

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Approval of Chairperson

BE IT RESOLVED, that Berna Landry be appointed as Chairperson for the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly, August 14-18, 1995; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Margaret Thom be appointed Co-Chairperson for the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly, August 14-18, 1995.

MOVED BY: Chief Herb Norwegian, Liidli Koe

SECONDED BY: Chief Darrell Beaulieu, Yellowknives Dene (Ndilo)

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 15<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 1995

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Agenda

BE IT RESOLVED, that the agenda be adopted as amended:

1. Opening Prayer
2. Chair Selections
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Executive Reports
5. Audit
6. Community Concerns
7. Environmental Updates
  - Contaminants Program
  - CINE
  - Environment Committee
8. Constitutional Development
  - CDSC Process
  - Akaitcho Territory – update
  - Deh Cho Territory – update
  - GNWT 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Status
  - Territory Council Self Government Policy
  - Devolution
9. Co-ordinating Roles of:
  - Communities
  - Regions
  - Dene National Office
  - Denendeh Development Corporation
  - Other Aboriginal Organizations/Institutions
10. Other Business
11. Closing Prayer

MOVED BY: Chief Tim Lennie, Pehdzeh Ki

SECONDED BY: Chief Herb Norwegian, Liidli Koe

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 15<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 1995

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Dene Nation Audit 1994/95

BE IT RESOLVEED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly accept the Dene Nation audited financial statements as of March 31, 1995.

MOVED BY: Chief Tim Lennie, Pehdzeh Ki

SECONDED BY: Roy Erasmus Sr., Delegate, Yellowknives Dene

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 15<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 1995

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Extension of Language Commissioner's Stay

WHEREAS, a resolution is being drafted during the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly on the Education Act; and

WHEREAS, the Assembly recognizes the extreme importance of providing input into the Education Act; and

WHEREAS, it is very important that the Language Commissioner be present during the discussions of the resolution regarding the Education Act;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Language Commissioner extend her visit to the Assembly for one more day to enable her to participate in discussions concerning the Education Act.

MOVED BY: Rick Edjericon, Delegate, Yellowknives Dene

SECONDED BY: Peter Liske, Delegate, Yellowknives Dene

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 16<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 1995

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14, 18, 1995

RE: Bill C-68 – Gun Control

WHEREAS, the Dene are indigenous to Denendeh, and have hunted here since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Dene were promised at the Treaty negotiations in 1899, 1900 and 1921 that we would always be able to live as we always had; and

WHEREAS, this recognizes the Dene Treaty right to lend hunting tools to other Dene and to pass on hunting tools to our friends and family; and

WHEREAS, the Dene have always taught our youth how to hunt safely; and

WHEREAS, the Dene have always controlled the use of hunting tools as part of our governance; and

WHEREAS, the Crown in right of Canada has officially recognized that the Dene have an inherent right to self-determination; and

WHEREAS, Bill C-68 was designed to have Canadians live in a safe environment; and

WHEREAS, when this Bill was being develop there was no consultation or consent from the Dene; and

WHEREAS, the effect of Bill C-68 as it currently reads will erode our Treaty provisions and rights to hunt, fish and trap and will further remove our people from the land and end our way of life; and

WHEREAS, the application of Bill C-68 as it presently reads will criminalize activities of the Dene which are guaranteed by Treaty and aboriginal rights and protected under the Constitution of Canada;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly urges the Senate to make the following changes to Bill C-68 as it currently reads:

1. The Crown in right of Canada must implement the original Dene spirit and intent and oral interpretations of Treaty 8, 1899 – 1900 and Treaty 11, 1921; and

2. The Bill must recognize our inherent right to self determination; and
3. That the Dene First Nations will regulate hunting tools for its First Nations as an exercise of the inherent right of self-determination; and
4. Dene First Nations regulating hunting tools will mean among other things; determining the methods of registering, lending, giving, trading and all other aspects related to firearms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Crown in right of Canada and the Dene First Nations must begin discussions to implement the original spirit and intent and oral interpretations of Treaty 8 and 11 immediately.

