

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29-AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Selection of National Assembly Chairpersons

BE IT RESOLVED, that Gerry Antoine and Gerry Cheezie be selected as the 21st Dene National Assembly Chairpersons.

MOVED BY: Dave Poitras, delegate of Fort Smith

SECONDED BY: Gabe Hardisty, delegate of Wrigley

FOR:

AGAISNT:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 30TH DAY OF JULY, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tentative Agenda be approved as the Agenda for the 21st Dene National Assembly with the amendments as shown: see attachment.

MOVED BY: Brian Hope, Fort Liard delegate

SECONDED BY: Felix Lockhart, Lutsel K'e delegate

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 30TH DAY OF JULY, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

SEE ATTCHMENT

21ST DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

AGENDA

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| July 29, 1991 (Mon) | Travel Day |
| July 30, 1991 (Tue) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Prayer and Opening Ceremonies2. Welcome by Host Chief and Mayor of Fort Smith3. Approval of Chairperson4. Approval of Agenda5. Executive Reports6. 1990 – 91 Financial Audit7. Proposed Dene Nation Constitution and By-Law Changes |
| July 31, 1991 (Wed) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">8. Elections<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Election Committee Report- Vice-Chief- a) Appoint?- b) Elect?9. Presentations<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gwich'in Claim- Georges Erasmus – AFN- Jim Bourque/Francois Paulette- Constitutional Development- Gary Bohnet – Metis Nation- Clem Paul – Metis Federation- Bernadetta Unka – Treaty 8 MOU- Others |
| August 1, 1991 (Thu) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">10. “Denendeh In the 90’s”
Workshop Format (Day 1)
Question 1. What will be our priorities as Dene over the next decade? |
| August 2, 1991 (Fri) | Workshop (Day 2) |
| August 3, 1991 (Sat) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">11. “Future Directions”<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Direction and passing of motions/resolutions from workshops- Federal and Territorial Officials on site |

12. Other Business

August 4, 1991 (Sun)

Church
Fort Smith Band Office Grand Opening
Feast
Closing Prayer

August 5, 1991 (Mon)

Travel Day

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Approval of Audited Financial Statements for the Year Ending March 31, 1991

BE IT RESOLVED, that the audited financial statements for the year ending March 31, 1991 be approved.

MOVED BY: Chief Stan Sanguetz, Jean Marie River

SECONDED BY: Rudolph Landry, Fort Providence delegate

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 31ST DAY OF JULY, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Approval of Auditors for the Year Ending March 31, 1992

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dene Nation tender the audit to compare proposals and quotations from a variety of accounting firms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Leadership Management Committee be authorized to select the auditors for the Dene Nation during year 1991-92.

MOVED BY: Chief Henry Beaver, Fort Smith

SECONDED BY: Chief Eddy Erasmus, Rae

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 31ST DAY OF JULY, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Agenda Revision

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the 21st Dene National Assembly be amended to table items 7 and 8 to the discussion under item 12.

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| July 29, 1991 (Mon) | Travel Day |
| July 30, 1991 (Tue) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Prayer and Opening Ceremonies2. Welcome by Host Chief and Mayor of Fort Smith3. Approval of Chairperson4. Approval of Agenda5. Executive Reports6. 1990-91 Financial Audit |
| July 31, 1991 (Wed) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">7. Presentations<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Gwich'in Claim- Georges Erasmus – AFN- Jim Bourque/Francois Paulette- Constitutional Development- Gary Bohnet – Metis Federation- Bernadette Unka – Treaty 8 MOU- Others |
| August 1, 1991 (Thu) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">8. “Denendeh In the 90’s”
Workshop Format (Day 1)

Question 1. What will be our priorities as Dene over the next decade? |
| August 2, 1991 (Fri) | Workshop (Day 2)

Question 2. What strategies and actions should we |

employ to achieve
these objectives?

August 3, 1991 (Sat)

9. "Future Directions"
 - Direction and passing of motion/resolutions from workshops
 - Federal and Territorial Officials on site

 10. Other Business
 - Proposed Dene Nation Constitution and By-Laws Changes
- Elections
- Election Committee Report
 - Vice-Chiefs
 - a) Appoint?
 - b) Elect?

