



BRITISH COLUMBIA ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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**BCAFN 5th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
JUNE 27, 2008 VICTORIA, BC**

Resolution 34/2008

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR WALK FOR JUSTICE AND PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO
MISSING WOMEN**

MOVED BY: Chief Leah George-Wilson, Tsleil-Waututh First Nation

SECONDED BY: Chief Maureen Chapman, Skwahlook First Nation

DECISION: Carried by consensus

WHEREAS:

- A. Indigenous Nations hold a sacred responsibility for all Indigenous Nations citizens regardless of their residency;
- B. Indigenous Nations women have traditionally held positions of high regard in Indigenous societies, including givers of life, leaders and integral and valued members of society;
- C. Indigenous women have the right to personal safety and security, no matter what their socio-economic status may be;
- D. Indigenous Nations women experience a disproportionate amount of violence;
- E. Indigenous Nations women, including women that live in the Downtown Eastside in Vancouver encounter desperate conditions of poverty and addictions that impede their health and well-being;
- F. There are over 3000 missing Indigenous Nations women in Canada, including the women from the Downtown Eastside and Highway of Tears; and
- G. The BC Chief Coroner has not initiated any substantial investigations into the cases surrounding the missing Indigenous women in British Columbia.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 27th day of June, 2008, Victoria, BC

Shawn A-in-chut Atleo, BC Regional Chief

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BC Assembly of First Nations direct the Regional Chief and staff to send letters to the Minister of Justice of Canada, the Attorney General of Canada and the British Columbia (BC) Attorney General requesting their cooperation in initiating a full public inquiry into the Missing Women of the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver and the Highway of Tears.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 27th day of June, 2008, Victoria, BC

Shawn A-in-chut Atleo, BC Regional Chief