MOVED BY: Chief Herb Norwegian, Liidli Koe

SECONDED BY: Roy Erasmus Sr., Yellowknives Dene

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 1995

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Treaty 8 Declaration on Akaitcho Traditional Territory

WHEREAS, Treaty 8 met in Lutsel K'e January 9-13, 1995 and passed Motion TC #002-95 regarding their assertion of jurisdiction over their lands;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly support and endorse Treaty 8 Motion TC #002-95.

MOVED BY: Chief Leon Thomas, Ts'Ueh Nda

SECONDED BY: Julian (Allan) Landry, Kakisa Lake

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 18<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 1995

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: The 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly fully endorses the following Resolutions

WHEREAS, the delegates of the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly have already agreed to extend their stay for another day; and

WHEREAS, the numerous attached resolutions have to be dealt with accordingly by the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that upon reaching consensus on each of the attached resolutions the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly fully endorses each resolution.

MOVED BY: Chief Greg Nyuli, Deh G'ah Got'ie Koe

SECONDED BY: Chief Darrell Beaulieu, Yellowknives Dene (Ndilo)

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION IS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY THIS 18<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 1995

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: New Name for CINE

WHEREAS, the name "Centre for Nutrition and the Environment of Indigenous People" is awkward and is not accurately reflected in the acronym "CINE; and

WHEREAS, rewording the name to the "Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment" would put more emphasis on Indigenous People and would be more accurately reflected in the acronym "CINE";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Assembly requests that CINE change its name to the "Centre for Indigenous Peoples' Nutrition and Environment".

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Location for the 1996 Dene National Assembly

WHEREAS, each Dene National Assembly selects the place for the next Dene National Assembly location; and

WHEREAS, the Deninu Kue First Nation has requested that they host the next Dene National Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 1996 Dene National Assembly be held in Deninu Kue, Denendeh.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Dene Resource Management and Big-Game

WHEREAS, the Dene have the authority and are re-establishing their Resource Management system; and

WHEREAS, big game such as sheep, moose, caribou, buffalo, and bear are essential to the well being of the Dene; and

WHEREAS, big game outfitting licences are culling/harvesting too many prime animals – a harvesting practice that threatens the long-term health of our animal populations;

THEREFORE, by our inherent right to govern, the delegates of the Dene National Assembly strongly urge the territorial council to work closely with Dene Resource Management to revise its current laws, regulations, and policies associated with big-game licences, to reflect those Dene Resource Management Systems.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Revival of Indigenous Survival International

WHEREAS, Dene Nation established Indigenous Survival International (ISI) to lobby for and protect Dene hunting, fishing, and trapping pursuits; and

WHEREAS, Dene and other indigenous hunting peoples continue to need: i) ways to share their concerns and support for development of their lands that ensures the sustainability of their lands and resources on which they rely, and ii) ways to educate non-indigenous people about our way of life;

THEREFORE, the delegates of the Dene National Assembly direct the Denendeh National Office to raise funds and re-activate ISI, so that ISI again be an active organization operating here in Denendeh.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Indigenous Games

WHEREAS, the Indigenous Games have been held for centuries and have now been-re-established every two years in North America; and

WHEREAS, the Indigenous Games provide an opportunity to our youth, through sports and cultural events, to meet other youth and learn about other Indigenous cultures;

WHEREAS, recent practices by the territorial administration in recruiting youth have favoured youth from larger communities;

WHEREAS, we thanks the territorial administration for the work they have done to date; and

WHEREAS, First Nations must now take over the process to determine all the aspects associated with the Native American Indigenous Games which includes acquiring the necessary resources to achieve this;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that recruitment practices for Indigenous Games be revised to ensure that all Indigenous communities have the opportunity to send a participant or participants to Indigenous Games; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Dene Nation work to establish an aboriginal sports federation that works in conjunction with other First Nations in Canada.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Clean-up of Environment

WHEREAS, the environment has always been important to the Dene; and

WHEREAS, many Dene communities have begun to have solid waste problems involving wastes such as old cars, batteries and other garbage; and

WHEREAS, there is a strong desire and need to clean-up our communities and return the to a healthy condition; and

WHEREAS, it is important that communities become aware of maintaining the environment; and

WHEREAS, current programs and resources exists that can help communities do the necessary clean-ups;

WHEREAS, this Assembly supports the endeavours made by the Dene Communities on their resource management systems;

