 2011. These, proposed new Treasury Board Authorities (TBA) will result in a change to existing programming structure, contribution agreement terms and conditions and the CBRT.

FNIHB recognizes that the introduction of new funding arrangements and reporting templates may required more time then exists between now and March 31, 2011 and therefore have requested regions to identify a transition plan.

**CONSIDERATIONS:**

Ontario Region has 97 community based CAs that are scheduled to expire on March 31, 2011 and therefore are immediately impacted by this authority renewal. A number of these communities are awaiting the release of current year (2010/11) funds via an amendment to these agreements. Ontario Region will now issue amendments as a transition plan has been agreed to.

The agreed upon transition plan:

Ontario Region will extend the existing expiring contribution agreements and CBRT reporting templates for a period of up to one year, based on a Treasury Board exemption. During that period FNIH would work with all communities to introduce the new CA & CBRT templates.
This extension will:
Ensure communities have resources flowing on April 1, 2011; Ensure those communities that wish to proceed the ability to do so;
Offers the region the opportunity to assess the appropriateness and effectiveness of these instruments for full role out on April 1, 2012.

To ensure an uneventful transition Communities must:

Ensure agreement that is being amendment for other initiatives are signed and returned as soon as possible (February 28, 2011). This will then allow the Agreement to extend your current agreement for one (1) year. This must be signed and returned before March 31st to prevent cash flow issues.

Agreements not signed and returned by March 31, 2011 will have to come under the new reporting template and contribution authorities.

Considerations: Communities may have an opportunity to pilot the 2011 - 12 CBRT (reporting template) the training and data systems are to be provided by FNIHB. This is to be confirmed by Ontario region.”
*Source: COO BN

*Home & Community Care

“Health Canada recently announced funding to Home & Community Care (HCC) nurses for clinical education on diabetes and chronic disease management.

The intent and overall objectives of the Nursing Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative (ADI) is to provide educational and training needs, both in person and remotely, for Home & Community Care nurses on the most current best practices and clinical practice guidelines in the treatment and the prevention of complications of diabetes and other chronic diseases.

In order to develop an education plan for this initiative, the Regional Home & Community Care office and the Chiefs of Ontario entered into a joint partnership (January-March, 2011) to ensure the educational and training needs are met and evaluated.

A Nursing Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative Advisory group will be set up. This group will be representatives of the North and the South and include Certified Diabetes Educators. The Advisory group will also include Chiefs of Ontario Home & Community partner and staff from Regional office, such as the Clinical Nurse Specialist in Diabetes and Chronic disease, Regional Nurse Educator and Regional Home & Community Care Coordinator.

A face-to-face meeting for the Nursing Aboriginal Diabetes Advisory Group is tentatively booked for March, 2011 in Ottawa.”
*Source: COO BN

*Regional Health Survey

“The First Nations Regional Longitudinal Health Survey (RHS) is the only First Nations governed national health survey in Canada. It is longitudinal in nature and collects information based on both Western and Traditional understandings of health and well-being.

RHS is directed and implemented by First Nations, in keeping with the First Nations principles of Ownership, Control,
Access and Possession (OCAP)
Launch of the RHS Phase 2 in Ontario Region commenced in July 2008. The Health Coordination Unit (HCU) consisting of representatives from the PTOs/Independents affirmed that Ontario Region would collect data until March 31, 2010. The targeted First Nations were notified and confirmed that paper copies of surveys would be allowed."
*Source: COO BN

The results of the RHS were released at a conference March 1-3, 2011 in Ottawa. Only 2 communities in NAN participated in the RHS.

*Panorama

"In 2006, the Chiefs of Ontario (COO) passed resolution 06/47 at the 32nd All Ontario Chiefs Conference which recognized the need to pursue a “made in Ontario” approach to address public health planning and surveillance management, responsive to the unique needs of First Nations in Ontario. This included establishing a tri-partite "Knowledge Management Advisory Group (KMAG)" to provide direction on implementing an integrated public health information management system, beginning with immunization.

KMAG membership includes:

- The First Nation Initial Subscribers of FNPDiO;
- Health Canada’s First Nations and Inuit Health – Ontario Region; and
- The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care.

KMAG is supported at both the technical and administrative levels by the Chiefs of Ontario.

The FNPDiO project is the process of deploying Panorama in First Nation communities in Ontario. KMAG is overseeing the deployment of Panorama to First Nations in Ontario.

What is Panorama?

Panorama is a web-based system that gives authorized users access to a centralized database where they can collect, store, share and analyze a wide range of health information critical for managing public health issues such as immunization, influenza outbreaks, SARS and other communicable diseases. Panorama contains a number of components that can be deployed separately or together and provides tools to promote and protect the health of community members.

Good information is vital to good care, but today immunization records are stored in many different forms and locations. This presents challenges for health professionals trying to piece together a complete and accurate picture of a client’s immunization record. Panorama has the potential to address these gaps as well as provide an enhanced source of immunization information for all Ontario residents.

The first component that First Nations will deploy and test will be Immunization Management. Panorama helps public health professionals plan, deliver and keep track of immunization services and outcomes. It also provides the tools to manage vaccine inventory, track the cold chain, and support the sharing or transfer of vaccines in the case of an outbreak or shortage.

Project Status

The project is actively working with KMAG to prepare for the deployment of Panorama to Initial Subscribers with the timing to be aligned with the provincial schedule. Starting at the Health Forum, we are looking forward to initiating
engagement with the communities who express interest in being the next to deploy Panorama.”
*Source: COO BN

*Health Accord

“Chiefs Resolution 06/16 calls for the creation of a First Nations-Ontario Health Accord. Resolution 06/16 reads in part, “...mandate the Ontario Regional Chief and the Political Confederacy to explore the establishment of a First Nation/Ontario Health Accord with the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Health and Long Term Care, that will govern the government-to-government relationship regarding First Nations health in Ontario”.

The Accord was tabled in draft form to former Minister Caplan on **October 14, 2008**. Although Minister Caplin acknowledged the need for a common framework that, while allowing for flexibility, establishes a clear purpose and outlines the roles and responsibilities of all parties, the Minister also limits such exploratory discussions with several references that may continue to pose significant barriers to achieve the progress of a First Nations Health Accord as noted in his response letter of **February 24th, 2009**.

On April 21, 22, 2009 a facilitate session was held with members of the Ontario Chiefs Committee on Health, and the Health Coordination Unit to begin the development of a strategy that will respond to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care’s response to the Health Accord. A report of this session was tabled with the Political Confederacy and the Chiefs Committee on Health. The report outlined strategic options, and proposes next steps for a go forward strategy on the Accord. This report resulted in working with the OCCOH to get the dialogue underway on the Accord.

However, due to the appointment of Minister Matthews as the new Minister responsible for Health and Long Term Care in **October 2009** progress and lack of response delayed the process.

On December 22, 2009, and January 11, 2010, supplemental meetings were held with Deputy Minister Sterling from Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs to discussion opportunities for implementing the First Nations bi-lateral, nation-to-nation approach approved by the Ontario Chiefs Committee on Health and as presented to the Chiefs in Assembly. Considerations for advancement of the Health Accord were put forward by Deputy Minister Sterling and are as follows:

Focused bilateral approach on resolving 3 – 4 key issues which is not process heavy, and

Development of action plan that focuses on building a relationship to address health matters such as developing an effective way of prioritizing and tracking health issues or production of a biannual report on First Nation health that pulls from First Nation agreements on data utilization and interpretation.

It was stated that the government- to-government relationship with First Nations is seen as having been accepted, but that there needed to be incremental steps taken to develop the working aspects of the relationship and that there are opportunities to build on.

On May 5, 2010, a meeting between Minister Mathews and the Ontario Regional Chief, this was the first opportunity to meet with Minister Matthews in her current capacity and attempt to get the Ontario First Nations Health Accord on a steady track of progress based on incremental, practical approach. The key messages of the meeting were:

To get the long standing matter of the Ontario First Nations Health Accord on a steady track of progress based on an incremental, practical approach.

We stressed the point of how we have made many efforts to begin work on an Accord with the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. The efforts in developing a document that we saw as helping map out a government-to-government
relationship which would address many of the frustrations that First Nations are feeling was discussed.

We conveyed the point that we are not interested in creating an unwieldy process which may have caused some concern to the Ministry. We are interested in improving First Nations health and heath and health outcomes and I think we can make steady progress towards this goal by setting a few key priorities and jointly mapping out some key outcomes that then in turn over time, will create the processes and the relationships that are required to give effect to a government-to-government relationship.

Follow up from the meeting with the Minister and Deputy Minister result in an exchange in correspondence which provides feedback that Ministry was discussing ways that the Province could enter into further dialogue, and a process to include the Federal government. As a response to this correspondence a meeting in November was convened, and at this time we identified the areas of collaboration and a creation of a Sr Management Table to begin to map this out. The First step would be confirmation of a Provincial Sr. Management table, and a confirmation from the Province and Federal ADM meeting to address some of the trilateral priorities.

Progress with the Province has been made and a commitment for the trilateral working group to address areas such as public health and potential areas of mental health and addictions for the purposes of moving forward on discussions on the Prescription drug strategy."
Nishnawbe Aski Nation

Restoring Our Nation:  
Action Plan for Community Recovery from Opioid Addiction

Initial Report from the NAN Think Tank on Prescription Drug Abuse
(March 11&12, 2011)
Nishnawbe Aski Nation

Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) is a political territorial organization representing 49 First Nation communities within the territory of James Bay Treaty No. 9 and the Ontario portions of Treaty No. 5.

NAN has a total land mass covering two-thirds of Ontario spanning an area of 210,000 square miles. The total approximate population of NAN First Nation members (on and off-reserve) is 45,000 and nearly half are under the age of 20.

NAN represents the legitimate socioeconomic and political aspirations of its First Nation members to all levels of government in order to allow local self-determination while establishing spiritual, cultural, social, and economic independence.

NAN has primary care access from community-based primary care nurses and visiting physicians.

NAN Think Tank

On March 11-12, 2011, a group of NAN First Nation Chiefs, community members, Elder and youth representatives, and external experts in the field of Health, Public Health, and Mental Health and Addictions gathered to discuss the NAN opioid addiction crisis. A list of participants is attached on Appendix A. The intent of the Think Tank was to create an initial framework to guide action toward community recovery from Opioid Addiction.

The purpose of the NAN-wide Action Plan is to protect the health and social well-being of our members, and promote the attainment of healthy communities.
Scope of the Prescription Drug Abuse (PDA) crisis

- Oxycodone is at the centre of the current crisis. It is a synthetic opioid similar to heroin; one widely used form has the OxyContin brand name.

- Physical addiction can occur quickly; the body develops tolerance and more and more of the drug is required to achieve a high; withdrawal to OxyContin occurs within hours following use. Many people do not know how addictive this drug is.

- Costs of the drug are high, with as much as $600 charged for one 80 mg OxyContin tablet; $200 for a quarter.

- The number of babies born in Meno-Ya-Win Health Centre who have been exposed before birth to opioids doubled between 2009 and 2010; from 8.6% to 17.2%. 66% had mothers who were using drugs daily.

- In the Sioux Lookout Zone, there has been a 4 times increase in Hepatitis C (a viral liver infection for which there is no cure) between 2009 and 2010 (9 cases to 33 cases). Youth population has the highest infection rate – many are injecting drugs which increases transmission rate of Hepatitis C and risks for contracting HIV.

- Nishnawbe Police Services (NAPS) report a steady rise in policing services – 13,437 calls in 2005 to 20,325 calls in 2010, most likely linked with increased OxyContin use:

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(Statistics provided by Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service RMS)

- In 2010, there were 180 drug investigations and a seizure of 8500 OxyContin tablets worth an estimated value of $3.4 million in Northern communities.
In comparison to other communities in Ontario of similar population, the NAPS Crime Severity Index is high at 268.9. In comparison, the Crime Severity Index for Cornwall is 112.3; St. Thomas – 74.3; Timmins – 116 and; Stratford – 68.9.

Double the mainstream average of students at one high school that is attended by NAN youth are addicted to OxyContin. Many have asked for help in stopping their use and assistance in recovering from Opioid Addiction.

Tikinagan Child and Family Services Resolution 10/09 describes Prescription Drug Abuse as one of the most serious issues affecting our children and families, and that the issue contributes to a serious crisis in parenting and child protection. There are also reports of increased child apprehensions across the NAN territory as a result of the high Opioid addiction rate.

Many First Nations are now affected, with individuals across all ages using and are now addicted to opiate drugs.

Fraud, theft and family violence, such as physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, emotional abuse, and economic and financial abuse has increased.

Some Current Action

- Some NAN First Nations have implemented mandatory drug-testing for all Band staff; other communities are exploring this option.

- NAN First Nations have begun organized detoxification in the community through the use of ancillary drugs such as clonidine, Ibuprophen (or other NSAIDS), Trazadone, anti-nauseau medications (Gravol or Stemitil) and Imodium.

- Sandy Lake and Mishkeegogamang have land-based rehabilitation processes in camps outside the communities.

- A first opioid detox intake using Suboxone has been completed at a NAN High School. The completion rate was 100% of students who entered detoxification.

- Ontario has recently passed legislation that will require triplicate prescription forms so that tracking prescribing patterns can become more possible. The Ontario government, has approved Suboxone as a substitution drug in detoxification, through the Ontario Drug Benefits program, providing an alternative to Methadone Maintenance Treatment which is unavailable in remote communities.
NAN Chiefs Mandate

NAN First Nation Chiefs have made many resolutions Calling for Action on the Prescription Drug Abuse crisis. Key among them are:

- Resolution 09/09: mandated setting up a Task Force with the primary goal to reduce the misuse and abuse of narcotic prescription drugs across NAN territories.
- Resolution 10/63 (December 2010): called on Health Canada to approve Suboxone, through the Non-Insured Health Benefits program, for use as a detox drug; this has not occurred yet.
- Resolution 10/64 (December 2010) mandated NAN to develop a strategy and framework to respond to the PDA crisis, and communicate widely on it.
- Resolutions 06/54 and 08/40 identify actions that NAN First Nations were willing to undertake to reduce the current crisis.

Despite repeated letters and advocacy by the Assembly of First Nations there has not been an adequate response to calls for help at the national level, especially from the Minister of Health. However, the First Nations and Inuit Health - Ontario Region has funded some initial projects at the community level, as well as some funds for NAN to begin the PDA Strategy development. The Premier of Ontario, in a letter dated March 3, 2011 to Grand Chief Stan Beardy pledged government support in delivering better health care, education, economic opportunities and justice for Aboriginal people in Ontario. Despite the Premier’s commitment, no provincial Ministers have yet met with NAN Chiefs on this issue.

Think Tank Results

On March 11, 12, 2011, a group of Chiefs, community members, Elder and youth representatives, and external experts in the field of dealing with opioid abuse and public health gathered to discuss and create an initial framework to guide action on the crisis.

The Think Tank participants developed a set of common elements to include in the NAN Action Plan. Some of these need action in the short term; others are focused more on the long term. A list of participants is attached as Appendix A.

We have organized the discussions into Four Strategic Directions for Action. NAN recognizes clearly that its role is to support First Nations and their Tribal Councils in much of this work. On particular issues, however, NAN will take the lead role with guidance from the Chiefs through the Task Force mandated by NAN Chiefs’ Resolution 09/09 and membership confirmed in Resolution 11/20 – Restoring Our Nation: Action Plan for Community Recovery from Opioid Addiction.
FOUR (4) NAN STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS FOR ACTION

1. To Intervene with people abusing, or addicted to narcotics, and their affected families — TREATMENT & DETOXIFICATION

2. To Reduce the Supply of misused narcotic prescription drugs getting into our communities — SECURITY & POLICING

3. To Reduce the Demand for misused narcotic prescription drugs by focusing on health education — PREVENTION

4. To Work on Root Causes of abuse and addiction — CREATING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

The Think Tank Participants developed a full range of Actions needed in our Framework. These are detailed in work plans attached to a larger technical report to be available soon.

Below we describe some initial steps to take to continue the work on Restoring Our Nation. We expect to be able to accomplish many of these within six months.

Intervene

1) Develop a handbook on opioid detoxification processes in remote communities to assist First Nations in detoxification programming at home or close to home, i.e., community-based and/or land-based program.

2) Support Tribal Councils and others helping First Nations respond to needs for emergency services.

3) Advocate with First Nations and Inuit Health, Non-Insured Health Benefits, for Suboxone to be added on the formulary so that it can be used as a first line of defense in detoxification of people with opioid addiction.

4) Advocate for funding to support existing land-based recovery programs in First Nations, i.e., Mishkeegogamang and Sandy Lake, and, for additional programs.

