IROQUOIS CAUCUS

Iroquois Caucus Resolution in Support of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action

Date: **December 17, 2015** **No. of Pages 2**

Proposed By: Chief Ava Hill
Seconded By: Chief Gina Deer

WHEREAS the Government of Canada is directly responsible for the development and implementation of the Indian Residential School system;

WHEREAS the Indian Residential School system was a deliberate attempt to assimilate First Nations children, amounting to cultural genocide;

WHEREAS approximately 150,000 First Nation children were forcibly removed from their homes and families, and placed in residential schools where they were systematically abused and severely mistreated;

WHEREAS the children were prohibited from speaking their languages or practicing their traditional culture and were punished if they did so, resulting in the loss of identity, culture, language, and self-worth;

WHEREAS the intergenerational impacts of the residential schools which include poverty, ineffective parenting, abuse, grief, addictions and health issues, continues to this day;

WHEREAS reports issued by the United Nations Special Rapporteur, James Anaya, and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, both highlight gaps that exist in health care, housing, education, welfare and social services, that can be attributed to systemic racism and the residential school experience;

WHEREAS the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released the findings of its work which included 94 Calls to Action;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Iroquois Caucus supports the 94 recommendations made by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and calls upon the Federal and Provincial governments to take immediate and concrete steps to implement the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal government in partnership with First nations, commit to developing and implementing action plans and strategies to comply with the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a means to reconciliation;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Federal government implements a process to rebuild the Nation to Nation relationship between First Nations and the Crown.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS