

**Chiefs Forum on Bill C-92  
Victoria Inn  
Winnipeg, Mb.  
March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Resolution # 1**

**Resolution supporting KTC First Nations Unified Response to Bill C-92,  
an Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis children, youth and families**

- WHEREAS: There is a pressing need for Keewatin Tribal Council First Nations to respond to Bill C-92, An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis children, youth and families; and
- WHEREAS: *The Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis Children, Youth and Families* (the "Act") became law on January 1, 2020; and
- WHEREAS: Bill-C92 identifies two options for First Nations to enable jurisdiction over CFS; and
- WHEREAS: Under Option 1, federal, provincial and territorial jurisdiction will prevail over any law adopted by First Nations; and
- WHEREAS: Under Option 2, any law respecting child and family services enacted by First Nations may have the same force and effect as federal legislation; and
- WHEREAS: In Manitoba, the Provincial Territorial Organizations (PTOs) are preparing to make submissions to Canada to take lead on the process(es) to develop the culturally appropriate responses to Bill C-92; and
- WHEREAS: Chiefs of Keewatin Tribal Council have expressed concern that the Indigenous Regional Organizations (IRO's) should not be leading any process(es) where child and family services are provided to our people as they were established to provide political advocacy; and
- WHEREAS: The Awasis Agency of Northern Manitoba, the Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority met with Keewatin Tribal Council technicians on January 27, 2020 to discuss Bill C-92 and to discuss Keewatin Tribal Council options in responding to Bill C-92; and
- WHEREAS: On January 28, 2020, the Executive Council of Chiefs for Keewatin Tribal Council passed the following motion; and.

*"That the Executive Council of Chiefs of Keewatin Tribal Council recommend that all Keewatin Tribal Council Chiefs come together in a forum to determine the next steps in responding to Bill C-92. That the Executive Council of Chiefs of Keewatin Tribal Council mandate the Awasis Agency of*

*Northern Manitoba, the Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority and Keewatin Tribal Council to work collaboratively to organize the Bill C-92 Forum. That the Executive Council of Chiefs recommend that the Chiefs of Keewatin Tribal Council give notice to Indigenous Services Canada of our intent to explore options on behalf of the Keewatin Tribal Council First Nations and that we do not support any other proposal that has pre-empted the Keewatin Tribal Council's response."*

WHEREAS: The Chief and Council support joint ownership based on the principles of equality and unanimity; and

Therefore, Be it resolved, That the Chiefs of Keewatin Tribal Council unanimously support the following.

1. KTC is authorized to act on behalf of the KTC First Nations as the Indigenous Governing Body under the Act;
2. KTC, in collaboration with Awasis Agency of Northern Manitoba and First Nations of Northern Manitoba Child and Family Services Authority, is authorized and mandated:
  - i) to develop a child and family services law under the Act based on KTC First Nations languages, customs, traditions and values to replace existing Manitoba child welfare laws, regulations and standards;
  - ii) to give notice to Canada and Manitoba of our intention to exercise legislative authority in relation to child and family services under the Act;
  - iii) to request Canada and Manitoba to enter into a coordination agreement with KTC under the Act;
  - iv) to develop and submit work plans and proposals to Canada and Manitoba to further the above objectives of the KTC First Nations.
3. Nothing herein or any submissions on behalf of KTC First Nations shall be interpreted as abrogating or derogating from:
  - i) the sacred treaty relationship between KTC First Nations and the Crown, and
  - ii) aboriginal and treaty rights of KTC First Nations as recognized and affirmed by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

Moved by: Chief Gilbert Andrews  
Seconded by: Chief Leroy Constant  
All in favor: 5  
Objections: 2  
Motion passed.