August 4, 1991 (Sun)

Church
Fort Smith Band Office Grand Opening
Feast
Closing Prayer

August 5, 1991 (Mon)

Travel Day

MOVED BY: Chief Cece McCauley, Inuvik

SECONDED BY: Allan Landry, Kakisa delegate

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 41ST DAY OF JULY, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Direction for the Denendeh National Office

WHEREAS, the delegates to the 21st Dene National Assembly at Bell Rock have spent time considering their priorities as a people, and the strategies and actions to achieve these priorities; and

WHEREAS, the delegates developed several hundred ideas for priorities and actions in the political, social, cultural, environmental, economic and educational areas; and

WHEREAS, the delegates also considered the role and functions of the Denendeh National Office to be carried out into the future; and

WHEREAS, further time is required to refine the roles and responsibilities of the National, Regional and Local structures and organizations of the Dene.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that all ideas from all regions be recorded and made available to the delegates and the Leadership to assist in refining the roles and responsibilities of the National, Regional and Band offices consistent with this motion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the major role of the Denendeh National Office is to serve as the national political arm of the Dene Nation including,

- 1) to firmly establish our relationship with Canada, and
- 2) continued efforts to ensure that the Aboriginal and Treaty rights of the Dene are implemented; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the related functions of the Denendeh National Office are as follows:

- 1) to provide assistance and other necessary support during the definition and implementation of the rights of the Dene, and
- 2) to coordinate financial and technical support for regional and local Dene organizations and their programs or projects, and

- 3) to maintain and improve communications within the Dene Nation and with other governments; and
4. to initiate discussions and conduct workshops with local and regional Dene organizations to resolve the many roles and functions that overlap and require clarifications; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Assembly reaffirms the need for, and supports a Denendeh National Office to carry out the roles and responsibilities stated in this resolution.

MOVED BY: Jullian Landry, Delegate, Kakisa Lake

SECONDED BY: Chief Cece McCauley, Inuvik

FOR:

AGAISNT:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 3RD DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: National Day of Aboriginal Solidarity

WHEREAS, the Assembly of First Nations has declared June 21 as a National Day of Aboriginal Solidarity as authorized in Motion #39 passed at Penticton, BC in April 1982.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dene Nation declares the June 21 shall be observed as a National Day of Aboriginal Solidarity in Denendeh and that all Dene offices shall observe this day as a holiday.

MOVED BY: Chief Stan Sanguetz, Jean Marie River

SECONDED BY; Philip Liske, Ndilo Delegate

FOR:

AGAISNT:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 3RD DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE FOR MOTION

ACTION:

- 39 – MOTION: (Chief Ron Boissoneau, Garden River Band, Ontario, Chief Tom Esquega, Gull Bay Band, Ontario)

WHEREAS, the Imperial Crown has betrayed a trust with the Indian Nations in Canada by unilaterally transferring Crown obligations to Indian Nations to the Federal Crown in Canada; and,

WHEREAS, this act is seen by the Indian Nations in Canada as an act of cowardice in the face of pressure from a Canadian Government which wishes to dominate and control our land and our people;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Indian people in Canada will no longer celebrate the birthday of the Queen Victoria, the symbol of British justice, on May 24; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in its place, we resolve that June 21, be declared a National Day of Solidarity for Indian people. June 21, is the longest day of the year and marks the changing of the seasons. It is also the time when the seeds of our future sustenance have been sown and grow in this land which is ours since time immemorial.

CARRIED

ACTION:

- 40 - MOTION: (Chief Bernard Ominayak, Chief Jim Giroux)

WHEREAS, the Lubicon Lake Band and Cree Community of Little Buffalo Lake have a land claim based on Treaty and Aboriginal Rights; and

WHEREAS, the Lubicon Lake Band and Cree Community of Little Buffalo Lake is currently being inundated by an influx of oil exploration and drilling activity on the land they have laid claim to; and

WHEREAS, the Lubicon Lake Band and Cree Community of Little Buffalo Lake have instituted legal proceedings against the Government of Canada in the Federal Court of Canada and against the Government of Alberta and several oil companies in the Alberta Courts; and

WHEREAS, the Band and other claimants have no funds to pursue their legitimate case; and

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Dene Nation Constitutional Change: “Snowdrift” to “Lutsel K’e”

BE IT RESOLVED, that Part II Article 2 Subsection 3 (c) of the Dene Nation Constitution and By-Laws is hereby amended to change “Snowdrift” to “Lutsel K’e”.