5) Support NAN First Nations wishing to explore and establish community and land-based detoxification and treatment programming.

6) Write up descriptions of First Nations’ existing efforts in detoxification and rehabilitation to help other communities learn how and to encourage others to act.
Reduce Supply

7) To work with Nishnawbe Aski Police Services in reducing supply to illicit drugs.

8) Explore with First Nations & Inuit Health, Non-Insured Health Benefits Program Director the process for listing OxyContin as “Limited Use” and made available only to those who actually need them. A “Limited Use” process requires the Health Provider to document the medical condition that indicates the need for that particular class of medication.

9) To work with Wasaya Airways Ltd. in fulfilling the mandate set out by NAN Chiefs resolution 10/37 – Wasaya Aviation Security Measures.

10) To work with Tribal Councils and First Nations to find creative ways to limit importation of opioid and other illegal drugs into our communities.

11) To support NAN First Nation Chiefs and Councils as they take all necessary action on their own territories.

Reduce Demand

12) Information sheets and information for community health teams: signs and symptoms, treating addicted people, stabilizing people in crisis opiate withdrawal.

13) Public information campaign to educate youth and others about dangers of opioid drugs.

14) Support for an accommodations facility for one NAN high school to ensure students are safe and protected while attending high school in an urban setting.

15) Use ‘social media’ to reach out in an education campaign for youth specifically.

16) Start to widely publicize the dangers of opioid drugs, the harm it is causing, and the changes needed to make communities safe.

Work on Root Causes

17) Link action on the Prescription Drug Abuse crisis with mining development interest in the “Ring of Fire” and other resource rich traditional lands to ensure that our communities are recovering and healing before mining and resource development occurs.
18) Encourage long-term sustained healing; link with NAN First Nations and others with experience in dealing with addictions, addressing root causes and community development etc.

**Task Force Appointed**

To work in the *Four Strategic Directions for Action*, NAN Chiefs have appointed a Task Force of five (5) Chiefs (NAN Chiefs’ resolution 09/09), representatives from the health authorities and the Health Advisory Group, provincial and federal government, Nishnawbe Aski Police Services, Youth, health professionals who are experts in opioid addiction treatment and a Community Development representative.

Deputy Grand Chief Mike Metatawabin, NAN Executive Council member responsible for the Health, Policing, Justice and Women’s portfolios has ratified these appointments with the Chiefs at the Winter NAN Chiefs Meeting (NAN Chiefs resolutions 09/09 and 11/20) in March 2011.

**Communications Plan Being Developed**

An effective Communication Plan that carries our messages to our People and communities, to our Governments and the Governments of Canada and Ontario, to our Allies and Partners, and to all Canadians interested in Justice and Health will be implemented when the Task Force is operational.

Currently, we will work with our existing resources and start creating education and awareness in NAN communities about the dangers of Prescription Drug Abuse, what steps they can take to reduce dangers, and how to best help those most affected.

**Principles Guiding Our Work**

- Use the Seven Grandfather Teachings as our Guides: Love, Respect, Bravery, Courage, Honesty, Humility and Truth
- Work Together
- Be Practical: Solutions need to work in our community realities
- Be Clear about What We Need and Why
- Be Creative: Use all resources well
- Communicate Well
- Speak with One Voice
Technical Appendices to include in the Final Report

- Work Plans for Elements of the NAN Action Plan on Restoring Our Nation
- Chiefs Resolutions
- NAN Backgrounder for TT 1
- Crisis Briefing Note on PDA (summarizing relevant stats and issues)
- Work Plans
Appendix A

Think Tank Participant List
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>First Nation/Organization/Agency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) Phil Jackson</td>
<td>Toronto Public Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2) Doris Grinspun</td>
<td>Registered Nurses Association of Ontario</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3) Rob Milling</td>
<td>Registered Nurses Association of Ontario</td>
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<tr>
<td>4) Dr. David Marsh</td>
<td>Northern Ontario School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>5) Dr. Benedikt Fischer</td>
<td>Centre for Addictions and Research/Simon Fraser University</td>
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<tr>
<td>6) Dr. Claudette Chase</td>
<td>Sioux Lookout Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7) Dr. Fatima Uddin</td>
<td>University of Toronto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8) Donald MacPherson</td>
<td>Nishnawbe Aski Police Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9) Chief Connie Gray - McKay</td>
<td>Mishkeegogamang First Nation</td>
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<tr>
<td>10) Chief Eli Moonias</td>
<td>Marten Falls First Nation</td>
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<td>11) Chief Adam Fiddler</td>
<td>Sandy Lake First Nation</td>
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<tr>
<td>12) Chief Gordon Beary</td>
<td>Muskrat Dam First Nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13) James Morris</td>
<td>Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>14) Jim Harrold</td>
<td>Weenewayko Area Health Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15) Ennis Fiddler</td>
<td>Sandy Lake First Nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16) Erin Bottle (Youth Rep)</td>
<td>Mishkeegogamang First Nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17) Ed Metatawabin</td>
<td>Elder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18) DGC Mike Metatawabin</td>
<td>NAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19) Wendy Caruk</td>
<td>NAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20) Leesa Wabasse</td>
<td>Nishnawbe Aski Police Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21) Christine Simard</td>
<td>Mishkeegogamang First Nation</td>
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<tr>
<td>22) Jason Beardy</td>
<td>Mishkeegogamang First Nation</td>
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<tr>
<td>23) Mae Katt</td>
<td>Mishkeegogamang First Nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24) Meredith Moore</td>
<td>Mishkeegogamang First Nation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25) Inspector Roland Morrison</td>
<td>Nishnawbe Aski Police Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26) Edna Skunk</td>
<td>Mishkeegogamang First Nation</td>
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<tr>
<td>27) Mary Ann Panacheese</td>
<td>Mishkeegogamang First Nation</td>
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<tr>
<td>28) Tom Hawke</td>
<td>Mishkeegogamang First Nation</td>
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<tr>
<td>29) Charlissa Bottle</td>
<td>Mishkeegogamang First Nation</td>
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<tr>
<td>30) Lawrence Muckuck</td>
<td>Mishkeegogamang First Nation</td>
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Nishnawbe Aski Nation Women’s Council

Staff

Christine Simard, Director of Womens Development

Summary

The Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Women’s Council under the leadership of NAN Deputy Grand Chief Mike Metatawabin has supported initiatives for women in NAN territory by providing guidance and input for the Major NAN Women’s Project, Family Healing Initiative, and through the 5th Annual NAN Women’s Conference.

The NAN Women’s Council has held three face-to-face meetings since Keewaywin 2010 and has taken part in several teleconferences.

The NAN Women’s Council includes:

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<tr>
<th>NAN West</th>
<th>NAN East</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dora Beardy, Bearskin Lake FN</td>
<td>Jackie Fletcher, Missanabie Cree FN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tina Rae, Sandy Lake FN</td>
<td>Theresa Sutherland, Fort Albany FN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorraine Crane, Slate Falls FN</td>
<td>Donna Orr, Constance Lake FN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Lou Winters, Kingfisher Lake FN</td>
<td>Rebecca Friday, Kashechewan FN</td>
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Youth

The Youth seat sits vacant until such time that the Oshkaatisak – NAN Young Peoples Council makes an appointment to the NAN Women’s Council.

NAN Women’s Conference 2011

The NAN Women’s Conference took place in Timmins, March 1-3, 2011. The participants took part in a Community Development process called Planning Alternate Tomorrows with Hope (PATH). There were three types of processes under PATH: Substance Abuse (prescription drug abuse), Universal Vote and Youth that the women from the Conference participated in which will be presented at the NAN Chiefs’ Assembly.

NAN Women’s Trust Fund

The NAN Women’s Trust Fund has been put on hold until the charitable status of the NAN Heritage Fund and NAN Decade for Youth Trust Fund has been determined. Once this has been accomplished, the NAN Women’s Council will move forward with their application.

Violence against Women Hearing

Chief Lorraine Crane and Theresa Sutherland of the NAN Women’s Council along with the Director of Women’s Development presented to the Standing Committee on Status of Women on the issue of violence against First Nation women on January 14th, 2011. A draft report was released but was not accepted by the House of Commons before the election occurred.

Equay-wuk (Women’s Group)
The Equay-wuk (Women’s Group) elected a new board of directors in February 2011 at their annual gathering. The elected board members are:
Chair, Liza (Lisa) Beardy from Muskrat Dam; Vice Chair, Beatrice Joyce Sawanas from Sandy Lake; Secretary-Treasurer, Dorothy Sakanee from Neskantaga; Board Member, Sadie McKay from KI; Board Member, Ruby Morris from KI and Board Member, Kelly Anderson from Lac Seul.

A meeting has not yet been setup. The intent was to assist in the training of the new board on issues such as organizational capacity building, roles and responsibilities, and financial management. This would assist in building a strong foundation for the new board.

**Major NAN Women’s Project**

The evaluation has been well received by funders. The next steps are to continue to work with funders on different issues ranging from sexual abuse to women’s circle development to assisting in women’s leadership against prescription drug abuse.

**Matrimonial Real Property (MRP) Bill S-4**

Since the House of Commons fell, the MRP Bill was scrapped. Introduction of the Bill will occur within the next government and will most likely be identical to the former Bill S-4. With the Conservative Party having a majority government, the Bill will most likely pass as is.

**An Act to promote gender equity in Indian registration by responding to the Court of Appeal for British Columbia decision in McIvor v. Canada**

**Bill C-3**

Sharon McIvor challenged Canada that the Indian Act discriminates between men and women in regard to registration as an Indian.

Bill C-3 received Royal Assent on December 15, 2010.

**Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is processing new applicants for registration.**

The Chiefs of Ontario is working with INAC to hold an exploratory session for Ontario. A draft report on the findings should be released during their next session.
Special Projects Department

Staff
Sandra Brown, Director of Special Projects
Brook Mainville, Special Projects Assistant
Christine Mackay, Community Development Coordinator
Sam Achneepineskum, Residential School Program Coordinator
Toni Kakepetum, APIP Assistant Coordinator

Crisis Team Program:

The 2010/2011 fiscal year was the completion of the 17th year of funding provided by the Province of Ontario, Aboriginal Healing & Wellness Strategy (AHWS) to the Crisis Team Program which began in the 1994/1995 fiscal year.

Over the past 7 years of Phase 3, the Program received 2.1 million dollars annually to maintain effective and efficient, well trained, well organized and well equipped community based crisis teams that can provide intervention to traumatic events, in particular, suicide and family violence.

As a flow through agency for the Crisis Team funds, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN), facilitates, distributes and monitors the work plans and budgets of the 47 Full Time Equivalent positions. The positions are a combination of mandatory full time and half time workers that total 56. There are 47 Crisis Team Coordinators 8 Regional Crisis Intervention Coordinators that are hired within the territory to support the communities during crisis and emergency.

During the year Mushkegowuk Council declared a State of Emergency with regard to the high number of suicides occurring in the territory. Eabametoong First Nation also declared a State of Emergency with regard to Prescription Drug Abuse that was behind the arsons and high rate of crime, some causing death.

Funding will continue for the 2011/2012 fiscal year maintaining status quo. It is considered a transition year from the former pan-aboriginal model under AHWS to a direct relationship with the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

The Sioux Lookout Zone reported that Crisis teams travelled over 40 times.

Victim Quick Response Program (Vqrp):

VQRP Contact : Brook Mainville

In July of 2010 we began the small program supported by the Government of Ontario, Ministry of Attorney General’s office. It is meant to provide immediate relief to victims of crime if there is no other source of funds. During our initial year we received 8 inquiries/applications with 3 receiving approval by the Toronto VQRP office. Many of the referrals come from the Victim Crisis and Referral Service (VCARS) workers. however, Front-Line Workers and family members may also support requests and refer them to the NAN office.

We produced and distributed our first pamphlet by mail and e-mail.

Additional Crisis Support:

Health Canada:FNIHB provided additional funds to flow through NAN when current systems were depleted due to the extreme nature of the crisis . Funds were directed to support additional mental health therapists and traditional healing.

Ongoing Training Strategy:
The Ongoing Training Strategy is meant to increase capacity of crisis teams. Over the course of the fiscal year NAN supported:

- Suicide Prevention: Moose Cree, Kashechewan, Attawapiskat, Ft. Albany and Weenusk
- Nonviolent Crisis Intervention: Moose Cree, Ft. Albany, Kashechewan, Weenusk, Shibogama
- Professional Development/Anger Management: for Regional Crisis Intervention Coordinators and Independent First Nations
- Matawa: Case Management and Self-Care for FN Crisis Team Coordinators and Front-Line Workers
- Mushkegowuk: Critical Incident Stress Management for FN Crisis Team Coordinators and Front-line Workers
- Shibogama: Professional Development: Case Management/Computer Skills for FN Crisis Team Coordinators and Front-line Workers
- Wabun: Anger Management for Crisis Team Coordinators and Front-line Workers

The Men's Healing Initiative:

With support from the Ministry of the Attorney General: Ontario Victim Services Secretariat we were able to provide support to 35 of the 46 new disclosures who were victims of pedophile Ralph Rowe. 19 men have given their statements to police. The statements are currently being reviewed by the Crown Attorney.

We were able to complete two healing weeks. The program is a shorter (6 day) version of a typical treatment program model with special training tools and information regarding male sexual abuse.

We organized two trainings in Fireweed: Group therapy for male survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

With funds provided by Health Canada we were able to deliver a third Healing Week. This one was for couples whose partner had already been through Trial.

Community Development

Community Development Coordinator: Christine MacKay

The Community Development Coordinator is an AHWS funded position created to provide support to AHWS programs at NAN. Over the past few years the position has primarily focussed on supporting the Crisis Team Program to deal with challenges around the excessive and complex reporting system that was implemented at the beginning of Phase 3 (2004/2005).

The Community Development Coordinator provides ongoing support from the NAN Office in Thunder Bay to the Crisis Team Coordinators (CTCs) and Regional Crisis Intervention Coordinators (RCICs) through telephone, fax and e-mail.

The Community Development Coordinator conducted various site visits to NAN Communities throughout the year to provide onsite technical assistance to the Crisis Team Coordinators. These site visits consisted of one-on-one program assistance and are geared towards increasing capacity, skills and tools of the Crisis Team Coordinators in order to effectively implement their programs within their communities and meet reporting requirements set out by the Strategy. The Community Development Coordinator has also been part of the professional development trainings for Crisis Team Coordinators that were hosted by the Tribal Council Crisis Intervention Coordinators.

Training Workshops and Field Visits include: Professional Development Workshops on Proposal, Report Writing and Computer skills with Shibogama, Mishkeegogamang, Windigo, Keewaytinook Okimakanak, Mushkegowuk in Moose Factory, and Mushkegowuk/Wabun/Matawa in Timmins. A Training Session was held in Thunder Bay on KO Telehealth Video Conferencing Workshops; and a Technical Training was held in Sioux Lookout that included Crisis Team Coordinators from Keewatinook Okimakanak, Shibogama and Windigo.
Residential School Program:

Residential School Program Coordinator: Sam Achneepineskum

With the closure of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, the NAN Residential School Program resurrected itself primarily with financial assistance from Health Canada: Indian Residential School funds and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada: Advocacy and Public Information Program (APIP).

Healing The Generations II

With funds from Health Canada the NAN program organized six (6) healing weeks called “Coming Full Circle”. They were delivered in Ft. Albany, Ginoogaming, Missanabie Cree, Sioux Lookout, Red Lake and Thunder Bay. The weeks served a maximum of 20 participants.

With funds from the Anglican Church, a video called “The Long Journey Home” was produced. Former residential schools students from Webequie and Nibinamik flew, drove and took a train from Webequie to Moose Factory to recreate the journey they took as children.

Truth & Reconciliation Commission

NAN worked with the Truth & Reconciliation Commission (TRC) to help notify former students and families, arrange transportation and provide counselling support at events that were held in Winnipeg, Thunder Bay and Timmins. The TRC will continue for another three years. One of the issues that the TRC is undertaking is the “Missing Children”.

You can find general updates and information on their website www.trc.ca.

Advocacy & Public Information

APIP Assistant Coordinator: Toni Kakepetum

NAN provided advocacy, information (ie, on the Settlement Agreement), dialogue, public education, and healing & reconciliation opportunities and support for all NAN residential school survivors and their families, most of whom live in remote, isolated communities.

