

BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION - SUGGESTED FORMAT

At a duly convened meeting of the Chief and Council held in the administration offices of the _____ First Nation (known as the _____ Band) on the _____ day of _____, 200 ____ .

WHEREAS First Nations are diverse communities with aboriginal and treaty rights and other rights and freedoms that are recognized and affirmed in the Constitution of Canada; and

WHEREAS First Nations have a profound relationship with the land that is rooted in respect for the spiritual value of the Earth and the gifts of the Creator and have a deep desire to preserve their relationship with the land; and

WHEREAS First Nations should have a choice of withdrawing their lands from the land administration provisions of the Indian Act in order to exercise control over their lands and resources for the use and benefit of their members; and

WHEREAS First Nations have developed and signed the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* with Canada in order to exercise this community control over reserve lands and resources; and

WHEREAS under the *Framework Agreement* community control over reserve lands and resources:

- will protect these lands for future generations by preventing any surrender and sale or any provincial or federal expropriation, and
- will facilitate economic development to generate revenues for jobs and for the community; and

WHEREAS Canada will continue to be liable for any acts and omissions in respect of existing rights and interests in land which may have occurred before the community assumed control over reserve lands and resources; and

WHEREAS nothing in the *Framework Agreement* shall be interpreted in a way that abrogates or derogates from any Aboriginal and treaty rights or any other rights and freedoms that pertain to the signatory First Nations or any treaty rights of the signatory First Nations without the expressed consent of the signatory First Nations; and

WHEREAS it is understood that although First Nations signing the *Framework Agreement* with Canada receive developmental funding, <FN> are prepared to self-fund the development of a land code and the obtaining of community approval for the land code in order to exercise this community control over reserve lands and resources; and

WHEREAS it is understood that Canada will continue to be responsible for conducting an Environmental Site Assessment Phase I which identifies the existing environmental issues; and

WHEREAS it is further understood that Canada will be responsible for the preparation of a boundary survey report conducted by Natural Resources Canada as identified under the *Framework Agreement*; and

WHEREAS it is <FN> understanding and expectation that all First Nations ratifying the *Framework Agreement* with Canada will receive operational funding to discharge responsibilities in respect of reserve lands; and

WHEREAS the Chief and Council of the _____ First Nation have discussed the purpose of the *Framework Agreement* and support the principles and process;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Chief and Council of the _____ First Nation do hereby confirm by resolution their desire to continue its developmental activities pursuant to the *Framework Agreement*.