MOVED BY: Francois Paulette, Fort Fitzgerald Delegate

SECONDED BY: Chief Darrell Beaulieu, Ndilo

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 3RD DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Dene Nation Constitutional Change: National Assembly Proxies

BE IT RESOLVED, that Part II Article 2 section 5 of the Dene Nation Constitution and By-Laws is hereby changed from:

“An instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing and signed by the appointer, and the person so named in the proxy shall be entitled to attend the meeting of the National Assembly for which he is appointed a proxy and he shall have the same rights and duties as his appointer would have been entitled to.”

to read:

“An instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing and signed by the appointer. A person appointed by way of proxy must be a full member of the Dene Nation and, once appointed, has the same rights and duties as their appointer. No delegate attending a meeting of the National Assembly may hold more than one proxy”.

MOVED BY: Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge, Fort Providence

SECONDED BY: Chief Jim Antoine, Fort Simpson

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 3RD DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Dene Nation Constitutional Change: Definition of Leadership

BE IT RESOLVED, that Part II Article 3 section 1.1 of the Dene Nation Constitution and By-Laws is hereby changed from:

“The affairs of the Dene Nation shall be managed by the Leadership, which shall consist of the Executive, all Chiefs.”

to read:

“The affairs of the Dene Nation shall be managed by the Leadership, which shall consist of the Executive and all Chiefs.”

MOVED BY: Chief Bernadetta Unka, Fort Resolution

SECONDED BY: Roy Erasmus, Delegate Ndilo

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 3RD DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Dene Nation Constitutional Change: Waiver for Notice of Leadership Meetings

BE IT RESOLVED, that Part II Article 3 section 11 of the Dene Nation Constitution and By-laws is hereby changed from:

“Any member of the Leadership may by instrument in writing filed with the Secretary waive notice and consent to all future meetings, and any business carried on at such meetings and such waiver and consent shall be valid until the said member of the Leadership shall rescind the said waiver and consent by instrument in writing filed with the Secretary.”

to read:

“Any member of the Leadership may waive notice to a meeting of the Leadership by providing written consent to the Secretary.”

MOVED BY: Roy Erasmus, Delegate Ndilo

SECONDED BY: Chief Antoine Michel, Lutsel K'e

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 3RD DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Dene Nation Constitutional Change: Leadership Meeting Proxies

BE IT RESOLVED, that Part II Article 3 section 14 of the Dene Nation Constitution and By-Laws is hereby changed from:

“An instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing and signed by the appointer, and the person so named in the proxy shall be entitled to vote and take part in the said meeting and shall have the same rights and duties as his appointer would have been entitled to.”

to read:

“An instrument appointment a proxy shall be in writing and signed by the appointer. A person appointed by a way of proxy must be a full member of the Dene Nation and, once appointed, has the same rights and duties as their appointer. No delegate attending a meeting of the Leadership may hold more than one proxy.”

MOVED BY: Chief Darrell Beaulieu

SECONDED BY: Cecilia Wetrade, Delegate Rae

FOR:

AGAISNT:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 3RD DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Fur Industry

WHEREAS, the Dene people are guardians of their land and waters, and fully recognize the value of the renewable resources in Denendeh; and

WHEREAS, the Dene people fully recognize the value in hunting and trapping, consistent with Treaties 8 and 11 and the Canadian Constitution, and how the industry is as much a part of the past generation as it is for the future generations of Dene people; and

WHEREAS, the Dene people fully recognize the control and management responsibilities of the renewable resources and as such, are capable of development the hunting and trapping economy toward greater social, cultural and economic benefits;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dene Nation secure funding to develop and implement an economic strategy for hunting and trapping in Denendeh.

MOVED BY: Chief Eddy Erasmus, Rae

SECONDED BY: Jonas Antoine, Delegate, Fort Simpson

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 3RD DAY OF JULY, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Denendeh Housing Review

WHEREAS, the Dene are entitled to adequate housing as an Aboriginal and Treaty right;
and

WEHREAS, the responsibility for housing has been transferred to the Territorial
Administration without the consent of the Dene; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development recently
completed a review of reserve housing programs, which did not include Denendeh; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to carefully examine the housing needs and programs for the
Dene;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 21st Dene National Assembly support a
comprehensive review of Dene housing needs and programs which would fully involve
the Dene in all stages including the setting of terms of reference, membership on the
study team and implementation of recommendations.