Fourteen (14) NAN communities were visited along with four 5 urban communities. The 14 communities are: Ginoogaming First Nation, Webequie First Nation, Fort Severn First Nation, Deer Lake First Nation, Weenusk First Nation, Attawapiskat First Nation, Kashechewan First Nation, Fort Albany First Nation, Moose Cree First Nation, Neskantaga First Nation, Eabametoong First Nation, Muskrat Dam First Nation, North Caribou Lake First Nation. The 5 urban communities visited were Red Lake, Sioux Lookout, Moosonee, Thunder Bay and Timmins. Presentations were done at local venues, also radio and call in shows were held. Radio show(s) includes but limited to: Information about upcoming TRC events. History (timelines), Student Life, Map of Schools, Effects on Individuals & Community, Intergenerational Impacts, Personal Stories, Apologies, Claims CEP & IAP (also examples of abuses for IAP claims), Services Available and Resource Information. Home visits were conducted as well as phone interviews.

Overall 259 Residential School Survivors were contacted at the community level with an additional 217 Intergenerational Survivors (family of RSS’s). This does not include listeners to all the radio shows. Radio shows were held at the community level but also four radio shows were held with Wawatay Radio.

Residential School Settlement Update Newsletter was sent out to 49 NAN communities, Tribal Councils, Friendship Centres, jails, shelters, food banks and other organizations. 16,000 (in total) Newsletters were printed 9,000 inserted into the March 17 Wawatay Newspaper and another 7,000 were sent out in a NAN wide mail out. Each home in the NAN territory would have received a newsletter.
Resolution Updates

Resolution #10/35: Support for Band and Reserve Recognition of Whitewater Lake First Nation (WLFN)

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Frank McKay (Proxy), Whitewater Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Matthew Keewaycapow, Cat Lake First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

That the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly confirm their support for band and reserve recognition for WLFN;

That the NAN Executive Council is directed to work with WLFN on a priority basis, to achieve band and reserve status in the shortest time possible;

That the joint work shall include strategic and technical planning, advocacy, communications management, and support for the claim, subject to available financial resources;

That the NAN Executive Council shall report on progress at subsequent Chiefs’ Assemblies.

UPDATE:

The NAN Land Rights and Treaty Research Unit has conducted research into this matter and have determined that it is not advisable to pursue the Specific Claims policy route. The Specific Claims branch has recently advised that they are not able to deal with the creation of new bands and the establishment of new reserves within the currently policy framework. The creation of new bands rests with the Ontario region under the New Bands policy.

In order to continue the efforts to establish the WLFN’s claim for band and reserve status, several options have been identified which will add to the existing body of evidence of the First Nation’s use and occupancy of their traditional lands. The ultimate goal is to document enough evidence so that WLFN can demonstrate that there is an outstanding lawful obligation.

Option No. 1:

The First Nation can document its traditional use and occupancy of their ancestral lands in the Whitewater and White Clay Lake area. This would entail working with a historian or anthropologist who would conduct field work with community members. The work would consist of traveling throughout the area and identifying sacred sites, medicinal plants, gathering areas, trapping grounds, structures etc. If possible, the study could also incorporate contemporary land use patters.

Option No. 2:

Additional Documentary evidence can be gathered from the Diocese of Keewatin Church Archives in Keewatin Ontario and the Thunder Bay Archives. The records would consist of additional genealogical information (birth certificates, marriage certificates, death notices) and the papers of Wendell Beckwith, an inventor who resided at Whitewater Lake. The Hudson’s Bay post journals for the Fort Hope post have been analyzed in detail. Because the post was not erected at Fort Hope until 1890, it is necessary to also examine the post records for Gloucester House, Henley House, and Marten Falls to trace the genealogy of the Whitewater Lake First Nation ancestors for the years prior to 1890.

Option No. 3:
An archaeological study could be conducted of the Whitewater Lake area. This would include a study of grave sites, camp sites, and other settlement areas.

Next Steps:

NAN will complete the oral history component of the research and examine other funding sources to complete the tasks as outlined above. The options noted require financial resources and specialized fields to commission the research projects. Option 1 requires anthropological work and the study can be funded through the land use planning initiative. Option 3 requires archaeologist to commission the studies. The project can be funded through the Ministry of Culture under the Archaeological assessments program or MNR’s park management planning process.

Resolution #10/36: Invitation to the Standing Committee on General Government – Bill 191 (Far North Act)

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Adam Fiddler, Sandy Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Lorraine Crane, Slate Falls First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Ontario has violated Resolution 10/22 by making inadequate and last-minute efforts to seek the agreement of the five communities to host hearings the week of June 14;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Ontario must make resources available for NAN First Nations other than the five communities to appear before the Standing Committee when it visits, and for preparatory work to be done in the five communities;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the five communities, supported by all the NAN First Nations, welcome the Standing Committee to visit their communities in July or August, 2010, and invite the Standing Committee to engage with them in open, respectful and transparent dialogue on mutually acceptable dates.

UPDATE:

This resolution was forwarded to the Standing Committee on General Government (the Committee) on June 8, 2010 along with letters from Slate Falls, Attawapiskat, Moose Cree, Webequie and Sandy Lake First Nation requesting an amended date. No formal response was provided by the Committee and they did not hold public meetings in these First Nations during the week of June 14, 2010. Instead, correspondence was received from MNR Minister Jeffrey requesting that written submissions on Bill 191 be provided by September 8, 2010. A written submission was provided along with petitions from a number of First Nations in NAN. Participants from the Rally in Support of NAN Homelands observed a Committee meeting on September 14, 2010 in which the members from the opposition parties chastised the Committee for the manner in which they poorly organized the proposed public hearings. A delegation of First Nations from the Rally also participated in a media scrum organized by Gilles Bisson of the New Democratic Party, shortly after this Committee meeting.

Resolution #10/42: Meshake Hunting Cabin Appeal

MOVED/SECONDED BY:
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Executive Council is directed to work with the Aroland First Nation and the Meshakes to advocate for additional funds for legal representation in the Ontario Court of Appeal.

UPDATE:

This resolution requested the financial support from NAN Chiefs, other First Nation organizations and First Nations to successfully defend their appeal. A similar request was made at the Chiefs of Ontario at an All-Ontario Chiefs meeting on November 23, 2010. Pursuant to these requests, Aroland First Nation was able to receive the financial support of (4) four Tribal Councils within NAN and (5) five First Nations and First Nation organizations in Ontario.

In 2003, Elsie and Howard Meshake of Aroland First Nation were charged with two provincial offences under Ontario’s Public Lands Act and its regulations because they built a hunting cabin without a permit. They argued that the cabin was incidental to the exercise of their harvesting rights under Treaty 9. The lower courts agreed with the Meshakes and they won their case at trial, before a Justice of the Peace (Donio JP) at the Ontario Court of Justice (Provincial Offences Court). The Crown appealed, bringing the case before a judge of the Ontario Court of Justice, the judge dismissed the Crown’s appeal, upholding the Meshake’s victory. Then the Crown appealed again, bringing the case to the Ontario Court of Appeal. The decision of this court would bind the whole province of Ontario (the only higher court is the Supreme Court of Canada). However, at the eleventh hour, the Crown abandoned their appeal. This left the lower court decisions standing. This was encouraging in that the lower court decision recognized the Meshake’s right to build their cabin without a work permit. However, unfortunately the lower courts have less authority than the Court of Appeal. The lower court decision is binding on all trials in provincial offences court. It is persuasive, but not completely binding, before another judge in another appeal.

Resolution #10/48: NAN Chiefs’ Response to Bill 191 after Second Reading

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Frank McKay (Proxy), Whitewater Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Lewis Nate, Eabametoong First Nation

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly call on Ontario to:

Respect our understanding of protection by enabling us to define ‘protected lands’ in our land use plans and removing the artificial protection target of 225,000 square kilometers from Bill 191;
Work in partnership with us on development of land use strategies, policies and regulations, and remove the Cabinet override and ministerial discretion from Bill 191;
Respect our autonomy by ensuring that Ontario’s policies cannot be imposed on us;
Empower us to decide where and when projects will proceed, without reference to whether a ‘land use plan’ as defined by Ontario is in place;
Provide multi-year, multi-million dollar funding for our land use planning whether through an arms-length board and/or directly to First Nations;
Support Aboriginal and Treaty rights in Bill 191;
Support the outcomes of our shared lands discussions and empower us to take the lead on regional approaches;
Provide a land use planning process satisfactory to our First Nations located outside of the geographical scope of Bill 191;
Consult with all our First Nations and seek our consent; and
Talk to us with an open mind about jurisdiction over lands Ontario calls Crown lands, and the meaning of the Treaties;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN First Nations and Tribal Council leadership are encouraged to send open letters to the Ontario Premier stating their position on Bill 191;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Ontario, through Bill 191, must fully recognize First Nations land use planning, and this resolution shall not impede any existing First Nation land use planning processes;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that an independent, NAN-wide working group inclusive of all Tribal Councils shall be created to address Bill 191 and land use planning issues, and shall draw on the expertise developed at Oski-Machiitawin and other tables (e.g. parks);

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the working group shall hold technical sessions with Ontario’s bureaucrats to identify exactly where the divisions still lie on Bill 191 in preparation for the anticipated August meeting between the NAN Grand Chief and the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Grand Chief shall directly engage the Premier and Cabinet on First Nations jurisdiction and coordinate efforts with the working group;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that NAN shall continue to work with other groups to support NAN on key issues such as removal of the 225,000 km/sq super-park and the freeze on interim developments;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that NAN First Nations shall continue to build and strengthen our own land use planning and shared lands exercises, and work together to establish our own processes and make them applicable in our homelands, regardless of what Ontario’s law says.

UPDATE:

As directed by the resolution, NAN Executive Council convened a NAN-wide group to meet with Ontario’s bureaucrats to see if they were ready to make positive changes to Bill 191, this meeting took place from August 2-6, 2010 in Thunder Bay. Ontario’s bureaucrats refused to share specific wording changes to Bill 191 unless the meeting attendees agreed to sign a confidentiality agreement. The Chiefs who participated in this working group refused on the basis that confidentiality was not appropriate to the government-to-government context. So instead of exact wording, the group was presented with descriptions of the proposed changes to Bill 191.

These were not satisfactory to the working group, nor did they address the demands made in Resolution 10/48 or those communicated by (1) Matawa Tribal Council (Resolution 2009/#05 and presentation to Standing Committee, August 2009); (2) Shibogama Tribal Council (letter June 7, 2010); (3) Mushkegowuk Council (letter June 14, 2010); (4) Sandy Lake First Nation (letter July 12, 2010); and (5) Windigo First Nations Council (written presentation July 13, 2010).

Rather than engage in detailed back and forth dialogue, Ontario was simply informed that they had failed to meet the Chiefs expectations, and the meeting attendees were not prepared to recommend acceptance of Ontario’s revised Bill 191 to the NAN Chiefs in Assembly. The meeting adjourned early, and preparations began for an upcoming meeting
between Minister Jeffrey of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Grand Chief Beardy, and other First Nations leaders. The approach recommended in advance of this meeting was that the Premier of Ontario be invited and that a letter be forwarded (this was done).

In addition to this resolution, three (3) other resolutions related to Bill 191 and the *Far North Act* were passed in this year (see report on 10/53 next, 10/66 on page 9, and 11/19 on page 11 of this section).

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**Resolution #10/53: Adoption of Statement of Nishnawbe Aski Opposition to Bill 191 – *Far North Act***

**MOVED/SECONDED BY:**

Moved by: Chief Adam Fiddler, Sandy Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Matthew Keewaycapow, Cat Lake First Nation

**DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Chiefs-in-Assembly, in complete unity, oppose Bill 191 and demand its immediate withdrawal;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the NAN First Nations are prepared to discuss with Ontario new land-use planning measures that respect the Treaties;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly adopt the attached Statement of our position on Bill 191, and all First Nation Chiefs will sign the official version of the statement;

**FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED** that the NAN Executive Council is authorized to organize and implement a collection action plan against Bill 191, including direct action and all other necessary steps.

**UPDATE:**

The efforts undertaken as a result of this resolution and as part of the implementation of a collective action plan included the following:

Standing Committee on General Government, non-governmental environmental organizations (ENGOs), industry groups, Chambers of Commerce and other indigenous peoples solidarity movements were approached for support; September 15, 2010 was marked as a Day of Prayer;

Letters, BCRs and petitions demanding that Bill 191 be withdrawn were forwarded to Premier McGuinty from a number of First Nations in NAN, including Kitcenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug;

Letters from national and regional organizations such as AFN, Chiefs of Ontario were sent to Premier McGuinty along with from other First Nations outside of NAN such as Curve Lake First Nation, Ontario Aboriginal Urban Alliance, Red Sucker Lake and Island Lake Tribal Council (Manitoba);

International attention was drawn from an article published in the *International Union for the Conservation of Nature* - Commission on Environmental and Social Policy Newsletter;

Meetings were held with leaders of the opposition parties (Progressive Conservative party committed to withdrawing Bill 191 if elected);

Meeting were held with some environmental organizations on the *Ontario Far North Science Panel*;

*Rally in Support of NAN Homelands* was held on September 13 and 15, 2010 (a number of Chiefs attended along with a bus-load of NAN Youth);

Delegation/participants from *Rally in Support of NAN Homelands* observed Standing Committee meetings debating
Bill 191 prior to being discussed in the Ontario Legislature (petitions from the First Nations were also delivered to Standing Committee) and participated in a media scrum in the Ontario Legislature organized by Gilles Bisson of the New Democratic Party, shortly after this meeting.

The official supporters of the call to withdraw Bill 191 included:

- New Democratic party;
- Progressive Conservative party;
- Anglican Church of Canada;
- United Church of Canada;
- Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities;
- Ontario Mining Association;
- Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce;
- Ontario Prospector’s Association;
- Ontario Forest Industries Association;
- Métis Nation of Ontario;
- Ontario Real Estate Association;
- Ontario Chamber of Commerce;
- Ontario Aboriginal Urban Alliance

As evident, support was not provided from the ENGO/conservation sector, particularly from World Wildlife Fund-Canada (WWF) and the Canadian Boreal Initiative with whom the OM Chiefs Steering Committee had been meeting with. At the time that Bill 191 was being debated, WWF-Canada and other ENGOs such as Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society-Wildlands League, Environmental Defence, Ontario Nature, ForestEthics, and Green News issued press releases in support of Bill 191. Other ENGOs such as Ecojustice, Environment North and the David Suzuki Foundation were also supportive. Bill 191 was voted in the Ontario Legislature on September 23, 2010 and received Third Reading (with 46 (Liberal) ayes and 26 (PC and NDP) nays).

In mid-October, 2010, correspondence and an open briefing note was forwarded to the World Wildlife Fund (International) expressing displeasure around the WWF-Canada’s failed relationship with First Nations and lack of adherence to WWF policy on indigenous peoples (which is supposed to support First Nations free, prior and informed consent) as a result of their participation in the Far North Act. In July 2011, NAN published an article in the Forest People’s Programme’s (FPP) newsletter (http://www.forestpeoples.org/) describing this in more detail. FPP is an international NGO founded in 1990 to promote forest peoples’ rights.

Despite its receiving Third Reading (and Royal Assent on October 25, 2010 which made the Bill into the Far North Act), strategies for continued opposition to the Far North Act were developed this year. Some of these included bringing the issue to the international level and considering options for a legal case. In January 2010, NAN participated in an international conference hosted by IUCN’s (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) to raise concerns with respect to the Far North Act and the role the conservation organizations (ENGOs) played through various international and national boreal forest campaigns that are actively being deployed. The NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly received a presentation on this and recommendations for moving forward during the March 2011 NAN Chiefs Winter Assembly.

In addition to this resolution, two (2) other resolutions related to Bill 191 and the Far North Act were passed this year (see report on 10/66 on page 9, and 11/19 on page 11 of this section).

Resolution #10/60: Call for Immediate Termination of the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement
MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Keeter Corston, Chapleau Cree First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Connie Gray-McKay, Mishkeegogamang First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly affirm that First Nations in Treaty No. 9 and 5 are the leadership voice on conservation, development and policies related to mitigation of climate change in accordance with our inherent, Treaty and Aboriginal rights, and, as such, call for the immediate termination of the CBFA;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly insist that the federal and provincial governments, as well as third parties (including the parties of the CBFA), conform to the standards set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the right to free, prior and informed consent on any lands, waters or resources of First Nations in NAN that are being contemplated for development or conservation;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the NAN Executive Council to advise the signatories to the CBFA to take steps to immediately terminate their Agreement and discontinue their efforts to obtain support for the CBFA from NAN First Nations;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly support continued collaboration with First Nations across Canada to advocate for the termination of the CBFA, so that a unified position across the country can be developed;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that progress on the implementation of this Resolution shall be reported to the next NAN Chiefs Assembly.

