



ANISHINAABE AGOWIDIWINAN TREATY 2 - AUGUST 21, 1871

Spring Session – Councils in Assembly – 12 June 2018

Resolution 2018-06-12-005

RE: Treaty 2 Territory Education Act

**Moved by Chief
Wayne Desjarlais,
Ebb and Flow First
Nation**

**Seconded by Chief
Cornell McLean,
Lake Manitoba First
Nation**

Passed by Consensus by
the Council of Chiefs of
Anishinaabe
Agowidiwinan, Treaty 2,
on the 12th day of June
2018.

Certified Copy of this
Resolution Adopted on:
12 June 2018

Grand Chief Norman Bone

Whereas; the children and people of the First Nations of Treaty 2 Territory (“children and people”) have the inherent right to quality education from birth throughout their lives so that they may realize their full potential and contribute to their families, their communities, their Nation, to Canada and the world;

Whereas; the Government of Canada, acting on behalf of the Crown, wishes to uphold the honour of the Crown and fulfill the solemn and sacred arrangements reached in Treaty 2 at Manitoba House on 21 August 1871;

Whereas; one of the promises agreed to by the Imperial Crown as part of the arrangement was that a “schoolhouse and schoolmaster” would be provided;

Whereas; at no time have the children and people of Treaty 2 Territory surrendered their right to the lands and educate their own children;

Whereas; it is in the interests of the people of Manitoba and the people of Canada that the people of Treaty 2 Territory be strong, healthy, self-sufficient and well-educated;

Whereas; the General Assembly of the United Nations has affirmed that indigenous peoples are equal to all other peoples, while recognizing the right of all peoples to be different, to consider themselves different, and to be respected as such;

Whereas; the UN General Assembly has also affirmed that all peoples contribute to the diversity and richness of civilizations and cultures which constitute the common heritage of humankind, and that all doctrines, policies and practices based on or advocating superiority of peoples or individuals on the basis of national origin or racial, religious, ethnic or cultural differences are racist, scientifically false, legally invalid, morally condemnable and socially unjust;

Whereas; the children of our indigenous nations have the right to an education which equips them to be participants in the political and economic life of their own economic and social structures so these might be strengthened, and to enjoy the knowledge of their cultures, spiritual traditions, histories, philosophies, and the responsible exercise of their rights, especially their rights to their lands, territories and resources;

Whereas the UN General Assembly has recognized the right of indigenous families and communities to retain shared responsibility for the upbringing, training, education and well-being of their children, consistent with the rights of the child;

Whereas; Article 8 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples states that Indigenous peoples and individuals have the right not to be subjected to forced assimilation or destruction of their culture; and

Whereas; Article 14 of the Declaration states that Indigenous peoples have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning, and that States shall, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, take effective measures, in order for indigenous individuals, particularly children, including those living outside their communities, to have access to an education in their own culture and provided in their own language;

Whereas; other international instruments such as the International Covenant on the Rights of the Child, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Council, Convention on the Rights of the Child, World Declaration on Education for All confirm the rights of indigenous students to an education provided by their own people;

Whereas; the ss. 35 and 52 of the Constitution of Canada provides for the recognition and affirmation of the rights of the children and people of Treaty 2, and removes the validity of any law of Canada which is contrary to such recognition and affirmation;

Whereas; the children and people of each Nation within the boundaries of Treaty 2 have the right to an education which reinforces that Nation's culture, language, worldview, values and ways of living a good life and living in harmony with the natural world, while at the same time obtaining an education in which children have pride in themselves, identity, their people, and are confident in their capacity to participate in the affairs of the world;

Whereas; the children and people of our Nations have the right to an education which will enhance harmonious and cooperative relationships with all peoples, based on principles of justice, democracy, respect for human rights, non-discrimination and good faith;

Whereas; as nations, peoples, communities, and families, we have a collective responsibility for each child's future;

Whereas; each community within each Nation has the right to determine how the education of their children and people is to be administered,

Therefore, we the Council of Chiefs of Anishinaabe Agowidiwinan – Treaty 2 hereby pass the Treaty 2 Territory Education Act.