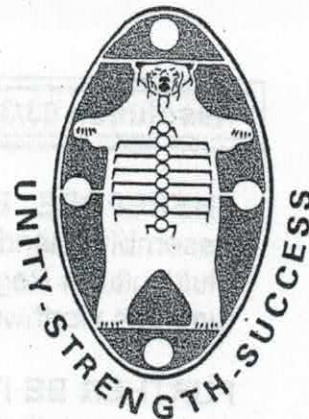


NISHNAWBE ASKI NATION

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RESOLUTION 03/30 NISHNAWBE ASKI NATION SUPPORTS THE REGIONAL YOUTH CENTRE

WHEREAS the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre provides many Nishnawbe Aski Nation Youth who reside in Thunder Bay while attending Dennis Cromarty High School and other secondary schools in the city with safe, healthy, and culturally appropriate services;

WHEREAS the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Decade for Youth Council strongly supports the work of the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre;

WHEREAS the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre provides youth programming for many members of Nishnawbe Aski Nation, both on and off-reserve;

WHEREAS the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre empowers young people by developing leadership skills through social, cultural and recreational activities that are conceived, developed and executed by the youth themselves;

WHEREAS the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre receives no core funding from any level of government;

WHEREAS in the past the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre had successfully raised all of its operational money for faxes, telephone etc through bingos;

WHEREAS the opening of the Thunder Bay Charity Casino caused a dramatic decline in bingo revenues for the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre;

WHEREAS the Ontario Government and the City of Thunder Bay have failed to financially compensate the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre for the loss of its bingo revenues;

WHEREAS the loss of the bingo revenues has forced the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre to substantially reduce the level of service and programming to its members, including a large number of NAN Youth;

WHEREAS without these services and programs, youth may have nowhere to go after school but the streets, where they will be exposed to drugs, alcohol and violence;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Nishnawbe Aski Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly mandate the Executive Council to continue its work to assist the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre lobby all levels of government to adequately fund this worthwhile youth organization;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Nishnawbe Aski Nations Chiefs-in-Assembly recommend that each member First Nation send in resolutions or letters of support for the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre;


FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that Nishnawbe Aski Chiefs-in-Assembly recommend that each member First Nation donate a small sum of money to the Multicultural Regional Youth Centre to continue its work providing services and programming to urban youth, including those NAN members attending Dennis Cromarty High School and other secondary schools in Thunder Bay.


DATED AT THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO, THIS 27TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2003.

MOVED BY: Chief Glenn Nolan
Missanabie Cree First Nation

SECONDED BY: Proxy Wally McKay
Whitewater First Nation

CARRIED.


Grand Chief


Deputy Grand Chief