UPDATE:

NAN Executive Council sent an open letter to the CBFA signatories on February 16, 2011 relaying the urgent call for the immediate termination of this agreement. The letter raised concerns with the manner in which the CBFA is being promoted in the media devoid of First Nation concerns (stories promoting the CBFA have been published in the Canadian Geographic magazine, amongst other media outlets). It also advised that it was in direct attack on the vision of the Treaties and that it served to expropriate more than half of First Nations’ land (and Treaty inheritance). It also raised the concern about First Nations becoming special targets of the larger boreal forest movement of conservation organizations, of which the CBFA is a component. It also raised concerns with the CBFA not being in-line with more progressive initiatives such as currently being undertaken by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and their implementation of decisions made in support of indigenous peoples’ rights (through their Conservation Initiative on Human Rights).

The signatories were given notice that termination must be done on a voluntary (and unconditional) basis by March 18, 2011. On March 21, 2011 a letter was received by the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement Secretariat (CBFAS) defending the impact of the CBFA on First Nations and refusing to terminate it on a voluntary basis. The CBFAS, in coordination with the forestry companies and conservation organizations that endorsed the CBFA are moving forward by identifying caribou habitat and developing new harvesting standards, amongst other activities that point to the implementation of this agreement. Avrim Lazar, President and CEO of the Forest Products Association of Canada received the recognition of the United Nations Association of Canada as a ‘visionary’ to the CBFA at a gala on May 11, 2011. An additional resolution was passed on the CBFA was passed this year (see report on 11/18 on page 9 of this section).
Resolution #10/65: Implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in NAN

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Margaret Kenequanash (Proxy), Kingfisher Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Connie Gray-McKay, Mishkeegogamang First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN First Nations are committed to taking active and ongoing measures to implement the Declaration, in coordination with Canada and Ontario whenever appropriate;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Executive Council is mandated to consider and, if feasible, implement the following measures in support of the Declaration:

1. Active public support of the Declaration, including the organization of an annual think tank or conference on the Declaration;
2. Establishment of a tripartite table on Declaration implementation;
3. Participation in UN forums and processes connected with the Declaration;
4. Support for independent First Nation laws and protocols consistent with the rights contained in the Declaration;
5. Opposition to federal and provincial laws and policies inconsistent with the Declaration;
6. An education campaign, including dialogue, to ensure that information on the Declaration is available at the community level;
7. Such other measures in support of the Declaration as deemed appropriate.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Executive Council is authorized to seek funding from Canada and Ontario for the implementation of the Declaration;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that NAN shall report on progress on a regular basis and at Chiefs Assemblies.

UPDATE:

A number of measures were undertaken by NAN Executive Council to support the internal implementation of the UNDRIP, some of these measures have included opposing federal and provincial laws that are inconsistent with the UNDRIP and incorporating UNDRIP principles in any media related responses to various issues. Staff have also undertaken a review of how various articles in the UNDRIP could be incorporated in the new NAN website. As part of the efforts to support independent First Nation laws and protocols that incorporate the rights contained in the UNDRIP, NAN has undertook efforts to revise the 2007 (3rd Edition) NAN Handbook on Consultation in Natural Resource Development to incorporate the UNDRIP, along with provide more a more detailed approach to the mining cycle and more emphasis on free, prior and informed consent (see report under separate cover). It is also looking at having the document translated into the 3 NAN languages, pending funding availability.

With respect to other measures to implement the UNDRIP such as a community-level education campaign, organization of an annual think tank/conference, or establishment of a tripartite table (if feasible), NAN Executive Council is continuing to determine where funding supports could be obtained. Funding opportunities from Canada and Ontario specifically for this area are not existent at this time.

At the national level, the Assembly of First Nations (AFN) have been engaging the Prime Minister’s office on the UNDRIP. Their preliminary discussions at this point have included defining an agenda for how the UNDRIP needs to
implemented at the federal policy level (such as Inherent Rights and Claims). They would also like to develop a process for addressing the issues, once the agenda has been solidified. This information was provided at the AFN AGM in Moncton, NB from July 12 – 14, 2011.

Canada continues to downplay the relevance and applicability of the UNDRIP. In March 2011, they released their new federal guidelines on consultation and accommodation. The guidelines reiterated the position that Canada has concerns with some of the principles in the UNDRIP particularly with respect to when free, prior and informed consent is interpreted as a veto. They indicated that “as noted in Canada’s Statement of Support (found at: http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/), the UNDRIP is a non-legally binding document that does not change Canadian laws.” At the international level, they are asking for the removal of “free, prior and informed consent” in text related to the negotiations being undertaken by the UN Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD). In early June 2011, the United States government had an oversight hearing to look at domestic policy implications on the UNDRIP.

NAN Executive Council brought a delegation of youth to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues from May 17 – 20, 2011 to obtain more information on the implementation of the UNDRIP in Canada (and other countries), along with, to meet with the UN Commission on Human Rights (Indigenous rights) Special Rapporteur James Anaya. This took place on May 18, 2011. At that time, he was provided with a report entitled “Report on the Situation of Human Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Treaties No. 9 and 5 (Northern Ontario, Canada)” – copies to be distributed. This report describes four state measures that violate human rights, these include: (1) the Ontario Mining Act, (2) the Ontario Far North Act, (3) the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement, and (4) the Ontario Forest Tenure Modernization Act. The Special Rapporteur will be bringing the report to the attention of the Canadian government so that they may respond and will conduct an independent evaluation as to whether or not a fuller investigation is warranted.

Resolution #10/66: (Bill 191) – Far North Act

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Joshua Frogg, Wawakapewin First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Matthew Keewaycapow, Cat Lake First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly authorize the NAN Executive Council to continue to explore the option of legal proceedings in coordination with First Nations and Tribal Councils that are contemplating legal proceedings in relation to the Treaties, and to report back to the NAN Winter Chiefs Assembly with any recommendations;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Executive Council is mandated to advocate on behalf of those First Nations involved in land-use planning;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Executive Council is mandated to explore options for First Nations that chose direction action in relation to Treaty rights, including the assertion of control over the Treaty territory and the development of independent laws and protocols;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that NAN First Nations continue to be unified in their opposition to Bill 191.

UPDATE:

In follow-up to this resolution, the NAN Executive Council held a conference call with Tribal Councils on March 11,
2011. At this time recommendations were developed. These included: (1) more time and careful consideration would be needed; (2) there should not be an expectation that a decision be made on a legal case until such time that all strategies are in place (including a funding plan/strategy); (3) a legal think tank composed of a number of legal firms be coordinated so that there could be a more fulsome examination of legal cases; (4) a process for education and dialogue be developed to obtain direction from treaty rights holders on this issue (an education campaign in the First Nation communities is needed).

A presentation was made at the March 2011 NAN Chiefs Winter Assembly, and an options paper was provided with respect to direction action, assertion of control over the Treaty territory and the development of independent laws and protocols. In response, the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly accepted these recommendations and passed resolution 11/19 (see report on page 11 of this section).

Resolution #11/18: Follow-Up Action on the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Jonathon Solomon, Kashechewan First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Keeter Corston, Chapleau Cree First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly confirm their opposition to the CBFA;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to collaborate with First Nations across Canada with regards to the identified concerns with the CBFA, including in the context of the National Forum on First Nation Land Stewardship in Ottawa on March 29-30, 2011;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that subject to available resources, NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to implement all reasonable measures with regard to the CBFA, including independent First Nation work on the definition of protection and conservation concepts and strategies;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that an implementation report on this resolution shall be tabled at the 2011 XXX Keewaywin Conference.

UPDATE:

In response to this resolution, the NAN Executive Council raised the opposition of the CBFA through various means, such as responding to editorials in local media outlets and raising the issue at international levels such as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature’s (IUCN) Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the UN Commission on Human Rights through the Special Rapporteur on indigenous rights. As a result of the vocalization of opposition, more media outlets are promoting the message that the CBFA deal is at risk (i.e. Nature magazine, March 30, 2011 edition).

On March 29 -30, 2011, NAN Executive Council participated in a panel with regards to ‘Climate Change, Conservation, Carbon, and the Implications for Forest Management’ at the National Forum on First Nation Land Stewardship. At this forum, a map was presented by Global Forest Watch Canada highlighting the far north as being the last largest intact forests of the world (map was forwarded to all the NAN Chiefs in April 2011). This intact forest lies within the territories of NAN and Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO). At this forum, it was also learned that 80% of the earth’s remaining biodiversity is in areas where the land is under First Nations’ stewardship. At this forum, NAN
Executive Council was able to solidify future collaboration with MKO and Chief Ovide Mercredi of the Misipawistik Cree Nation (a First Nation in MKO, formerly known as ‘Grand Rapids’) to strategize on being the leadership voice in this area. Other collaborations with likeminded national and global bodies outside of the world’s last intact forest were also established.

The rationale behind having this kind of forum dates back to two AFN Chiefs meetings in August and December 2010 wherein, a number of First Nations from British Columbia and Treaty 8 (some of whom are part of the Boreal Leadership Council of the Canadian Boreal Initiative) who are supporting the implementation of the CBFA have clashed with those First Nations throughout Canada who oppose the agreement outright. In October 2010, CBFA supporting First Nations held a meeting in Prince George, BC and developed a draft ‘Letter of Understanding’ between them and the CBFA signatories. The draft ‘Letter of Understanding’ does not require that the CBFA be terminated but requires First Nations to work with it.

In Prince George, a discussion paper was also produced in conjunction with CBFA signatories which made the recommendation for a National First Nation Natural Resource Secretariat. This has been raised numerous occasions since as follows: (1) March 29 & 30, 2011, AFN/NAFA National Forum on First Nation Land Stewardship, (2) June 27 – 29, 2011 International Indigenous Summit on Energy & Mining (the concept became re-packaged to a “Virtual Institute on First Nation Energy and Mining”), and (3) July 12 – 14, 2011, AFN AGM in Moncton, NB.

The concern for the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly has been that the CBFA is working to force the hand of government in critical policy areas pertaining to the land (and the establishment of further protected areas by outsiders). It is also about the obligation to obtain free, prior and informed consent prior to the governments handing out concessions to third-party private interests groups (including conservations organizations and industry).

With regards to independent First Nation work on the definition of protection and conservation concepts and strategies, a number of First Nations in NAN have been undertaking this work and will continue to do so as they proceed with community-based land use planning. At the 2011 NAN Chiefs Keewaywin, the concept of a collaborative research project with Lakehead University which will examine the role of conservation organizations in NAN along with give voice to First Nations’ views on land stewardship will be introduced for the consideration of the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly (see Briefing Note provided under separate cover).

**Resolution #11/19: Consideration of Legal Options Against the Far North Act**

**MOVED/SECONDED BY:**

Moved by: Chief Joshua Frogg, Wawakapewin First Nation  
Seconded by: Chief Keeter Corston, Chapleau Cree First Nation

**DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly accept this recommendation and direct the NAN Executive Council to complete its consideration of the option of legal proceedings against Bill 191 (the Far North Act);

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that a final report be made for decision making at the 2011 XXX Keewaywin Conference;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution is without prejudice to the NAN First Nation position that Bill 191 is not a valid law.

**UPDATE:**
Resolution #11/26: Termination of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation/Ontario Letter of Political Agreement

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Joshua Frogg, Wawakapewin First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Gordon Beardy, Muskrat Dam First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to advise the Government of Ontario, in writing, that the Letter of Political Agreement is terminated, in accordance with the terms of the Agreement.

UPDATE:

In follow-up to this resolution, NAN Executive Council forwarded a letter dated April 5, 2011 to Ontario Minister of Aboriginal Affairs giving the required 30 days notice of termination. The Minister was informed that the decision was made based on the conclusion of the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly that the process failed to meet its intended purpose and did not make progress on the key areas identified. The Minister was advised that the passage of Bill 191 (the Far North Act) without the consent of the NAN First Nations was fatal to this process and the NAN Chiefs concluded that this decision to terminate is in conformity with their position that they do not recognize the Far North Act.

A 3 year review of the Letter of Political Agreement was also completed on March 31, 2011 (copies available upon request).

Resolution #10/01: Northwestern Ontario First Nations Broadband Infrastructure Project

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Gordon Beardy, Muskrat Dam First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Rita Thompson, North Spirit Lake First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

That the 25 First Nations to be served direct NAN Executive Council by Band Council Resolution to pursue this initiative including negotiating and signing Contribution Agreements, and negotiating and signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Bell Aliant and Ontario with respect to the Project under the direction of the Chiefs Committee.

UPDATE:

Participants in the Northwestern Ontario Broadband Expansion Initiative include: NAN, The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, Industry Canada, Health Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation and Bell Aliant. The total budget for the Initiative is $81.4 million.

Agreements to be finalized and flow directly through NAN are with:
A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between NAN and Bell Aliant has been finalized and were signed Dec 17, 2010 and Jan 7, 2011 respectively. The MOA outlines the roles and responsibilities of each party within the Initiative.

Resolution #10/05: Eastern Loop

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Lewis Nate, Eabametoong First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Eli Moonias, Marten Falls First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs support the position that a fibre-optic cable also be built south from Matawa area First Nations.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that discussions begin on the viability of a loop system within Project Five of this Initiative to improve the reliability of the fibre-optic service in this area.

UPDATE:

No action to date.

Discussions will be required with the Matawa area First Nations as well as the Matawa Tribal Council to identify administrative responsibilities and lead roles.

Resolution #10/06: Broadband Expansion Initiative for Nishnawbe Aski Nation First Nations

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Roy Dale Meekis, Deer Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Gordon Beardy, Muskrat Dam First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

Broadband Chiefs acknowledge and thank KO/K-Net for its leadership in making First Nations in Ontario’s far north leaders in connectivity, telecommunications and the development of broadband applications;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Broadband Chiefs direct the NAN Executive Council to work with our communities to plan and develop an acceptable route and construction schedule to complete the construction of the fibre cable network to reach the communities;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly reaffirm their support of the KO/Knet and its work;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Interim Board of Coordinating Corporation (CoCo) develop protocol with KO/K-Net
to clarify how CoCo and KO/K-Net will work together.

Resolution #10/07: Broadband Initiative Funding

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by:  Chief Titus Tait, Sachigo Lake First Nation
Seconded by:  Chief Gordon Beardy, Muskrat Dam First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Executive Council make it known to all funders that First Nation project
funding must not be jeopardized in any way by funding of the Broadband Expansion Initiative.

UPDATE:

NAN has continued to communicate the importance of funding at the community level and to ensure the overall
funding of this Initiative does not limit activities or initiatives developed by the communities.

Resolution #10/08: Broadband Coordinating Corporation Further Development

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by:  Chief Lewis Nate, Eabametoong First Nation
Seconded by:  Chief William Harper, Koocheching First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Interim Board of the Broadband Coordinating Corporation proceed to organize
itself in accordance with this Resolution, hire staff, and respond to Bell Aliant’s Request for Proposals to become the
contractor for some or all of the construction.

UPDATE:

The Coordinating Company has developed a corporation temporarily named “Construction Company” (Con. Co.)
The newly formed Con. Co. was created to be able to bid, as a contractor, on the various projects connected to the
construction build.

Current Board Members are:

Darby Harper
Bruce Sakakeep
Harry Meekis

NAN has further hired a Director of Special Projects (broadband) to assist in some coordination of Con.Co., along with
other responsibilities as an employee of NAN within the Broadband Expansion Initiative.

As of Mar 31, 2011, Con. Co put forward a bid on a section that extends between Kitchenumaykoosib Inninuwug and
Wapekeka First Nation which is currently under review. Current issues Con. Co. is facing are bonding, and health and safety issues. As a newly formed company, there is no track record to ensure these requirements are met.

Resolution #10/11: Northern Nishnawbe Education Council Budget and Wahsa Program

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Gordon Beardy, Muskrat Dam First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Titus Tait, Sachigo Lake First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly recognize and support the Wahsa program for the crucial role it plays in the education and training needs by First Nations across NAN territory;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly support NNEC in its request for a joint review process for the Wahsa program;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Executive Council is directed to advocate with INAC to secure full Wahsa funding for the 2010/2011 fiscal year;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Executive Council is directed to work with the NNEC and advocate with INAC for a joint action plan for long-term sustainable funding for the Wahsa program;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly condemn and reject any unilateral decision making by INAC regarding Wahsa and any other NAN education programs and services.

UPDATE:

NAN has worked with the Executive Director of Northern Nishnawbe Education Council and the Principal of the WAHSA program. At this time, the funding allocation methodology has not been changed by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada. NAN will continue to work with Northern Nishnawbe Education Council on the sustainability of the WAHSA funding and will continue to advocate for the WAHSA program.