WHEREAS, this Assembly supports the endeavours made by the Dene Communities on their resource management systems;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Assembly recognize that the clean-up of the environment is a priority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Assembly supports all proposals and efforts by communities for the clean up of the environment to receive funding under programs such as the Arctic Environmental Strategy – Action on Waste Program and other funding sources.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Lead Shot Ban

WHEREAS, the Canadian Government recently issued a ban on lead shot when hunting Migratory Birds to be implemented by 1996 in National Wildlife areas and by 1997 in the rest of Canada; and

WHEREAS, hunting is integral to Dene ways of living and is one of our inherent rights; and

WHEREAS, this ban of lead shot will reduce the risk of lead exposure found in birds and their predators; and

WHEREAS, alternative ammunition such as steel will be more expensive, will have different shooting characteristics and will have to comply with current Firearms safety standards; and

WHEREAS, the ban of lead shot will make it difficult to sue older guns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Assembly oppose this legislation consistent with motion #95/96-005 of the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act

WHEREAS, the proposed Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA) will adversely affect the Dene communities; and

WHEREAS, the 24<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly opposed this legislation as in Motion #94/95-027; and

WHEREAS, the communities have still not been properly consulted; and

WHEREAS, the Dene communities have begun to re-establish its Resources Management Systems; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Crown has a fiduciary responsibility to the Dene through our Aboriginal and Treaty rights; and

WHEREAS, representatives of the Aboriginal Summit, during their discussions in June 1995 in Yellowknife, have agreed that this proposed legislation needs to be changed to reflect the Aboriginal Summit aspirations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly directs the Dene Nation to find avenues to ensure that these aspirations are fully acknowledged, deliberated and implemented in a revision of the proposed legislation, to the satisfaction of the Dene.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Bear-Baiting on Traditional Lands

WHEREAS, the Salt River First Nations and the Fort Fitzgerald Dene First Nation have traditional land use in and around the Fort Fitzgerald settlement in Alberta; and

WHEREAS, the Salt River First Nations and the Fort Fitzgerald Dene First Nation are presently engaged in negotiating all outstanding Treaty Entitlement settlement with the Crown; and

WHEREAS, the Alberta Game and Wildlife allows bear-baiting to be carried out by outfitters (ie. Andrew Lake Fishing Lodge) and sport hunters on First Nations traditional lands; and

WHEREAS, this bear baiting for big game hunters is a senseless and inhumane way of hunting and depletes the bear populations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly strongly opposes this humane practice of bear-baiting for sport hunters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Alberta Game and Wildlife department proceed in amending this practice with the full participation of the Salt River First Nations and the Fort Fitzgerald First Nations.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Counselling and Healing Support in Kakisa Lake, Nahanni Butte, Trout Lake and Jean Marie River

WHEREAS, the communities of Kakisa Lake, Nahanni Butte, Trout Lake, and Jean Marie River have expressed that they are in need of services and support to address the Alcohol, Drug and other related problems in their communities and are interested in beginning healing work; and

WHEREAS, the territorial administration has begun to develop a Community Wellness Strategy that requires community input; and

WHEREAS, these communities wish to begin planning for how they will approach community wellness; and

WHEREAS, there are no full time or community base counselling programs in these communities; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for increasing participating to use of existing services provided by the Natseejeh Ke'h Treatment Centre, the Dene Cultural Institute Healing program and others;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly hereby supports these communities in their efforts to find the human and financial resources to develop their community wellness strategies through joint planning workshops.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Education

WHEREAS, the treaties and the constitution of Canada recognize the inherent right of Aboriginal people to self-government; and

WHEREAS, the territorial administration currently receives all the resources from the Canadian government for education of all NWT residents; and

WHEREAS, the territorial administration has just adopted a new Education Act that is unacceptable to the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly and which states that it does not interfere with Treaty & Aboriginal rights; and

WHEREAS, the Dene have expressed strongly that the Dene have the inherent right of control over their education; and

WHEREAS, the fiduciary obligations of the Crown in right of Canada is to assist the Dene as outlined through the Dene understanding of the Treaties; and

WHEREAS, the Dene want education to be one of the areas to be recognized by the crown and implemented by First Nations with the appropriate funding assistance from both the Canadian and Territorial administrations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly directs the Canadian government to begin immediate negotiations with the Dene to transfer the responsibility and resources for education to the Dene First Nations.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Return of Traditional Knowledge Materials

WHEREAS, the Den who are the people indigenous to Denendeh, have accumulated knowledge about our lands and waters which we pass from generation to generations; and

WHEREAS, the knowledge held by Dene Elders and experienced land users is vital to Dene First Nations; and

WHEREAS, some Dene traditional knowledge is held by non-Dene organizations including the Government of the Northwest Territories;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly recommend that any non-Dene holders of our traditional knowledge, including the Government of the Northwest Territories return any maps, tapes, documents, photographs, film, artefacts, or other Dene traditional knowledge materials to the appropriate Dene First Nation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all maps, recordings, interviews and information required during land claims processes be found and returned to First Nations.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Leadership Meeting

WHEREAS, the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly has not had the time to adequately discuss issues because of a lack of resources from the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development provide the necessary resources to hold a Leadership Meeting to cover the outstanding issues not adequately dealt with at the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Cameron Hills

WHEREAS, the Cameron Hills are in the traditional land use area of the communities of Hay River Dene Reserve, Kakisa Lake, and Deh G'ah Got'ie Koe; and

WHEREAS, exploration companies are attempting to move into the area;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly fully endorses the need to have the communities of Hay River Reserve, Kakisa Lake and Deh G'ah Got'ie fully involved in determining the future of Cameron Hills.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Renewal of Environment Funding for Aboriginal Organizations

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

WHEREAS, the federal crown has a fiduciary responsibility to the Dene through our treaties; and

WHEREAS, this fiduciary responsibility includes assisting the Dene to ensure a healthy environment now and for our future generations by assisting the Dene communities to monitor and safeguard the environment; and

WHEREAS, the Arctic Environment Strategy (AES) has provided funds for the last five years to both Dene National Office and to Dene communities to develop environmental capacities; and

WHEREAS, through this funding, the Dene have had access to other administrative programs and resources to bring our Dene concerns to national and international fora and the participate as major stakeholders in environment reviews; and

WHEREAS, this Arctic Environmental Strategy (AES) program will be ending in March 1997;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly support the renewal of a program similar to AES that recognizes Dene Governance and provides the necessary resources to continue assisting the Dene to address these environment issues confronting their communities.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Communications in Smaller Communities

WHEREAS, communications is a vital link between Dene Communities; and

WHEREAS, there are communities in Denendeh that have requested numerous times for communications services to be improved;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that telephone services be expanded in the Dene communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that priority be given to the communities of Jean Marie River, Nahanni Butte, Colville Lake, Salt River First Nation, Fort Fitzgerald and Trout Lake; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Assembly directs the Dene National Office to convey this request to the appropriate agencies to begin the immediate implementation of the proper telephone services to those communities.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Young Offenders Camp

WHEREAS, young offenders from Colville Lake and other communities are sent out of their communities for rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, it is important for Dene youth to be rehabilitated through the cultural values and wisdom of Dene Elders; and

WHEREAS, the community of Colville Lake has expressed that they would like a young offenders camp established that would incorporate Dene values;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly strongly support and endorse the efforts of Colville Lake to seek funds to administer and control such a young offender's camp.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Affirmative Action

WHEREAS, the territorial administration is in the process of reviewing their Affirmative Action Policy to determine if the mandate of this policy has been fulfilled; and

WHEREAS, the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly has expressed that the mandate of this policy has not been fulfilled as of this date; and

WHEREAS, the Affirmative Action program needs to be changed significantly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly fully endorses a program that will be implemented by Dene Communities to ensure that people are trained, educated and prepared to implement Dene self-government which empowers their communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Affirmative Action review process meet with a delegation of Dene leaders to plan how this can be implemented immediately.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Hanging Ice Bison Ranch

WHEREAS, the territorial administration presently owns the Hanging Ice Bison Ranch and wishes to transfer the management of these bison to the Salt River First Nation; and

WHEREAS, the Salt River First Nation lacks the necessary resources to develop a proposal to manage the bison from Hanging Ice Bison Ranch;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the territorial administration confirm the transfer of the management of the bison from hanging Ice Bison Ranch to Salt River First Nation and provide the necessary resources to make this transition occur as soon as possible.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Taltson Dam Compensation