MOVED BY: Roy Erasmus, Delegate Ndilo

SECONDED BY: Chief Pat Martel, Hay River

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 3RD DAY OF JULY, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Meeting with the Prime Minister

WHEREAS, the Federal government promised us good government when they first ventured into our territory by virtue of entering into Treaties 8 and 11; and

WHEREAS, the Federal government created the government of the NWT in the 1960's; and

WHEREAS, the Federal government transferred Treaty money over to the colonial administration of the Northwest Territories for the benefit of the Treaty people; and

WHEREAS, after 30 years of being subjected to the administration in the Northwest Territories with the huge bureaucracy they have created; and

WHEREAS, we believe that the Prime Minister is not aware of the frustrations the Chiefs are enduring

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that a meeting be arrange immediately between the twenty-seven Chiefs of Denendeh and the Prime Minister of Canada to establish a bilateral arrangement between the Chiefs and the Federal government.

MOVED BY: Francois Paulette, Delegate Fort Fitzgerald

SECONDED BY: Chief Henry Beaver, Fort Smith

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 3RD DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Regional Vice-Chiefs

WHEREAS, the National Assembly feels strongly that the positions of National Vice-Chiefs be representative of each of the five regions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following sections of Article 5 of the Den Nation by-laws be amended as follows:

Article 5. Executive

1. In s.1 delete the words “two (2)” and inset the words “five (5)”;
2. In s.2 delete entire paragraph and inset the following:
 - “a) Any active member who is a Treaty Dene is eligible for the office of National Chief.
 - b) There shall be a National Vice Chief position to represent each of the 5 regions of Delta, Sahtu, Deh Cho, North Slave and South Slave. Candidates for each position of National Vice-Chief shall be active members normally resident in the region represented by the position for which they are running.
 - c) For the purpose of these by-laws the regions of the Dene Nation and the communities within each of those regions are as follows:
 - i) Delta: Inuvik, Fort McPherson, Arctic Red River and Aklavik;
 - ii) Sahtu: Fort Good Hope, Colville Lake, Fort Norman and Fort Franklin;
 - iii) Deh Cho: Fort Simpson, Nahanni Butte, Wrigley, Trout Lake, Jean Marie River, Fort Liard, Fort Providence, Kakisa Lake and Hay River Reserve;

- iv) North Slave: Yellowknife (which includes Dettah and Ndilo), Rae-Edzo Lac La Martre, Snare Lakes and Rae Lakes; and
 - v) South Slave: Fort Resolution, Fort Smith, Fort Fitzgerald and Lutsel K'e.
 - d) A person shall be considered normally resident in a region if he or she can establish with the Secretary that their name is on a Dene community band list or if a band council resolution is passed stating that he or she is considered to be from that community."
- 3. In s.3. delete sub-paragraph b) and insert, "The National Chief Vice-Chiefs shall be appointed or elected by the voting delegates present at the Annual Meeting of the National Assembly and shall serve for a period of up to three (3) years; provided however, that for the purpose of electing the National Vice-Chiefs only those eligible voters from each region vote for candidates running for the position of National Vice-Chief of their region and provided that for the purpose of electing and appointing National Vice-Chiefs for their first term the Chiefs and band councils may do so at a regional meeting to be held within three months of the 1991 National Assembly."
- 4. In s.6. delete the paragraph and insert the following:
 - 6.a) The National Chief shall not be removed from office except by a resolution of the National Assembly passed by not less than two-thirds (2/3) of delegates voting in favour of such removal at a National Assembly."
 - 6.b) National Vice-Chiefs shall not be removed from office except by a resolution of the voting delegates from the region which appointed or elected that National Vice-Chief passed by not less than two-thirds (2/3) of delegates voting in favour of such removal."
- 5. In s.8. delete the paragraph and insert in its place:
 - 8.a) If the position of National Chief is vacated in mid-term, the Leadership may appoint an active member of the Dene Nation to fill the vacancy with effect from the date of appointment and for the balance of the term of office which has been vacated, subject however, to ratification by the National Assembly.
 - b) If the position of National Vice-Chief is vacated in mid-term, the Chiefs and Council members from the region represented by that

National Vice-Chief may appoint an active member of the Dene Nation normally resident in that region to fill the vacancy with effect from the date of appointment and for the balance of the term of office which has been vacated, subject however, to ratification by the National Assembly.