Resolution #10/25: Koocheching Education Services

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved By: Chief Adam Fiddler, Sandy Lake First Nation
Seconded By: Chief William Harper, Koocheching First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly support Koocheching First Nation in its demand to have education programs and services reinstated in Koocheching First Nation;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to assist the Chief of Koocheching First Nation to meet with INAC and the Ontario Ministry of Education to find a solution that meets the
education needs of the children residing in Koocheching First Nation.

**UPDATE:**

Currently, Education programs and services are not being delivered to the children of Koocheching First Nation and the issues related to the funding of programs and services have yet to be resolved. It continues to be a challenge to address the outstanding jurisdictional issues. The position of both the Provincial and Federal Governments regarding jurisdiction and authority prevents even the basic level of programs and services from being offered.

NAN is working to confirm a meeting with Howard Hampton, NDP MPP, to further address this issue provincially. Despite meeting with Chiefs of Ontario, Assembly of First Nations, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, and the Ontario Ministry of Education, Koocheching First Nation children are still without access to any type of schooling.

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**Resolution #11/05: SUPPORT FOR THE EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM**

**MOVED/SECONDED BY:**

Moved By: Chief Walter Naveau, Mattagami First Nation  
Seconded By: Chief Joshua Frogg, Wawakapewin First Nation

**DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly support in principle the EPP objectives;

FURTHER BE IN RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly support moving forward with the EPP, with regular reports to be made to NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly;

FURTHER BE IN RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly support those First Nations/organizations that choose to pursue the EPP on their own;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Executive Council shall report back on the draft MOU developed through the EPP process for ratification at the NAN Winter Chiefs Assembly 2012.

**UPDATE:**

The Education Partnerships Program (EPP) allows for up to 18 months to complete the Partnerships Establishment Phase. NAN has completed the initial 6 months of the Partnerships Establishment Phase and will move into the final 12 months in the 2011/2012 fiscal year.

An EPP Forum took place April 12 and 13, 2011 at the Prince Arthur Hotel in Thunder Bay. The intent of the Forum was to allow for other First Nations/Organizations who have negotiated EPP/MOU agreements to share their experiences and what they have accomplished through this process. As well, to allow participating NAN First Nations to identify their priority items for the EPP process. Prior to the Forum on the afternoon of April 11, 2011, an information session took place to share information on the NAN EPP and the current status of the program.

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**Resolution #11/07: Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Education Awareness Week**

**MOVED/SECONDED BY:**
Moved By: Chief Murray Ray, Flying Post First Nation  
Seconded By: Chief Arthur Moore, Constance Lake First Nation

**DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly recognize the importance of NAN Education Awareness Week and its growing support at the community level;

**FURTHER BE IN RESOLVED** that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the NAN Education Committee to determine the best dates in May each year for the NAN Education Awareness Week.

**UPDATE:**

The fourth Annual Education Awareness Week was held May 23-27, 2011 at the Victoria Inn, in Thunder Bay. By moving the original dates of the NAN Education Awareness Week, there was less conflict with other education meetings and events. The NAN Education Unit will work with the NAN Education Committee each year to determine the best dates to allow for participation.

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**Resolution #11/17: Experts Panel on First Nation Education**

**MOVED/SECONDED BY:**

Moved By: Chief Walter Naveau, Mattagami First Nation  
Seconded By: Chief Lorraine Crane, Slate Falls First Nation

**DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Chiefs-in-Assembly hereby reject the Panel on First Nations Education process;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly call on the Government of Canada to recognize the education expertise that exists in NAN First Nations and call upon the Government to work directly with NAN First Nations on a nation-to-nation basis and respect the education commitments in Treaty No. 5 and Treaty No. 9.

**UPDATE:**

NAN has been working with the Chiefs of Ontario, Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations, and the First Nations Education Council in Quebec to determine if there is an opportunity to work together, as the three regions have rejected participation on the National Panel on First Nations Education.

NAN Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose has participated at both the regional and national level to determine the best way to move forward. NAN Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose has been meeting with leadership from the Quebec and Saskatchewan regions who are not participating in the National Panel process to confirm NAN’s willingness to work together.

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**Resolution #05/31: Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services Designation as a Society**
MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Beverly Hardy (Proxy), Constance Lake First Nation
Seconded by: David Fletcher (Proxy), Moose Cree First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly confirm and commit their firm and unwavering support for the designation of Kunuwanimano as a society under Section 15 of the Child and Family Services Act as well as the expansion of Foster Care Services of Kunuwanimano.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly request all First Nations bodies and assemblies to similarly support the above stated objects and goals of Kunuwanimano to achieve Society designation and expansion of foster care jurisdiction.

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly request the Ministers responsible for the Child and Family Services Act to forthwith enter into negotiations and agreements leading to the designation of Kunuwanimano as a Society under Section 15 of the Child and Family Services Act and the expansion of the foster care jurisdiction of Kunuwanimano.

UPDATE:

Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services and the Ontario Ministry of Children and Youth Services have agreed to a capacity development process for the designation of Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services as a fully mandated Children’s Aid Society.

Since October 2009, NAN has been working with the Chiefs of the Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services catchment area and the Board of Directors on the designation of Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services as a fully mandated Children’s Aid Society.

On February 18, 2010, NAN Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose, Chiefs from the Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services catchment area, and Kunuwanimano Executive Director Vicky Hardisty, met with the Hon. Laurel Broten, Minister of Children & Youth Services (MCYS), and senior officials in Toronto to present concerns regarding child welfare in their communities and to press the Minister regarding the designation of Kunuwanimano as a fully mandated child welfare agency.

A follow-up meeting was held April 20, 2010 where the Minister outlined her commitment to the designation of Kunuwanimano as a fully mandated child welfare agency. However, there were issues and concerns than needed to be resolved in order for designation to occur. To facilitate this, the Minister appointed an Assistant Deputy Minister to oversee the designation process and report directly to her.

Since May 2010, NAN has worked with the Chiefs, MCYS and the Kunuwanimano Board of Directors to address these issues of concern, with meetings held June 23, July 12, August 9, May 20, May 26, October 28, November 22 and December 3.

A leadership Steering Committee was established to expedite the designation process. This has resulted in an operational review of the agency to review and strengthen the agency’s governance and operational management as well as support their capacity development towards attaining designation. The review will be directed under the leadership of the 11 Chiefs through the Operational Review sub-group of the Steering Committee, with support by the Kunuwanimano Board of Directors, MCYS and NAN.
The purpose of the operational review is to provide the Chiefs, Board of Kunuwanimano and MCYS with information and recommendations to strengthen the agency’s capacity respecting its organization, processes and policies including:

governance model, board structure, practices, capacity and policies;
organizational structure and design and existing staff strength and capacity;
administrative, financial and program management systems; and
service delivery and related cultural practices.

The operational review is scheduled for completion on March 31, 2011.

Resolution #05/55B: Support for Sixties Scoop Litigation

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Arthur Moore, Constance Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Eli Moonias, Marten Falls First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly agree to assist and support the First Nations people and communities, including Marcia Brown, aka Sally Mathias, of NAN in their efforts to proceed with litigation proceedings regarding the horrendous events derived from Sixties Scoop;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that Nishnawbe Aski Nations Chiefs-in-Assembly request each NAN Community to donate $1,000.00 to a legal fund, which is to be used specifically for litigation proceedings resulting from the Sixties Scoop.

UPDATE:

Between 1965 and 1985 an estimated 16,000 Aboriginal children in Ontario, including members of NAN First Nations, were removed from their homes and placed in other communities. An entire generation lost its Aboriginal identity and culture during the “Sixties Scoop.”

On February 9, 2009, Marcia Brown and Robert Commanda launched a lawsuit against the Attorney General of Canada in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice under the Class Proceedings Act.

Through Resolution 05/55B, NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly support all First Nations affected by the Sixties Scoop and their efforts in pursuing this litigation.

STATUS:

On October 14, 2010 Justice Paul Perell issued an order that the suit had been certified for claims of negligence and breach of fiduciary duty by the government. The case is moving forward as Brown and Commanda v. Attorney General of Canada Class Proceedings Act (Ontario) lawsuit.

All First Nations who were apprehended in the Sixties Scoop have been encouraged to register with the class action. A website (www.sixtiesscoопclaim.ca) has been established to assist with registration and provide updates on legal proceedings. Approximately 700 claimants have registered to date.
Resolution #10/47: Opposition to Bill S-11: The Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Norman Hardisty, Moose Cree First Nation
Seconded by: Frank McKay (Proxy), Whitewater Lake First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly oppose Bill S-11, as it stands, as a misguided and harmful policy, and a contravention of First Nations Aboriginal and Treaty rights;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly demand that the federal and provincial governments uphold their legal obligation to provide adequate support and resources to immediately address the dire need for safe water and wastewater infrastructure for all NAN First Nations;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the NAN Executive Council to take whatever steps necessary to advocate for sufficient infrastructure and operational resources to provide safe water in all NAN communities;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the development of water quality standards is supported by NAN First Nations, but only if such standards are fully funded by Canadian governments and developed in consultation with NAN First Nations.

UPDATE:

On May 28, 2010, the Government of Canada introduced Bill S-11: The Safe Drinking Water for First Nations Act, in Parliament to address the regulatory gap that exists for First Nation communities when it comes to safeguarding their drinking water. Bill S-11 would allow for the development of federal regulations for drinking water and wastewater by the government of Canada. These regulations would apply in First Nation communities.

There is widespread opposition to Bill S-11 as it will transfer the responsibility for safe water to individual First Nations without addressing the infrastructure needs of those communities.

Resolution 10/47 indicates that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly oppose Bill S-11 as it stands as a misguided and harmful policy and a contravention of First Nations Aboriginal and Treaty rights, and that the development of water quality standards is supported by NAN First Nations, but only if such standards are fully funded by Canadian governments and developed in consultation with NAN First Nations.

On March 4, 2011, NAN delivered a written submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples outlining NAN’s opposition to Bill S-11, the results of the 2010 NAN Drinking Water Study, and the efforts NAN has made to improve access to, and the quality of, safe drinking water for NAN First Nations.

NAN continues to work with the Government of Canada to secure increased funding for First Nations water facilities, infrastructure and training for water plant operators.

Resolution #09/76: Opposition to Sustainability Commission Pertaining to Children’s Aid Societies in Ontario

MOVED/SECONDED BY:
Moved by: Chief Keeter Corston, Chapleau Cree First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Arthur Moore, Constance Lake First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly adamantly oppose the establishment of this Commission;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the Sustainability Commission shall not include Tikinagan, Payukotayno, and Kunuwanimano Child and Family Services in its mandate;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly are adamantly opposed to the idea of amalgamation and elimination of all existing services of First Nations’ child welfare agencies in Ontario;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Prime Minister, Members of Parliament, Members of Provincial Parliament, the Minister of Health Canada, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Children and Youth Services, the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and the Chiefs of Ontario be immediately advised of this resolution.

UPDATE:

In July 2009, the Government of Ontario established the Commission to Promote Sustainable Child Welfare to review and propose changes for Children’s Aid Societies (CASs). On November 26, 2009 Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Chiefs passed Resolution 09/76 against participation in any review process designed without NAN First Nation input.

Members of the Commission visited Thunder Bay on January 21, 2010, where NAN Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose delivered a statement voicing NAN’s opposition to the Commission as it pertains to Children’s Aid Societies in Ontario.

In June 2010, the Commission released its first report, Towards Sustainable Child Welfare in Ontario. A companion document, Unique Considerations for Aboriginal Children and Youth, elaborates on findings from Aboriginal agencies and communities. The Commission has set out a Strategy for Sustainable Aboriginal Child Welfare...

“A modernized child welfare system providing integrated child-focused services fully aligned with the broader network of children’s services to improve outcomes for children and youth. In which... Aboriginal children, whether on-reserve or off-reserve, will have access to services that reflect their needs and are delivered in ways that respect their culture, heritage and traditions.” ...which includes:

1. Reconfigure the organization of CAS structures and service delivery.
2. Change the approach to funding child welfare.
3. Implement a new approach to accountability and system management.
4. Strengthen and improve service delivery.
5. Advance broader integration of services for vulnerable children and families.
6. Advance Aboriginal approaches to child welfare.

The Commission has found that child welfare services to Aboriginal children and families experience many of the same challenges and demonstrate many of the same strengths of child welfare services across the province. However, it found differences in how Aboriginal children are served across Ontario:

1. some are served by the six mandated Aboriginal Children’s Aid Societies;
2. some through mainstream CASs; and
3. some are served through inter-agency service agreements.

The Commission has concluded that:

- Children (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal) in many communities would be better served by larger agencies more able to achieve economies of scale.
- In some rural communities, scale and sustainability may be best achieved by joining with other agencies.
- There may be ways to move towards larger and more sustainable agency models by improving collaboration between Aboriginal agencies or sharing support services and areas of expertise.
- One size does not fit all. The way services are organized, managed and delivered must take into account the needs of the children and families served, as well as the social and economic circumstances of the communities and the availability of other services and supports.
- The size of the Aboriginal child population in Ontario is growing rapidly, unlike the non-Aboriginal child population.
- Aboriginal children are significantly over represented in CAS in-care population.
- Northern communities have few services available, costs for basic goods and services are high, and transportation is difficult and expensive.
- Aboriginal children are often placed hundreds or thousands of kilometers away from their home with limited ability to maintain connections with their family, community and culture.

Moving forward, the Commission will:

1. Conduct more dialogue with Aboriginal agencies and communities; and
2. Work with John Beaucage (Aboriginal Child Welfare advisor to MCYS Minister Laurel Broten) to identify culturally specific solutions to improving outcomes for Aboriginal children and youth.

NAN continues to monitor the Commission’s work, and is preparing for the release of a final report that could include recommendations unfavorable to NAN First Nations.

NAN will ensure that our three child welfare agencies (Payukotayno James & Hudson Bay Family Services, Tikinagan Children & Family Services, Kunuwanimano Child & Family Services) are prepared for this, and will work with these agencies to mitigate the impacts of the Commission’s recommendations impacts on our communities.

Resolution #08/57: Lakehead University Law School Initiative

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Arthur Moore, Constance Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Adam Fiddler, Sandy Lake First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly call on the provincial Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities to revisit its decision regarding funding for the creation and accreditation of new law schools in Ontario;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly support Lakehead University in the Law School initiative as an important investment in the future of Nishnawbe Aski Nation youth and communities.
**UPDATE:**

In 2005, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) and the County and District Law Presidents’ Association asked Lakehead University to establish a law school in Northwestern Ontario with a focus on Aboriginal law. The school was to be the first new law school in Canada since 1979 and calls for a program accommodating 150 students based on a first year admission of 55 students.

Through Resolutions 08/57, NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly have endorsed the development of a curriculum that will address the unique needs of NAN First Nations and northern communities, focusing on small rural practices and Aboriginal law.

In June 2010, Lakehead’s proposal was submitted to the Federation of Law Societies of Canada’s Ad Hoc Committee on the Approval of New Canadian Law Degree Programs. In winter 2011, the Ad Hoc Committee recommended to the Federation that the Lakehead proposal be approved. The council of the Federation announced its approval; on February 14, 2011.

Lakehead’s sub-committee on quality assurance will review the proposal, and then it must be approved by the Senate (expected in spring 2011). If approved, Lakehead will prepare a proposal for the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities and will undertake an intensive lobbying effort to secure funding from the provincial government.

Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose is expected to be asked to serve on a President’s Task Force. NAN will be asked to provide political support to secure funding from the Government of Ontario.

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**Resolution #10/37: Wasaya Airways LP Aviation Security Measures**

**MOVED/SECONDED BY:**

Moved by: Chief Adam Fiddler, Sandy Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Hezekiah Sakakeep, Proxy, Kingfisher Lake First Nation

**DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that NAN Chiefs in Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to assist Wasaya in advocacy for funds to obtain a legal opinion on the proposed security measures;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that NAN Chiefs in Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to assist Wasaya Airways in advocacy to ensure that the Sioux Lookout, Red Lake and Pickle Lake authorities obtain the security designation required to utilize screening technology for passengers and baggage;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the NAN Chiefs in Assembly support Wasaya Airways in its effort to establish a Community Security Authority to provide oversight for the proposed security measures;

**FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED** that NAN Chiefs in Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to assist Wasaya Airways in advocacy to seek resources to purchase and operate the proposed security equipment, through Canadian government funding and other available means such as donation drives and fundraising initiatives.