WHEREAS, the NWT Power Corporation has been instructed by the NWT Water Board to Compensate the Lutsel K'e First Nation, Deninu Kue First Nation and the Salt River First Nation effective January 1, 1994 for damage caused to the environment by the Taltson dams; and

WHEREAS, the territorial administration owns the NWT Power Corporation since 1998 and prior to that the Canadian government owned the NWT Power Corporation and have been in their obligations to provide compensation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly instructs the Canadian government and the territorial administration to act responsibly and account for the environmental damages caused by the Talton dams; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Canadian government and territorial administration, consistent with the NWT Water Board decision, provide the necessary resources to the respective Dene First Nations so that adequate research can be undertaken to assist the Dene First Nations in their negotiations.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Highway Maintenance by Salt River First Nation

WHEREAS, the Salt River First Nation is proposing to negotiate a highways maintenance contract from the territorial administration and lacks the proper resources to develop such a proposal;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the territorial administration provide the necessary resources to assist the Salt River First Nation in the development of a proposal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED, that the territorial administration ensure that highway maintenance in transferred to the Salt River First Nation as soon as possible.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Fire Guards

WHEREAS, fire guards around Dene communities need to be renewed so as to protect our communities from forest fires;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the territorial administration utilize the necessary resources to ensure that adequate fire guard around our communities are constructed and maintained.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Representation on Yellowknife Catholic School Board

WHEREAS, 65% of the children at Weledah School in Yellowknife are of Aboriginal descent; and

WHEREAS, almost all of the Yellowknives Dene children go the Weledah School; and

WHEREAS, there is no Aboriginal representation on the Yellowknife Catholic School Board, which administers Weledah School;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOVLED, that the 25<sup>th</sup> Dene National Assembly urges the Yellowknife Catholic School Board to make provisions for the Yellowknives Dene to have two seats on the Board on a permanent basis.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Recognition of Traditional Knowledge

WHEREAS, the Dene, who are the people indigenous to Denendeh have accumulated knowledge about our lands which we pass from generation to generation; and

WHEREAS, the knowledge held by Dene Elders and experienced land users is vital to Dene First Nations; and

WHEREAS, Dene First Nations must protect their traditional knowledge as intellectual property; and

WHEREAS, international conventions recognize the knowledge of indigenous peoples as intellectual property; and

WHEREAS, Dene traditional knowledge is often sought by non-Dene governments and industry, particularly to assess impacts from change and industrial development brought to our land;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Dene delegates to the 1995 Dene National Assembly, by our inherent right to govern, support the efforts of Dene First Nations to protect their traditional knowledge; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Assembly strongly encourages non-Dene government and industry people recognize intellectual property rights of our Dene First Nations and submit their research enquiries directly to our Dene First Nations.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus

DENE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
DEH G'AH GOT'IE KOE, DENENDEH  
AUGUST 14-18, 1995

RE: Treaty and Aboriginal Funds

WHEREAS, there have been several resolutions of the Dene National Assembly and Dene Leadership supporting the need for an increase to funding from the Canadian government for Denendeh Institutions, Dene Gathering, Negotiation processes, and Dene controlled programs and services; and

WHEREAS, these roles and functions are necessary to enhance Dene Self-Government and to implement the decisions that have been directed by the Dene National Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the Canadian government and its territorial administration have steadily declined resources and support to the Dene Nation and its membership; and

WHEREAS, Canadian and territorial policies contravene our Treaties and the special relationship we have with the Crown and are mismanaging Treaty monies intended for the Dene by providing funds to other competing agencies; and

WHEREAS, previous attempts (such as the Tripartite Committee) to improve the delivery of programs and services for First Nations have been ineffectual due to the lack of cooperation by both the Canadian Government and its territorial administration in the efforts made by the Dene; and

WHEREAS, current funding mechanisms towards devolution of authorities does not include hidden costs such as administration and infrastructure;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that immediate funding be provided to the Dene Nation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a thorough process be developed with First Nations, regarding transfers of First Nation funds administered by the federal NWT regional Office and the territorial administration of the Department of Indian & Northern Affairs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the results of this process be used towards the implementation of Dene Rights to programs and services according to the oral interpretation and the Dene intent of Treaties 8 & 11.

ORIGINAL CERTIFIED BY: Dene National Chief Bill Erasmus