



Sioux Lookout  
First Nations  
Health Authority

## **SIOUX LOOKOUT FIRST NATIONS HEALTH AUTHORITY**

Resolution #16-23

### **CRISIS RESPONSE STRATEGY**

**WHEREAS**, First Nation communities across the Sioux Lookout Region are declaring a state of crisis with regard to mental wellness, suicide, and addictions in their communities. Since 1986, over 446 suicides have occurred in the Sioux Lookout area and support is needed for a coordinated and comprehensive approach to crisis response and social emergencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the funding model in which Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority's (SLFNHA) Crisis Response is administered is not reflective of the need for crisis response in our communities, and as a result, SLFNHA goes into significant deficit every year in order to meet the requests from our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the current crisis response model is highly reactive and largely ignores the aspects of crisis prevention and emergency preparedness. It suffers from lack of coordination, lack of specialised services, lack of clear procedures and protocols, and lack of clarity around roles and responsibilities between programs and agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, Health Canada has announced funding for two organizations in the province to host a mental wellness crisis response team to be funded in the amount of \$1 Million per year to serve all of Northern Ontario, and SLFNHA was successful in the submission of a letter of intent for this funding and was invited to submit a proposal; and

**WHEREAS**, the Province of Ontario has announced new program initiatives related to responding to communities in crisis and crisis prevention, and this strategy will include a review of existing services;

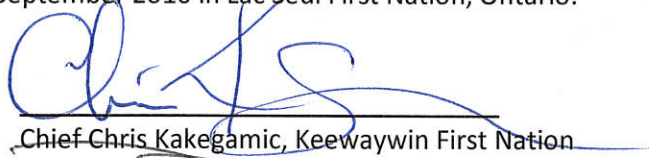
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Chiefs in Assembly direct SLFNHA to take a lead role in the development of a regional management system with clear linkages and working protocols for all programs and organizations involved in crisis and emergency response.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the Chiefs in Assembly direct SLFNHA to develop a plan that will review and realign crisis resources in the Sioux Lookout area.

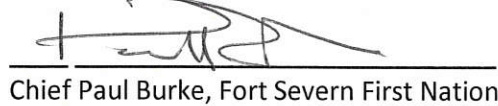
**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT,** the Chiefs in Assembly direct SLFNHA to assess the suitability of SLFNHA acting as a host organization to a mental wellness crisis response team and if found suitable that SLFNHA proceed with submitting a proposal to Health Canada.

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

Moved by:

  
Chief Chris Kakegamic, Keewaywin First Nation

Seconded by:

  
Chief Paul Burke, Fort Severn First Nation

Decision:

**CARRIED**

Signature of Meeting Chair:

  
Wally McKay, Meeting Chair