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**UPDATE:**

NAN worked with Wasaya Airways to get a resolution passed at the Chiefs of Ontario Special Chiefs Assembly in
November 2010. (see COO Resolution 10/36 attached) Meetings were held between NAN and Wasaya on two occasions in January and February 2011 to discuss immediate next steps. A letter of support was prepared by NAN to the Thunder Bay and Sioux Lookout Airport Authorities for space designation. The letters have been sent to Wasaya for review and will be sent out once final edits are complete.

NAN has also assisted Wasaya in establishing contact with Chiefs of Ontario (COO) for the purpose of meeting in the near future to discuss COO’s involvement.

NAN will continue to support Wasaya.

Resolution #10/39: Establishment of a NAN Health Advisory Group

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Gordon McKoop (Proxy), Wunnumin Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Norman Hardisty, Moose Cree First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

The NAN Chiefs direct the Executive Council to establish a NAN Health Advisory Group, consisting of technicians (Tribal Council Health Directors and NAN service Delivery organizations, to be the main planning and advisory entity, supported by a Chiefs Political Group when appropriate.

UPDATE:

The interim NAN Health Advisory Group had its first meeting in July 2010 discuss the planning and implementation of Resolution 10/39. At this meeting it was decided that strategic planning sessions were required to develop a draft Terms of Reference. In August 2010, a two-day strategic planning session resulted in a draft strategic plan that provided the initial input of the Advisory Group’s mandate and its' operations. In October 2010, another two-day planning session resulted in the draft Terms of Reference for the Health Advisory Group outlining its’ mandate, mission in health, scope and responsibilities, objectives, accountability, composition, meetings and decision-making, and roles and responsibilities of the Advisory Group, Chair, and Health Policy and Planning staff. In addition a draft Terms of Reference for the Chiefs Political Group has been completed.

Resolution #10/62: NAN Health Advisory Group / Chiefs Political Group Terms of Reference

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Margaret Kenequanash, Proxy, Kingfisher Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Luke McKay, Proxy, Wunnumin Lake First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

The NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly approve and sanction the NAN Health Advisory Group Terms of Reference and the Chiefs Political Group on Health Terms of Reference; and That the NAN Health Advisory Group shall include a representative from the NAN Women’s Council.

UPDATE:
The call for membership on the Advisory Group has gone out and will consist of health technicians from the NAN Tribal Councils/Alliance/Independent Bands, Weeneebayko Area Health Authority, Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority, NAN’s Women’s Council and an Elder. Appointments will soon be finalized. Similarly, a call for appointments will go out to the Tribal Councils and the Independents for the Chiefs Political Group.

Resolution #10/63: Health Canada Non Insured Health Benefits – Suboxone Approval

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Lewis Nate, Eabametoong First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Adam Fiddler, Sandy Lake First Nation
Abstentions: Ross Mamakeesic, Proxy, North Spirit Lake First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

The NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly demand that NIHB approve the use of Suboxone for the medical detoxification of NAN members who request it; the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive to undertake research to provide more information on Suboxone, including capturing data and information to begin establishing best practices; and the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive to work with the Canadian governments to ensure that assessments, physician/nursing supports and mental health and addictions specialists are in place to support NAN First Nations dealing with prescription drug abuse in the NAN territory.

UPDATE:

Correspondence was sent to Dr. Valerie Gideon, re: NIHB Suboxone approval for NAN First Nation members who request it; Suboxone was approved for use in Canada in late 2007, but has not been added to the NIHB Drug Formulary and/or the Ontario Drug Benefits Plan.

The letter also requested for Nursing Stations to be adequately stocked with ancillary drugs, i.e., Clonidine, Trazadone, NSAIDS and Gravol for individuals undergoing voluntary or involuntary withdrawal; requested for ancillary drugs to be available in a timely manner, i.e., immediate access versus waiting a set number of days for the shipment of medication to reach the communities.

Requested FNIH-OR to advocate for Suboxone to be placed on the Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Drug Formulary.

Recommended FNIH-OR to develop emergency plans in the event a mass number of individuals undergo withdrawal as a result of increased security efforts in NAN communities.

Dr. Valerie Gideon responded that requests for Suboxone are reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Drug Exception Centre, and that the NIHB Regional Pharmacist is working with NIHB HQ to develop Suboxone criteria-for-use.

Advised NAN that key points for Suboxone to be considered in program development include:
Suboxone cannot be stocked in Nursing Stations. All Suboxone treatment must be dispensed as a patient-specific prescription;
The dose of Suboxone during Opiate withdrawal must be monitored and adjusted daily and necessitates daily access to physician services for client assessment. It is not within the Registered Nurses’ scope of practice to perform assessments.
Detoxification with Suboxone must be planned in order to ensure sufficient time for coverage approval and shipping time from the pharmacy.

Confirmed that ancillary drugs such as Clonidine, Gravol and NSAIDA are all “must stock” items in Nursing Stations; the Nurse-in-Charge who is responsible for inventory management should be noticed if a Nursing Station depletes its stock of these medications.

Indicated willingness and support for First Nations leadership to develop emergency plans in the event of mass withdrawal occurs in communities. The initial steps that would be taken by FNIH-OR is to ensure ancillary medications are stocked in Sioux Lookout so that Nursing Station stock can be quickly replenished in the event a mass withdrawal situation occurs in a community.

Resolution #10/64: Public Health Strategy on Mental Health and Addictions

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Eli Moonias, Marten Falls First Nation
Seconded by: Connie Gray McKay, Mishkeegogamang First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

The NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive to develop a NAN Mental Health and Addictions Public Health Framework by collaborating with NAN leadership, health advisors/professionals, community health and service delivery organizations, public health and mental health and addictions experts in the design of a NAN-wide Strategy to protect our members and to promote attainment of healthier communities.

UPDATE:

A Think Tank was held on March 11 & 12, 2011 with public health and mental health experts and select NAN Chiefs, as well as a youth and Elder representative.

The purpose of the Think Tank was to develop a plan that addresses concerns based on the mandate set out by NAN Chiefs in the resolution. (see attached report)

Resolution #07/42: Birth Registration/Documentation Blitz

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Proxy Frank McKay- Bearskin Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Glen Whiskeyjack-Slate Falls First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

That the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the NAN Executive Council to work with the appropriate Ministries and support the Working Group to plan and implement a comprehensive blitz within the next 6 months for birth registration, health cards and status cards.

Further be it resolved that the blitz must be sensitive to community dynamics, and be implemented by community
level workers as much as possible and

Finally be it resolved that we mandate the NAN Executive Council, with technical support from the Working Group, to work with the relevant Ministries to address systemic barriers and develop strategies to address the situation in the long term.

**UPDATE:**

Twenty eight NAN communities are now enrolled in the Ambassador program and are working to complete the back log of delayed birth registrations. Due to the success of the program, the Ambassador program will become part of regular operations at Service Ontario. Service Ontario will continue to support the Ambassador role through training initiatives, resources and on-line phone support.

Service Ontario hosts regular teleconferences will Ambassadors to discuss challenges and successes and to support each other in their role.

Four hundred and thirty parent information packages have been delivered to Ambassadors and there has been a 2% increase in birth registration across Ontario.

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**Resolution #10/45: INAC Family Violence Prevention Renewal 2010**

**MOVED/SECONDED BY:**

Moved by:  Chief Lorraine Crane, Slate Falls First Nation  
Seconded by:  Chief Andrew Solomon, Fort Albany First Nation

**DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly strongly oppose an Ontario-wide pan-Aboriginal approach that could negatively impact the family violence prevention program and services within NAN;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to inform COO and INAC of NAN’s opposition to a pan-Aboriginal approach;

**FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED** that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly confirm that COO does not have a mandate to negotiate a regional strategy on family violence with INAC.

**UPDATE:**

The Social Director at Chiefs of Ontario was made aware of the position of the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly.

The NAN Women’s Council has created a Planning Alternate Tomorrows with Hope (PATH) in regards to Family Violence and what they would like to recommend.

INAC is moving ahead with the regional shelters to plan for the next five-year strategy and will schedule a meeting with the NAN Women’s Council after the next fiscal year to discuss their funding pillars, goals and objectives over the next five years.
Resolution #06-66: Matrimonial Real Property on-Reserve Consultations

Resolution #08-20: Matrimonial Real Property

Resolution #09-26: Matrimonial Real Property Bill C-8

Resolution #10-40: Matrimonial Real Property Bill S-4

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

06-66 Moved by: Chief Connie Gray-McKay, Mishkeegogamang First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Glenn Nolan, Missanabie Cree First Nation

08-20 Moved by: Abigail Wesley (Proxy), Cat Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Andrew Solomon, Fort Albany First Nation

09-26 Moved by: Chief Arlene Slipperjack, Whitewater Lake First Nation
Seconded by: Jason Beardy (Proxy), Muskrat Dam First Nation

10-40 Moved by: Chief Lorraine Crane, Slate Falls First Nation
Seconded by: Jackie Fletcher (Proxy), Missanabie Cree First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

06-66  THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the NAN Executive Council to ensure proper resources are secured to conduct proper and meaningful consultations across the NAN territory.

08-20  THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) Chiefs-in-Assembly support the recommendation of the NAN Women’s Council in October 2006 to have a 5-year moratorium on MRP and to have a full consultation and accommodation process, through Resolution 06/66, for the NAN First Nations on the proposed MRP legislation;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED NAN Chiefs-in-assembly demand that the federal government implement interim, non-legislative measures to address the immediate needs of NAN women and men who are divorced or separated by providing the resources for existing mechanisms that deals with MRP issues, including local mediation and dispute resolution processes.

09-26  THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly reassert their position in supporting the five-year moratorium on Matrimonial Real Property as recommended by the NAN Women’s Council;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly support the NAN Women’s Council on the development of a Matrimonial Property Law template that can be utilized for the First Nations within NAN with a report back to the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly at Keewaywin 2009.

10-40  THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to advocate on behalf of the NAN Women’s Council to seek funding for the NAN MRP framework proposal;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that NAN Chiefs Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to notify the federal government that it should implement interim non-legislative measures to address the immediate needs of NAN women
and men who are divorced or separated, by providing the resources for existing mechanisms that can deal with MRP issues, including support for local mediation and dispute resolution processes.

**UPDATE:**

First reading of the bill was on March 31, 2010 by Senator Marjory LeBreton. Third reading of the bill was passed in June in the Senate. The Bill was introduced into the House of Commons at the end of September. **If the House of Commons goes to election at the end of March, this piece of legislation will be scrapped.**

The Senior Health Advisor and Director of Women’s Development met with Director General of External Relations and Gender Issues, Line Pare on December 16, 2010 in Ottawa, Ontario.

The Director General had stated the following regarding MRP:

INAC was consulting with the NAO’s on the Provisional General Rules (Section 17 to 56) on MRP;
INAC will designate an existing Centre of Excellence on MRP;
INAC will not approve any MRP laws and that it would be up to the Centre of Excellence on MRP to ensure the provisions within the Bill are followed before approval of the MRP law is enforced;
Until First Nations have their own MRP laws in place, provincial law will be enforced.

NAN has received $10,000 for the NAN Women’s Council to discuss their concerns regarding MRP. INAC has stated that they will not fund a law-making process since MRP is not considered a “program”.

One concern that arises is that NAN First Nations already have courts that take place within NAN First Nations that occurs that deals with both Federal and Provincial Crowns. However, the Restorative Justice program is so underfunded and only deals with Criminal Law. An entire new court system would have to be set up to accommodate Family Law issues which is the law that MRP would have to be considered under in the Province of Ontario.

A letter to the Director General has been sent regarding the mentioned concerns and also to invite her to NAN to further discuss. NAN will have the opportunity to provide feedback at the Aboriginal Standing Committee and also through the Canada Gazette Part 1 when the draft regulations are published. Also, INAC has agreed to meet with the NAN Executive and the NAN Women’s Council in regards to their plans with implementation of MRP on First Nations within NAN.

---

**Resolution #09-84: Support for the NAN Women’s Council Strategic Plan**

**MOVED/SECONDED BY:**

Moved by: Chief Connie Gray-McKay, Mishkeegogamang First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Walter Naveau, Mattagami First Nation

**DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly fully endorse and support the Strategic Plan of the NAN Women’s Council;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED** that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council within its work plans and proposals submitted to all funding agencies;
FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive to advocate for funding to ensure that the work of the Women’s Council is carried on after July 2010.

UPDATE:

The NAN Women’s Council is moving forward with activities outlined in the strategic plan such as having the NAN Women’s Conference in Timmins this year. Also they are trying to get involved with other activities such as the NAN Economic Summit and the Universal Vote.

In terms of funding, proposals have been sent out to funders and are awaiting word on the status of their application.

Resolution #07-63: NAN Women’s Council Application to Set up a Trust Fund and Apply for Charitable Status

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Theresa Hall, Attawapiskat First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Zeatha Arcon, Neskantaga First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly support the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Women’s Council in its non-political endeavors to be self-sufficient in their work to establish the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Women’s Trust Fund or a similar legal entity with charitable status under the Income Tax Act;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Women’s Advisor and the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Social Policy Director to undertake the necessary legal steps to establish the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Women’s Trust Fund; and

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Women’s Trust Fund to women’s projects in the Nishnawbe Aski Nation communities.

UPDATE:

The NAN Women’s Trust Fund has been put on hold until the NAN Heritage Fund and NAN Decade for Youth Trust Fund is sorted out. Once this has been accomplished, the Women’s Council will move forward with their application.

Resolution #09-84: Support for the NAN Women’s Council Strategic Plan

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief Connie Gray-McKay, Mishkeegogamang First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Walter Naveau, Mattagami First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly fully endorse and support the Strategic Plan of the NAN Women’s Council;
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council within its work plans and proposals submitted to all funding agencies;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive to advocate for funding to ensure that the work of the Women’s Council is carried on after July 2010.

UPDATE:

The NAN Women’s Council is moving forward with activities outlined in the strategic plan such as having the NAN Women’s Conference in Timmins this year. Also they are trying to get involved with other activities such as the NAN Economic Summit and the Universal Vote.

In terms of funding, proposals have been sent out to funders and are awaiting word on the status of their application.

Resolution #10/71: Prevention of Sexual Assault/Abuse against women and their families within NAN.

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Jackie Fletcher (Proxy), Missanabie Cree First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Adam Fiddler, Sandy Lake First Nation

DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly support the NAN Women’s Council in its work against sexual abuse/assault against women and children within NAN;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to actively advocate for the NAN Women’s Council proposal to the Ministry of Attorney General;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Women’s Council to report back at Keewaywin 2011.

UPDATE:

A proposal has been drafted in regards to this issue. However, there are a couple of other proposals going to Ministry of Attorney General (MAG) regarding sexual abuse. A meeting will be held with NAN staff to try and draft a proposal that will meet the needs and objectives of the departments that are pursuing similar type of funds from MAG. Once this is achieved, a multi-sectoral proposal may be pursued.

Resolution #09-27: Canadian Human Rights Act, Repeal of Section 67

MOVED/SECONDED BY:

Moved by: Chief George Hunter, Weenusk First Nation
Seconded by: Chief Keeter Corston, Chapleau Cree First Nation
DIRECTION FROM RESOLUTION (THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to advocate with the federal and/or provincial governments for financial resources to develop and build capacity for NAN First Nations to deal with the CHRA implementation;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the NAN Chiefs-in-Assembly direct the NAN Executive Council to fully explore all possible options for the benefit and protection of First Nations related to the CHRA.

UPDATE:

Proposals and work plans were sent to INAC and the Canadian Human Rights Commission for consideration to assist with the implementation of the CHRA before June 2011. All requests were denied time and time again due to the Repeal not being considered a program or an Act that has funding attached to it.

Attached is the briefing note from Karen Jensen of Olgilvy Renault who will explain that there is an opportunity that will benefit the communities if the communities decide to use an internal complaint resolution process. This can range from something being implemented at the First Nation level to using existing NAN affiliated resources such as NAN Legal. This has been added into the Canadian Human Rights Act.

The Chiefs-in-Assembly may want to consider a resolution exploring the possibilities of utilizing NAN Legal Services to assist NAN in examining First Nation legal traditions as an alternate form to hear Canadian Human Rights complaints before they are submitted to the Commission. This could assist in lower costs on behalf of the First Nation and the individual as well.

NAN will forward the report from the Assembly of First Nations. According to website updates from the AFN, on the CHRA,

“A draft report based on a dialogue with First Nations in all regions of Canada about the repeal and the broader issue of protecting First Nations human rights was undertaken. Ten regional engagement sessions were held between January and March 2010, attended by a total of 216 persons. In addition, surveys were sent to all participants in advance of the regional meetings.

