



Sioux Lookout
First Nations
Health Authority

SIoux LOOKOUT FIRST NATIONS HEALTH AUTHORITY

Resolution #16-24

REGIONAL CHILDREN AND YOUTH STRATEGY

WHEREAS, our children are the future of our communities and need to be nurtured within our families and communities; and

WHEREAS, the jurisdictional gap between provincial and federal services and the lack of coordination between service providers results in large gaps in services and inequitable access to developmental services (speech therapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, psycho-educational assessments, etc.) for our children; and

WHEREAS, the importance of healthy beginnings, early childhood development, and wellness initiatives with children and youth cannot be understated and is often ignored or not resourced adequately; and

WHEREAS, Jordan's Principle is a child-first Principle which provides, in the matter of public services available to all other children, that where jurisdictional disputes arise between Canada and any province or territory, or between government departments in the same government, the government or department of first contact pays for the service, and can seek reimbursement from another government or department after the fact; and

WHEREAS, Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) has initiated a process of developing a Charter of Rights of the NAN Child; and

WHEREAS, Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority (SLFNHA) is an advisory member of the NAN Chiefs Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, which has been mandated to oversee matters related to children, youth, and families; and

WHEREAS, new program initiatives for children have been announced by the Province of Ontario and Canada; and

WHEREAS, SLFNHA's Approaches to Community Wellbeing has placed a high priority on children, through the implementation of the "Raising our Children" section of the model, and is focussing on prevention and early childhood development;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Chiefs in Assembly direct SLFNHA to undertake a comprehensive review of children's services to identify gaps in services and requirements for prevention, early childhood development, specialty services, and treatment.

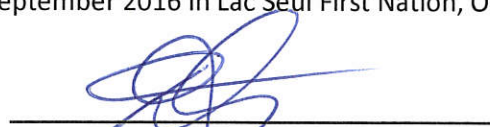
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Chiefs in Assembly direct SLFNHA to work with First Nations communities, and partners in various sectors and take a lead role in the development of a regional children and youth strategy for prevention, treatment, ongoing services, and family support services (for example, respite care for families with children of special needs).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Chiefs in Assembly direct SLFNHA to ensure that the strategy takes into consideration children in special circumstances and with special needs.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT, the Chiefs in Assembly direct SLFNHA and NAN to raise awareness of the inequitable services unique to remote and isolated communities, and advocate to governments to ensure full implementation of Jordan's Principle.


Dated this 15th day of September 2016 in Lac Seul First Nation, Ontario.

Moved by:



Chief Wayne Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation

Seconded by:



Chief Chris Kakegamic, Keewaywin First Nation

Decision:

CARRIED

Signature of Meeting Chair:



Wally McKay, Meeting Chair