



IROQUOIS CAUCUS

Iroquois Caucus Resolution Rejecting the First Nations Education Act

DATE: 6, Enníska/February 2014

No. of Pages: 2

PROPOSED BY: RILEY HAY

SECONDED BY: JOE LAZORE

WHEREAS the Iroquois Peoples are self-determined Peoples, that consistently and historically assert their right to govern their own affairs;

WHEREAS the Iroquois Peoples abide by the philosophies, values, traditions, concepts and principles of Peace, Power and Righteousness prescribed in, and in accordance with, the Kaianere'kó:wa;

WHEREAS these principles have governed, and continue to govern, the direction of the Iroquois Peoples since time immemorial;

WHEREAS the Iroquois Peoples have an historic, inherent and inalienable right to education;

WHEREAS the Iroquois Peoples have never ceded traditional territory, Title or Rights, and continue to assert their rights as Peoples;

WHEREAS the United Nations Declarations on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples affirms the right of the Iroquois peoples the right to establish and control our education systems and institutions providing education in our own languages, in a manner appropriate to our cultural methods of teaching and learning.

WHEREAS the Declaration further calls upon Canada to work with the Iroquois Peoples to “take effective measures, in order for Indigenous individuals, particularly children, including those living outside their communities, to have access, when possible, to an education in their own culture and provided in their own language.”

WHEREAS “effective measures” include the guarantee of funding that will cover the actual costs of a linguistically and culturally responsible education, from early childhood to post-secondary.

WHEREAS the member communities of the Iroquois Caucus are aware of plans of the Federal government implement legislation known as the *First Nations Education Act*;

WHEREAS the Federal government has not properly, nor meaningfully, met its duty to engage member communities of the Iroquois Caucus in the development of any federal legislation related to education;

WHEREAS the member communities of the Iroquois Caucus are strongly opposed to imposition of any federal or provincial legislation upon any Indigenous communities, and in particular, Iroquois communities, which do not explicitly acknowledge the exclusive jurisdiction of our communities;

WHEREAS the member communities of the Iroquois Caucus reiterate that the Federal government has unfairly and chronically underfunded community education systems, jeopardizing student success and outcomes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the member communities of the Iroquois Caucus reject the *First Nations Education Act* in its entirety, including all of its components and contents, and any and all federally or provincially imposed legislation in this matter;


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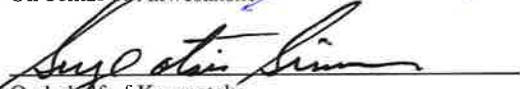
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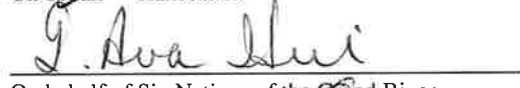
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the member communities of the Iroquois Caucus demand that Canada immediately cease any further development, passage or implementation of legislation on First Nations education;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the member communities of the Iroquois Caucus demand that Canada recognize and respect the Aboriginal Right to jurisdictional control of our own education systems and meet with our communities who are the legitimate rights holders to discuss and take steps necessary to address the chronic underfunding of our education systems;

FINALLY BE IT LASTLY RESOLVED that the member communities of the Iroquois Caucus take all actions necessary to work with partners to counter the First Nation Education Act.

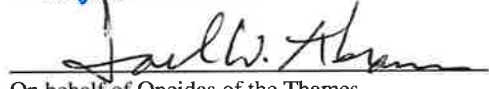

On behalf of Akwesáhsne


On behalf of Kanesatake


On behalf of Six Nations of the Grand River


On behalf of Wahta


On behalf of Kahnawà:ke


On behalf of Oneidas of the Thames


On behalf of Tyendinaga