Among the findings in the draft report Assessing the Readiness of First Nations Communities for the Repeal of Section 67 of the Canadian Human Rights Act are that: 1) awareness of the repeal of section 67 and the CHRA is low; 2) communities have various levels of existing capacity to create and review policies to ensure compliance with the CHRA and First Nations human rights principles; and 3) approximately 1,700 public buildings and 21,000 band-owned houses are estimated to require accessibility improvements, according to a preliminary readiness assessment of community infrastructure.

In addition, the fiscal hardships associated with ensuring that communities are ready for the repeal of section 67 have not been adequately addressed, especially in the critical areas of communications, infrastructure needs, education, policy review and internal human rights mechanisms.

As further outlined in the report, various concerns related to the repeal of section 67 have been identified. The lack of resources for First Nations to prepare for the application of the CHRA and meet the new responsibilities flowing from application of this Act during the 36-month transition period is a key concern identified by First Nations during the engagement sessions.

True legitimacy in human rights legislation can only arise from a meaningful inclusion of First Nations people in developing a process that respects our traditional and customary practices and which is directly related to our self-determination. Therefore, the AFN report emphasizes the need to recognize and develop opportunities for the principles of self-government through First Nation specific human rights mechanisms.”

Once the final report is released, it will be sent out to all communities.
Resolution #10/80: SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS OF STIRLAND LAKE AND CRISTAL LAKE SCHOOLS

**UPDATE:**

Windigo and Nishnawbe Aski Nation applied to have Stirland Lake and Cristal Lake included in the IRS agreement. A decision from Justice Winkler that was expected in March of 2011 has not yet been rendered.

There are IRS student entities that are filing for an extension of the September 19, 2011 deadline for CEP applicants.

NAN residential school program has set up a meeting with the Mennonite Central Committee to pursue a conference with former students of the Mennonite Schools. The conference is slated for late summer 2012.
Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Financial Statements
For the year ended March 31, 2011
Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Financial Statements
For the year ended March 31, 2011

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Independent Auditors' Report

To the Members of
Nishnawbe Aski Nation

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Nishnawbe Aski Nation, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2011, and the statements of changes in net assets, revenue and expenditures, and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information. The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.
Opinion
In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Nishnawbe Aski Nation as at March 31, 2011 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Chartered Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants
Dryden, Ontario
July 18, 2011
# Nishnawbe Aski Nation
## Statement of Financial Position

**March 31**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and bank (Note 1)</td>
<td>$3,888,304</td>
<td>$3,270,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts and grants receivable (Note 2)</td>
<td>$2,199,000</td>
<td>$2,015,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>$10,860</td>
<td>$103,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred expenditures</td>
<td>$1,601</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current</strong></td>
<td>$6,099,765</td>
<td>$5,390,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Long-term investments (Note 3)</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital assets (Note 4)</strong></td>
<td>$346,318</td>
<td>$409,869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$6,446,084</td>
<td>$5,799,953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 5)</td>
<td>$5,274,671</td>
<td>$4,500,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred contributions (Note 6)</td>
<td>$487,017</td>
<td>$576,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current</strong></td>
<td>$5,761,688</td>
<td>$5,076,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in capital assets (Note 7)</td>
<td>$346,319</td>
<td>$409,869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment in Nishnawbe Aski Investments Ltd.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted assets (Note 8)</td>
<td>$108,323</td>
<td>$108,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted net assets</td>
<td>$229,753</td>
<td>$205,366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$684,396</td>
<td>$723,559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$6,446,084</td>
<td>$5,799,953</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements.
### Nishnawbe Aski Nation
### Statement of Changes in Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For the year ended March 31</th>
<th>Investment in Capital Assets</th>
<th>Investment in NAINIL</th>
<th>Restricted</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance, beginning of year</strong></td>
<td>409,869</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>108,323</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>205,366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures for the year</strong></td>
<td>(144,452)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>105,289</td>
<td>(39,163)</td>
<td>51,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Invested in capital assets</strong></td>
<td>80,902</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(80,902)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance, end of year</strong></td>
<td>346,319</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>108,323</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>229,753</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements.
## Nishnawbe Aski Nation

### Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

For the year ended March 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Nations Institutions and Organizations</td>
<td>$154,055</td>
<td>$154,055</td>
<td>$543,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada</td>
<td>7,856,663</td>
<td>7,856,663</td>
<td>6,916,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>contributions and grants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada</td>
<td>2,355,210</td>
<td>2,355,210</td>
<td>2,118,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flexible transfer payments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>3,979,495</td>
<td>3,979,495</td>
<td>2,136,306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province of Ontario</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorney General</td>
<td>268,044</td>
<td>268,044</td>
<td>245,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community and Youth Services</td>
<td>6,113,718</td>
<td>6,077,925</td>
<td>5,861,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>413,606</td>
<td>413,606</td>
<td>404,257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Affairs</td>
<td>947,555</td>
<td>947,555</td>
<td>1,135,801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>417,832</td>
<td>417,832</td>
<td>484,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>31,157</td>
<td>31,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts repayable (recoverable) to funders</td>
<td>(29,446)</td>
<td>(195,547)</td>
<td>62,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1,439,427</td>
<td>1,450,349</td>
<td>1,518,479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers from deferred contributions</td>
<td>556,391</td>
<td>88,984</td>
<td>305,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24,497,550</td>
<td>23,870,328</td>
<td>21,789,725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Funds transferred for First Nations operations

(Note 9)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(10,278,413)</td>
<td>(10,268,324)</td>
<td>(8,928,541)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14,219,137</td>
<td>13,602,004</td>
<td>12,861,184</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Portfolio expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bad debts</td>
<td>6,079</td>
<td>6,701</td>
<td>7,959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank charges and interest</td>
<td>4,176,396</td>
<td>3,604,973</td>
<td>3,853,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences, workshops and reports</td>
<td>2,795,389</td>
<td>2,655,735</td>
<td>2,387,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulting and professional fees</td>
<td>237,025</td>
<td>215,045</td>
<td>235,867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public relations</td>
<td>364,655</td>
<td>326,984</td>
<td>285,030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent and utilities</td>
<td>4,502,156</td>
<td>4,894,370</td>
<td>4,243,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and benefits</td>
<td>522,672</td>
<td>208,709</td>
<td>156,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies and resources</td>
<td>1,529,679</td>
<td>1,580,223</td>
<td>1,464,586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital expenditures</td>
<td>85,086</td>
<td>80,902</td>
<td>196,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14,219,137</td>
<td>13,577,617</td>
<td>12,835,423</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Excess of revenue over expenditures

before other items

|                                      | -       | 24,387  | 25,761  |

### Other items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital allocations</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>80,902</td>
<td>196,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortization of capital assets</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(108,858)</td>
<td>(134,806)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on disposal of capital assets</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(35,594)</td>
<td>(35,440)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue earned by restricted assets</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(63,550)</td>
<td>26,013</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures

for the year

|                                      | $       | - $     | (39,163) | $ 51,774 |

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements.
Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended March 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash provided by (used in)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures for the year</td>
<td>$ (39,163)</td>
<td>$ 51,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Items not involving cash</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortization of capital assets</td>
<td>108,858</td>
<td>134,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on disposal of capital assets</td>
<td>35,594</td>
<td>35,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>105,289</td>
<td>222,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Changes in non-cash working capital balances</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts and grants receivable</td>
<td>(183,487)</td>
<td>(242,948)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>92,716</td>
<td>(67,945)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred expenditures</td>
<td>(1,601)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities</td>
<td>774,279</td>
<td>(42,028)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred contributions</td>
<td>(88,984)</td>
<td>(305,280)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>592,923</td>
<td>(658,201)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>698,212</td>
<td>(436,179)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Investing activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of capital assets</td>
<td>(80,902)</td>
<td>(196,161)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase (decrease) in cash during the year</strong></td>
<td>617,310</td>
<td>(632,340)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash and bank, beginning of year</strong></td>
<td>3,270,994</td>
<td>3,903,334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash and bank, end of year</strong></td>
<td>$ 3,888,304</td>
<td>$ 3,270,994</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements.
Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

March 31, 2011

Nature and Purpose of Organization

Nishnawbe Aski Nation is a First Nations political organization that advocates and operates projects to protect and promote the government and socio-economic interests of its member First Nations. The organization receives funding through contribution arrangements and contracts with various funding bodies and First Nations. The organization was incorporated in Ontario on November 30, 1983 as a non-profit organization without share capital. The organization is dependent upon grants and transfer payments from various government agencies to finance its continuing operations. The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Revenue Recognition

Contributions related to the organization's on-going operations and projects are recognized as revenue of general operations in the year in which the related expenditures are incurred.

Restricted contributions for term projects and special initiatives are deferred and recorded in general operations in the year the funds are expensed.

All other restricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable provided that collection is reasonably assured.

Restricted investment income is recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenditures are incurred. Unrestricted investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

Long-term Investments

The long-term investments have been written down to estimated fair value as management believes there has been a permanent impairment in value.

Capital Assets

Purchased capital assets are recorded at cost. Amortization based on the estimated useful life of the asset is calculated as follows:

- Furniture and fixtures: 20% diminishing balance basis
- Computer equipment and software: 30% diminishing balance basis

Artwork has not been amortized in these financial statements.
Nishnawbe Aski Nation

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

March 31, 2011

Financial Instruments

The organization utilizes various financial instruments. Unless otherwise noted, it is management’s opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from its financial instruments. The fair values of the financial instruments approximate their carrying values, unless otherwise noted.

All transactions related to financial instruments are recorded on a trade date basis.

The organization classifies its financial instruments into one of the following categories based on the purpose for which the asset was acquired. The organization’s accounting policy for each category is as follows:

Held-for-Trading
This category is comprised of cash and bank. They are carried in the statement of financial position at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in the statement of revenue and expenditures. Transaction costs related to instruments classified as held-for-trading are expensed as incurred.

Loans and Receivables
These assets are non-derivative financial assets resulting from the delivery of cash or other assets by a lender to a borrower in return for a promise to repay on a specified date or dates or on demand. They arise principally through the provision of goods and services to customers (accounts and grants receivable), but also incorporate other types of contractual monetary assets. They are initially recognized at fair value and subsequently carried at amortized cost, using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment. Transaction costs related to loans and receivables are expensed as incurred.

Other Financial Liabilities
Other financial liabilities include all financial liabilities other than those classified as held-for-trading and comprise accounts payable and accrued liabilities. These liabilities are initially recognized at fair value and subsequently carried at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method. Transaction costs related to other financial liabilities are expensed as incurred.
Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

March 31, 2011

**Administration Overhead Charges**

Recovery of indirect administration expenses is calculated at 12% of revenue for most programs and 6% on flow-through allocations. Each program records the applicable inter-program allocation for overhead expenses while administration records a recovery which is netted against total administrative expenses.

**Contributions Receivable**

Contributions receivable are recognized as an asset when the amounts to be received can be reasonably estimated and ultimate collection is reasonably assured.

**Contributed Goods and Services**

Contributed goods and services which are used in the normal course of the organization’s operations and would otherwise have been purchased, are recorded at their fair value at the date of contribution, if fair value can be reasonably estimated.

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from management’s best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.
Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2011

1. Cash and Bank

The organization's bank accounts are held at one chartered bank. In the normal course of operations, the organization is exposed to credit risk from having bank account balances over the amounts insured by the Canadian Deposit Insurance Corporation.

2. Accounts and Grants Receivable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Nation Institutes and Organizations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiefs of Ontario</td>
<td>$12,964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healing Foundation</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario Federation of Friendship Centres</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nishnawbe Aski Development Fund</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nishnawbe Aski Police Service</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Nishnawbe Education Council</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2,556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Canada</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goods and Services Tax</td>
<td>362,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>61,009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada</td>
<td>687,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fednor</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province of Ontario</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorney General</td>
<td>103,866</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community and Social Services</td>
<td>11,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community and Youth Services</td>
<td>110,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Education</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Health</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Northern Development and Mines</td>
<td>40,266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Affairs</td>
<td>142,805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>76,274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anglican Church</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlton University</td>
<td>37,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisheries and Oceans</td>
<td>21,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status of Women</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zurich Canada</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage Canada</td>
<td>71,107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation</td>
<td>286,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydro One</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>46,562</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$2,199,000 $2,015,513
Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2011

3. Long-term Investments

Nishnawbe Aski Nation Investments Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary, owns 14% of the shares of NAN Travel Agency Ltd. These investments have been written down to estimated fair value as management believes there has been a permanent impairment in value.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NAN Travel Agency Ltd.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Class B Common Shares (cost)</td>
<td>$ 25,000</td>
<td>$ 25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less writedown of investment</td>
<td>(24,999)</td>
<td>(24,999)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Capital Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Accumulated Amortization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artwork</td>
<td>$ 14,805</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and fixtures</td>
<td>483,617</td>
<td>297,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer equipment and software</td>
<td>426,334</td>
<td>280,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$ 924,756</td>
<td>$ 578,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net book value</td>
<td>$ 346,318</td>
<td>$ 409,869</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Capital assets totalling $80,902 were purchased in the current year and financed through current year cash flows.

5. Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trade accounts payable</td>
<td>$ 4,955,678</td>
<td>$ 4,254,484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages and benefits payable</td>
<td>288,325</td>
<td>215,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government remittances</td>
<td>30,668</td>
<td>30,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$ 5,274,671</td>
<td>$ 4,500,393</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The carrying value of other liabilities approximates fair value because of the short maturity of these instruments and because they are subject to normal credit terms.
6. Deferred Contributions

Deferred contributions relate to restricted funding received prior to March 31 that is related to a subsequent period. The balance is comprised as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lands and Resources</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Table</td>
<td>$ 81,251</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restorative Justice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Schools</td>
<td></td>
<td>17,653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada - flexible transfer payment</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Promotion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healing</td>
<td>54,578</td>
<td>53,281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>57,890</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Medicine</td>
<td></td>
<td>21,947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women and Families</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trillium</td>
<td></td>
<td>105,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decade for Youth</td>
<td>42,620</td>
<td>3,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullying</td>
<td>4,329</td>
<td>45,919</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Practices</td>
<td>147,617</td>
<td>240,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims Research</td>
<td></td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nishnawbe Aski Police</td>
<td>33,543</td>
<td>18,683</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embrace Life</td>
<td>21,509</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fur Licensing</td>
<td>15,480</td>
<td>39,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource Development</td>
<td></td>
<td>374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Use</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisheries and Oceans</td>
<td>13,200</td>
<td>16,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$ 487,017</td>
<td>$ 576,001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Investment in Capital Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance, beginning of year</td>
<td>$ 409,869</td>
<td>$ 383,956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions</td>
<td>80,902</td>
<td>196,161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on disposal of obsolete items</td>
<td>(35,594)</td>
<td>(35,440)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortization</td>
<td>(108,858)</td>
<td>(134,808)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance, end of year</td>
<td>$ 346,319</td>
<td>$ 409,869</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2011

8. Restricted Assets

Restricted assets are set aside for specific purposes determined by the Executive Council. The balance is comprised as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>$45,985</td>
<td>$45,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Defence</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixties Scoop</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nishnawbe Aski Heritage</td>
<td>$35,205</td>
<td>$35,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis Response</td>
<td>$764</td>
<td>$764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>$5,369</td>
<td>$5,369</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$108,323</strong></td>
<td><strong>$108,323</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were no changes in the restricted assets during the year.
9. Related Party Transactions

Elected Officials and Senior Management

The remuneration for the year of elected officials and senior management totaled $551,872 (2010 - $520,772). Amounts paid to elected officials and senior management for travel amounted to $98,835 (2010 - $83,331). The Grand Chief and Deputies are provided salaries of $99,000, $93,000 (second term deputy) and $80,000, respectively plus 12% pay in lieu of vacation. Travel allowances include mileage reimbursed at $0.53 per kilometre and meals/incidentals at $66 per day. Specific salary, benefits and travel reimbursements were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salary and benefits</th>
<th>Travel Reimbursements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand Chief Stan Beardy</td>
<td>$115,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose</td>
<td>109,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Grand Chief Mike Metatawabin (elected August 13, 2009)</td>
<td>109,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Grand Chief Les Louitt (elected August 13, 2009)</td>
<td>109,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler (retired August 13, 2009)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Grand Chief RoseAnne Archibald (retired August 13, 2009)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>107,261</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Flow Through Funding Agreements

The organization receives funding for distribution to member First Nations and First Nation organizations for specific projects and initiatives. The First Nations and specific organizations report on the expenditure of these funds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total First Nation Allocations</td>
<td>$10,268,324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2011

10. Commitments

The organization leases office space for the main office for approximately $225,000 per annum. The current lease expires June 30, 2013.

The organization also leases office space for approximately $60,000 per annum, with annual increases at 3%, under a lease expiring April 30, 2013.

The organization also leases storage space for approximately $18,000 per annum. This lease is renewed annually.

The minimum annual lease payments for the next two years are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>$303,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>285,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Funding Reconciliation

Funding per Indian and Northern Affairs Canada confirmation:

Amounts paid during the year $9,592,798

Amounts receivable per confirmation
- Governance 46,105
- Mechanisms and Frameworks 1,500
- Specific and Special Claims 65,179
- Inherent Right 57,000
- Re-Orientiation of Self Government 98,000
- Treaty Policy Development 38,088
- Disabled 4,370
- Advocacy and Public Education 15,000
- Summer Work Experience 155,200
- Energy 120,000
- Business Development
  - reconciling item from confirmation 100,000

Total $700,442

Amounts payable at year end
- Energy (65,851)
- Economic Summit (15,514)
- Governance (2)

Total (81,367)

Total funding per Statement of Revenue and Expenditures $10,211,873

Total funding amount of $10,211,873 is comprised of contribution funding of $7,856,663 and flexible transfer payments and grants funding of $2,355,210. The amounts repayable at March 31, 2011 relate to the amounts for the Energy Program and the Economic Summit.
Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2011

12. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The fair values of cash and bank, accounts and grants receivable, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate their carrying amounts because of the short-term maturity of these instruments.

13. Comparative Figures

Certain of the comparative figures have been restated to conform to the presentation adopted by the organization in the current year.

14. Capital Disclosures

The non-profit organization considers its capital to be the balances maintained in its Investment in Capital Assets, Investment in Nishnawbe Aski Nation Investment Limited, Restricted Net Assets and Unrestricted Net Assets. The primary objective of the non-profit organization is to invest its Capital in a manner that will allow it to continue as a going concern and comply with its objectives. Capital is invested under the direction of the Board of Directors of the non-profit organization with the objective of providing a reasonable rate of return, minimizing risk and ensuring adequate liquid investments are on hand for current cash flow requirements. The non-profit organization is not subject to any externally imposed requirements of its capital.
Auditors' Comments on Supplementary Financial Information

To the Board of Directors of
Nishnawbe Aski Nation

We have audited the financial statements of Nishnawbe Aski Nation which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2011, and the statements of changes in net assets, revenue and expenditures, and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and have issued a report thereon dated July 18, 2011 which contains an unmodified opinion on those statements. The audit was performed to form an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The following supplementary schedules are presented for the purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements. Such supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements.

The supplementary information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such supplementary information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Restriction on distribution and Use

The supplementary information is prepared to assist Nishnawbe Aski Nation to meet the reporting requirements of the Board of Directors. As a result, the supplementary information may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the Board of Directors of Nishnawbe Aski Nation and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the Board of Directors of Nishnawbe Aski Nation.

Chartered Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Dryden, Ontario
July 18, 2011
### Nishnawbe Aski Nation

#### Grand Chief Stan Beardy: Governance and Administrative Portfolio

#### Schedule of Revenue and Expenditures

For the year ended March 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Governance</th>
<th>Lands &amp; Resources</th>
<th>Treaty</th>
<th>Advocacy</th>
<th>Administration and Youth</th>
<th>Total 2011</th>
<th>Total 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Nations Institutions and Organizations</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>$ 40,000</td>
<td>$ 41,500</td>
<td>$ 145,024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,524,072</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,524,072</td>
<td>102,274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada - contribution</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>55,200</td>
<td>1,032,868</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>1,138,068</td>
<td>1,109,245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada - flexible transfer arrangement</td>
<td>438,200</td>
<td>97,500</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>372,233</td>
<td>533,177</td>
<td>1,441,110</td>
<td>1,436,491</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>38,200</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>38,200</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province of Ontario</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Affairs</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>219,515</td>
<td>18,040</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>347,555</td>
<td>1,295,652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>343,332</td>
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<td>Community Services</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11,526</td>
<td>11,526</td>
<td>11,526</td>
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<td>Interest</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>31,157</td>
<td>31,157</td>
<td>31,084</td>
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<tr>
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<td>(15,088)</td>
<td>(5,000)</td>
<td>(23,554)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(48,642)</td>
<td>207,873</td>
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<td>35,775</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>85,344</td>
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<tr>
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<td>32,594</td>
<td>(13,509)</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>1,068,174</td>
<td>350,179</td>
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<td>5,410,473</td>
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<td>(111,755)</td>
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<td>(915,580)</td>
<td>(513,007)</td>
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<td>488,200</td>
<td>1,900,434</td>
<td>1,068,174</td>
<td>238,424</td>
<td>811,204</td>
<td>4,506,436</td>
<td>4,897,466</td>
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<td>Bad debts</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>3,975</td>
<td>4,999</td>
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<td>7,959</td>
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<td>182,413</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>547,845</td>
<td>1,154,865</td>
<td>1,371,362</td>
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<td>403,498</td>
<td>50,256</td>
<td>92,839</td>
<td>1,051,806</td>
<td>1,253,010</td>
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<td>88,365</td>
<td>474,248</td>
<td>70,537</td>
<td>(554,505)</td>
<td>(951,483)</td>
<td>(972,838)</td>
<td>(924,723)</td>
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<td>11,419</td>
<td>106,354</td>
<td>156,004</td>
<td>179,084</td>
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<td>Rent and utilities</td>
<td>8,849</td>
<td>19,377</td>
<td>25,424</td>
<td>21,510</td>
<td>100,819</td>
<td>175,979</td>
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<td>9,323</td>
<td>55,588</td>
<td>20,180</td>
<td>101,133</td>
<td>41,786</td>
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<td>Travel</td>
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<td>138,331</td>
<td>96,687</td>
<td>182,862</td>
<td>36,905</td>
<td>523,285</td>
<td>577,045</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>1,909,955</td>
<td>1,094,181</td>
<td>235,814</td>
<td>731,041</td>
<td>4,450,191</td>
<td>4,753,643</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>(521)</td>
<td>(26,007)</td>
<td>2,610</td>
<td>80,163</td>
<td>56,245</td>
<td>143,823</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>34,303</td>
<td>44,276</td>
<td>121,101</td>
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<td>(9,744)</td>
<td>(26,007)</td>
<td>1,860</td>
<td>45,860</td>
<td>11,969</td>
<td>22,722</td>
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</table>
# Nishnawbe Aski Nation

## Deputy Grand Chief Terry Waboose: Education and Community Infrastructure Portfolio

### Schedule of Revenue and Expenditures

**For the year ended March 31**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Governance and Advocacy</th>
<th>Economic Development</th>
<th>Education and Tourism</th>
<th>Housing and Infrastructure/ Energy</th>
<th>Social Services</th>
<th>Total 2011</th>
<th>Total 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Nations Institutions and Organizations</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ 883,538</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government of Canada</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>78,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>462,406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources Development</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada - contribution</td>
<td>1,397,260</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,814,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>43,700</td>
<td>6,254,960</td>
<td>5,492,253</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada - flexible transfer arrangement</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>167,200</td>
<td>257,200</td>
<td>467,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province of Ontario</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,828,607</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native Affairs</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>221,512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>162,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts repayable to funders</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>279,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>279,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers (to) from deferred contributions</td>
<td>(15,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>92,839</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(201,561)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td>1,382,260</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,996,839</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,567,691</td>
<td>9,946,790</td>
<td>9,349,657</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Funds transferred for First Nations operations | (507,751) | - | (4,033,943) | - | (1,993,339) | (6,535,033) | (5,947,226) |
|**Total Revenue** | 874,509 | - | 962,896 | - | 1,574,352 | 3,411,757 | 3,402,431 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>Governance and Advocacy</th>
<th>Economic Development</th>
<th>Education and Tourism</th>
<th>Housing and Infrastructure/ Energy</th>
<th>Social Services</th>
<th>Total 2011</th>
<th>Total 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conferences, workshops and reports</td>
<td>212,802</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>96,073</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>545,165</td>
<td>854,040</td>
<td>988,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulting and professional fees</td>
<td>173,941</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>105,679</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>86,088</td>
<td>365,708</td>
<td>324,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter program allocations</td>
<td>(25,266)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>275,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>329,288</td>
<td>579,022</td>
<td>650,944</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public relations</td>
<td>4,449</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>23,198</td>
<td>27,647</td>
<td>18,659</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent and utilities</td>
<td>14,786</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>11,833</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>31,386</td>
<td>58,055</td>
<td>50,447</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries and benefits</td>
<td>335,460</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>214,334</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>399,462</td>
<td>949,256</td>
<td>908,385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies and resources</td>
<td>19,220</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,931</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>14,213</td>
<td>40,364</td>
<td>46,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>139,117</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>239,077</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>155,014</td>
<td>533,208</td>
<td>398,324</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
<td>874,509</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>948,977</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,583,814</td>
<td>3,407,300</td>
<td>3,386,744</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

| Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before capital allocations | - | - | 13,919 | - | (9,462) | 4,457 | 15,687 |
| Capital allocations | - | - | 13,918 | - | - | 13,918 | 25,815 |

| Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures for the year | $ - | $ - | $ 1 | $ - | $ (9,462) | $ (9,461) | $ (10,128) |
**Nishnawbe Aski Nation**

**Deputy Grand Chief Mike Metatawabin: Health Portfolio**

**Schedule of Revenue and Expenditures**

For the year ended March 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Advocacy</th>
<th>Women and Family</th>
<th>Restorative Justice</th>
<th>Service Providers</th>
<th>Health Promotion</th>
<th>Total 2011</th>
<th>Total 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Nations Institutions and Organizations</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$627,753</td>
<td>$57,627</td>
<td>$27,000</td>
<td>$712,380</td>
<td>$766,198</td>
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<td>75,000</td>
<td>323,172</td>
<td></td>
<td>275,475</td>
<td>976,204</td>
<td>1,101,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources Development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada - contribution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada - flexible transfer arrangement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Province of Ontario</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attorney General</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children and Youth Services</td>
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<td>183,978</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts repayable to funders</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers (to) from deferred contributions</td>
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<td>105,625</td>
<td>(26,925)</td>
<td>42,154</td>
<td>(31,891)</td>
<td>49,231</td>
<td>179,743</td>
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<td>594,325</td>
<td>1,514,950</td>
<td>99,781</td>
<td>3,050,979</td>
<td>5,598,688</td>
<td>6,455,316</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>338,653</td>
<td>504,325</td>
<td>1,264,888</td>
<td>80,406</td>
<td>1,042,717</td>
<td>3,230,989</td>
<td>3,987,008</td>
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<td><strong>Expenditures</strong></td>
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<td>344,906</td>
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<td>842,560</td>
<td>1,378,688</td>
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<td>350,602</td>
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<td>264,318</td>
<td>664,884</td>
<td>461,323</td>
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<tr>
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<td>161,734</td>
<td>9,181</td>
<td>(36,927)</td>
<td>45,107</td>
<td>441,764</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>334</td>
<td>2,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent and utilities</td>
<td>18,503</td>
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<td>19,094</td>
<td>4,251</td>
<td>16,722</td>
<td>68,511</td>
<td>83,979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and benefits</td>
<td>343,713</td>
<td>148,793</td>
<td>302,724</td>
<td>18,794</td>
<td>416,566</td>
<td>1,230,590</td>
<td>1,084,411</td>
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<td>13,517</td>
<td>530</td>
<td>8,396</td>
<td>43,675</td>
<td>54,214</td>
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<td>303,239</td>
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<td>80,406</td>
<td>995,865</td>
<td>3,201,234</td>
<td>3,932,072</td>
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<td><strong>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before capital allocations</strong></td>
<td>(2,614)</td>
<td>7,503</td>
<td>(21,986)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>46,852</td>
<td>29,755</td>
<td>54,936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital allocations</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7,503</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>7,824</td>
<td>41,766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures for the year</strong></td>
<td>(2,614)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(21,986)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>46,531</td>
<td>21,931</td>
<td>13,170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Nishnawbe Aski Nation

**Deputy Grand Chief Les Louttit: Human and Social Development Portfolio**

**Schedule of Revenue and Expenditures**

For the year ended March 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Advocacy</th>
<th>Energy and Resources</th>
<th>Human Development</th>
<th>Heritage</th>
<th>Youth</th>
<th>Total 2011</th>
<th>Total 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Nations Institutions and Organizations</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>1,175</td>
<td>$ 1,175</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
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<td>Government of Canada</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>163,118</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children and Youth Services</td>
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<td>490,593</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>74,500</td>
<td>74,500</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>600,000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts repayable to funders</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td>(88,897)</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>(88,897)</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>106,675</td>
<td>(17,510)</td>
<td>71,107</td>
<td>295,038</td>
<td>472,820</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfers (to) from deferred contributions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(40,017)</td>
<td>1,145,367</td>
<td>71,107</td>
<td>781,069</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funds transferred for First Nations operations</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>71,107</td>
<td>621,520</td>
<td>2,452,824</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenditures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences, workshops and reports</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>276,950</td>
<td>167,081</td>
<td>29,500</td>
<td>279,977</td>
<td>753,508</td>
<td>1,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulting and professional fees</td>
<td>14,249</td>
<td>127,423</td>
<td>320,745</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>100,921</td>
<td>573,338</td>
<td>(108,610)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter program allocations</td>
<td>(184,750)</td>
<td>197,937</td>
<td>126,164</td>
<td>8,040</td>
<td>101,318</td>
<td>248,709</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>28,726</td>
<td>4,412</td>
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<td>Rent and utilities</td>
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<td>8,989</td>
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<td>5,687</td>
<td>24,438</td>
<td>4,412</td>
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<td>Supplies and resources</td>
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<td>7,400</td>
<td>4,100</td>
<td>4,811</td>
<td>23,536</td>
<td>4,246</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
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<td>63,083</td>
<td>48,886</td>
<td>21,167</td>
<td>41,270</td>
<td>220,493</td>
<td>2,822</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td></td>
<td>898,409</td>
<td>854,904</td>
<td>71,107</td>
<td>613,572</td>
<td>2,437,991</td>
<td>(7,478)</td>
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</table>

**Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before capital allocations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>$</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6,884</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7,948</td>
<td>14,833</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Capital allocations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$</th>
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<th>$</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,937</td>
<td>7,948</td>
<td>14,885</td>
<td>7,478</td>
<td>7,478</td>
<td>7,478</td>
<td>7,478</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures for the year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$</th>
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<th>$</th>
<th>$</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### Nishnawbe Aski Nation
Former Deputy Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler
Schedule of Revenue and Expenditures

For the year ended March 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Advocacy</th>
<th>Policing</th>
<th>Social Services</th>
<th>Women and Families</th>
<th>Youth</th>
<th>Total 2011</th>
<th>Total 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Canada</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>- $</td>
<td>147,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada - contribution</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>80,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Province of Ontario</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>128,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>236,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers (to) from deferred contributions</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(18,683)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds transferred for First Nations operations</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Expenditures**     |          |          |                |                    |       |            |            |
| Conferences, workshops and reports | - | - | - | - | - | - | 112,573 |
| Consulting and professional fees | - | - | - | - | - | - | 328,303 |
| Inter program allocations | - | - | - | - | - | - | 27,625 |
| Public relations      | -        | -        | -              | -                  | -     | -          | 13,292     |
| Rent and utilities    | -        | -        | -              | -                  | -     | -          | 1,767      |
| Salaries and benefits | -        | -        | -              | -                  | -     | -          | 39,315     |
| Supplies and resources| -        | -        | -              | -                  | -     | -          | 3,558      |
| Travel                | -        | -        | -              | -                  | -     | -          | 47,846     |

| Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before capital allocations | - | - | - | - | - | - | 574,279 |

| Capital allocations   | -        | -        | -              | -                  | -     | -          |            |

| Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures for the year | $ | - $ | - $ | - $ | - $ | - $ | - $ | - $ | - $ |

23
### Nishnawbe Aski Nation

**Former Deputy Grand Chief RoseAnne Archibald**

**Schedule of Revenue and Expenditures**

For the year ended March 31

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Advocacy</th>
<th>Policing</th>
<th>Social Services</th>
<th>Women and Families</th>
<th>Youth</th>
<th>Total 2011</th>
<th>Total 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds transferred for First Nations operations</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenditures</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulting and professional fees</td>
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<td>(67,000)</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>6,023</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>27,321</td>
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<td><strong>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before capital allocations</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures for the year</strong></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>$</td>
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