6. In s.9. delete the words “two (2)” and insert in their place the words “four (4)”.

MOVED BY: Chief David Etchinelle, Fort Norman

SECONDED BY: Chief Joachim Bonnetrouge, Fort Providence

FOR:

AGAISNT:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Chiefs' Honoraria

WHEREAS, the Chiefs of the Dene Nation have not received honorariums since November 31, 1990; and

WHEREAS, the Federal and Territorial bureaucrats and political leaders receive pay for their services; and

WHEREAS, the roles of Chiefs cover a wide range of political and administrative responsibilities in the service of the Dene, surpassing the work load of any civil servant;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chiefs be paid retro-actively;

MOVED BY: Felix Lockhart, Delegate Lutsel K'e

SECONDED BY: Chief Cece McCauley, Inuvik

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Denendeh Conservation Board

WHEREAS, the Federal Government broke off negotiations with the Dene and Metis on November 7, 1990 which nullified the Final Agreement initialled on April 9, 1990; and

WHEREAS, the Denendeh Conservation Board was establish to pre-implement the wildlife provisions of the Final Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Dene Nation rejects the current structure and operation of the Denendeh Conservation Board; and

WHEREAS, an evaluation has been proposed for the Denendeh Conservation Board;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the 21st Dene National Assembly support an independent evaluation of the Denendeh Conservation Board to include direct consultation with the Dene Nation and funding for the development of a Dene position on wildlife management; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Assembly support the following principles for a revised Denendeh Conservation Board or a new wildlife management body,

- a) increased resources for administration and technical support all the Local, Regional and National levels, and
- b) increased reliance on traditional knowledge as an essential part of wildlife management, and
- c) more effective consultation with communities and greater Dene control of wildlife harvesting regulations consistent with the Sparrow decision.

MOVED BY: Chief Antoine Michel, Lutsel K'e

SECONDED BY; Chief Richard Kochon, Colville Lake

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS: 1

MOTION IS PASSED THIS 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Dene Constitutional Conference

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada has endorsed a parallel constitutional process for Aboriginal peoples; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Royal Commission on Aboriginal Affairs may also deal with aspects of Aboriginal sovereignty and self-government; and

WHEREAS, the Commission for Constitutional Development has been appointed to make recommendations on a constitution for Denendeh;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 21st Dene National Assembly support a Dene Constitutional Conference to develop a comprehensive position on constitutional development at the Canadian National and Territorial level.

MOVED BY: Chief Jim Antoine, Fort Simpson

SECONDED BY: Chief Berandette Unka, Fort Resolution

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Roman Catholic Church Initiative on Abuse

WHEREAS, our people have suffered in silence for many decades from abuse; and

WHEREAS, the healing process requires admitting and looking at the problem; and

WHEREAS, our people need to be healed from abuse;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLEVED, that the Dene Assembly hereby wish to express their thanks to Bishop Croteau for his initiative to begin the healing process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Leadership of the Dene Nation hereby encourage all Dene people, suffering from some form of abuse, to take advantage of this opportunity and help themselves in this healing process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dene Nation be provided with the resources from the Churches and the government to undertake and lead this healing process.

MOVED BY: Dave Poitras, Delegate Fort Smith

SECONDED BY: Chief Stand Sanguetz, Jean Marie River

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS: 39

MOTION PASSED THIS 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Boundary Between Denendeh and Nunavut

WHEREAS, the Dene and Inuit have not reached an agreement on a boundary between our areas of interest; and

WHEREAS, the Federal government has attempted to impose a boundary and a settlement of an Inuit claim that would allow land selections in the Contwoyto and Healy Lakes areas: and

WHEREAS, the imposed boundary and settlement of an Inuit claim would cut off areas of traditional Dene title and land use and would not comply with the Federal Government's Comprehensive Land Claims Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Federal government does not have the authority to impose a boundary without the consent of the Dene; and

WHEREAS, the Dogrib Tribal Council and South Slave Tribal Council have opposed the imposed boundary;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 21st Dene National Assembly fully supports the positions taken by the Dogrib Tribal Council and South Slave Tribal Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assembly directs the Dene Nation Leadership to take all reasonable measures including legal action, to prevent the imposition of a boundary line by the Federal government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Federal government be directed to immediately provide the necessary resources to the facilitate the Dene and Inuit in reaching a mutual agreement boundary between our areas of interest.

MOVED BY: Chief Antoine Michel, Lutsel K'e

SECONDED BY: Chief Joseph Judas, Snare Lakes

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS: 9 Sahtu Delegates

MOTION IS PASSED THIS 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Direction for Negotiations

WHEREAS, the Dene National Assembly has declared during the 1989 Assembly in Inuvik that the Northwest Territorial Government is not the government of the Dene; and

WHEREAS, the Treaties 8 and 11 establish a direct relationship with the Crown;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northwest Territories Government be excluded from any negotiations between the Dene and the Crown; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Treaty Dene deal directly with the Federal Government concerning questions of rights, lands and compensation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Assembly hereby directs the Treaty Dene Organizations: Chiefs, Executive Members, and Staff, to seek compensation based on a percentage of all revenues that are made from our land to better our way of life.

MOVED BY: Chief Henry Beaver, Fort Smith

SECONDED BY: Chie Darrell Beaulieu, Ndilo

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS: 9

MOTION IS PASSED THIS 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5 1991

RE: Dene Nation Constitutional Change: “Rainbow Valley” To “Ndilo”

BE IT RESOLVED, that Part II, Article 2, Subsection 3 (c) of the Dene Nation Constitution and By-Laws is hereby amended to change “Rainbow Valley” to “Ndilo”.

MOVED BY: Chief Henry Gon, Rae Lakes

SECONDED BY: Allan Landry, Delegate Kakisa

FOR:

AGAISNT:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 5TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Denendeh Environment Committee

WHEREAS, the Dene have always has a special relationship with, and interest in, our environment; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous environmental issues that are of concern to the Dene such as pulp mills in northern Alberta, abandoned mines, low-level military flights and many others; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for a more coordinated approach to the environmental issues facing the Dene;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 21st Dene National Assembly directs that a Denendeh Environment Committee be appointed consisting of one representative from the National Executive and one representative from each of the five Dene regions as nominated by their respective regions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dene Nation Executive be directed to seek funding for this Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Committee prepare a draft terms of reference for ratification by the Dene Leadership.

MOVED BY: Ron English, Delegate Inuvik

SECONDED BY: Baptiste Cazon, Delegate Fort Simpson

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Sobriety of Substance Abuse Treatment Personnel

WHEREAS, this Assembly believes that alcohol and drugs are major threats to the health and wellbeing of Dene in Denendeh; and

WHEREAS, the Dene Nation recognizes the danger and harm of substance abuse, often resulting in death, physical injury and family violence; and

WHEREAS, the Government of the Northwest Territories provides contribution funding to local organizations in 41 NWT communities to operate alcohol and drug counselling projects; and

WHEREAS, the Government of the Northwest Territories is implementing a Strategic Plan for Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services that will significantly increase contribution funding for existing and additional addictions treatment centres; and

WHEREAS, the Dene of the Northwest Territories have traditionally valued personal honesty, effective role modelling and healthy living as the cornerstones to counselling troubles or ill members of our communities; and

WHEREAS, the effectiveness of addictions counselling is reduced when the conduct of alcohol and drug workers becomes inconsistent with the philosophy of a healthy alcohol – and drug-free lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, the credibility of alcohol and drug workers in community settings is significantly diminished by their personal use of intoxicants; and

WHEREAS, the operation of an efficient community treatment or prevention project is hindered when employees embrace a lifestyle which places them at risk of addictions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dene Nation express its unlimited support for obligating each recipient of 1991-92 contribution funding for the operation of alcohol and drug counselling project:

- a) To ensure the effective operation of the program by hiring only employees who practice sobriety.

- b) To ensure that all employees of the project understand that sobriety means total abstinence from alcohol and drugs; and
- c) To ensure that current employees of the project who do not practice sobriety be identified, and be provided with counselling and treatment to attain sobriety; and
- d) To ensure that the civil servants of the Government of the Northwest Territories, Department of Social Services, Division of Alcohol and Drug Programs adhere to the practice of sobriety;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dene Nation strongly recommend to the Government of the Northwest Territories that a policy framework should be developed to ensure that such obligations are placed on recipients of alcohol and drug contribution funding in subsequent years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dene Nation communicates with aboriginal and regional organizations throughout the Northwest Territories to encourage support for the principle that alcohol and drug workers should practice sobriety.

MOVED BY: Chief Pat Martel, Hay River

SECONDED BY: Ernest Tonka, Delegate Fort Simpson

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Tabled Motions to be dealt with at the Next Dene Leadership Meeting

BE IT RESOLVED, that all the tabled motions and the motions not dealt with at the 21st Dene National Assembly be dealt with at the next Dene Leadership Meeting.

MOVED BY: Chief Jim Antoine, Fort Simpson

SECONDED BY: Felix Lockhart, Delegate Lutsel K'e

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELL ROCK, DENENDEH
JULY 29 – AUGUST 5, 1991

RE: Location for the 1992 Dene National Assembly

WHEREAS, each Dene National Assembly selects the place for the Dene National Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 1992 Dene National Assembly be held in Wrigley, Denendeh

MOVED BY: Chief David Etchinelle, Fort Norman

SECONDED BY: Chief Pat Martel, Hay River

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 4TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1991

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus