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## Assembly of First Nations

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## Assemblée des Premières Nations

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**SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY  
DECEMBER 6, 7, & 8, 2016; GATINEAU, QC**

**Resolution no. 123/2016**

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**TITLE:** First Nation Inclusion in the Emerging Cannabis Economy

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**SUBJECT:** Economic Development

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**MOVED BY:** Chief Allan Adam, Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, AB

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**SECONDED BY:** Chief Rupert Meneen, Tall Cree First Nation, AB

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**DECISION** Carried by Consensus

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**WHEREAS:**

- A. Canada's plan to legalize the recreational use of cannabis in 2017 is attracting hundreds of millions of dollars in investment and speculation and may generate billions of dollars of new revenue.
- B. The Government of Canada received an expert report in late November 2016 from a Task Force led by the chancellor of Dalhousie University, the Honourable Anne McLellan on cannabis legalization. This report has not yet been made public.
- C. Unless there is a significant change in policy, a small number of licensed medical producers are likely to control this new market. There are currently no incentives for existing medical producers to partner with First Nations and no guarantees that any new licenses will require First Nation participation or partnerships.
- D. Licensed production by First Nations would provide a new economic opportunity for First Nations communities, particularly remote communities who have few other economic opportunities.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs-in-Assembly:**

1. Call on the Government of Canada to ensure that any new legislation or licensing conditions for the production of medical or recreational cannabis set out priorities and incentives to ensure that First Nations are given the opportunity to participate and benefit fully from the development of this new and emerging economic sector.

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**Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 8th day of December 2016 in Gatineau, Québec**



**PERRY BELLEGARDE, NATIONAL CHIEF**

**123 – 2016**  
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