BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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BCAFN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
October 14, 15 & 16, 2026
In person & online via Zoom

Resolution 22(b)/2026

SUBJECT: **BC SPECIFIC FIRST NATIONS SCHOOL CAPITAL FUNDING MODEL-PHASED APPROACH**

MOVED BY:

SECONDED BY:

DECISION:

WHEREAS:

A. Indigenous peoples have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions, as affirmed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ("UN Declaration"), and as an aspect of their inherent right of self-government as recognized and affirmed under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982;

B. The UN Declaration, which the government of Canada has adopted without qualification, and has, alongside the government of B.C., passed legislation committing to implement, affirms:

Article 14 (1): Indigenous peoples have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning.
(2): Indigenous individuals, particularly children, have the right to all levels and forms of education of the State without discrimination.
(3): States shall, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, take effective measures, in order for indigenous individuals, particularly children, including those living outside their communities, to have access, when possible, to an education in their own culture and provided in their own language.

Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 14th day of October 2026

Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

C. The BCAFN Special Chiefs in Assembly passed Resolution 04/21 “Support for FNESC to Develop a BC-Specific Model for Capital Funding for First Nation Schools and Teacherages”;

D. The First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) has been taking steps to develop a B.C.-specific model for First Nations school capital and conducting research to develop options for a new capital funding model, and is pursuing the advancement of the capital model on a bilateral basis with Canada as directed by First Nations;

E. BC public schools have a Seismic Mitigation Program and B.C. has spent approximately over $2 billion to seismically upgrade or replace public schools;

F. FNESC has undertaken structural Seismic Risk Assessments (SRAs) of First Nations education facilities located in the high-risk seismic zones of B.C. to determine the structural seismic risk to these education facilities, as the Province has done for B.C. public schools;

G. $50 million from the federal Budget 2024 was specifically designated for seismic projects in First Nations schools, with that funding set to expire in March 2027, and the majority of the projects will not be completed within that timeframe; and

H. FNESC has developed a phased approach for this work, including protecting the Budget 2024 $50 million commitment for seismic mitigation in First Nations schools, establishing a seismic program with distinct funding, developing a new operations and maintenance funding formula, developing a minor capital program with specific categories and distinct funding, and investigating options for using provincial standards for facility condition assessments.

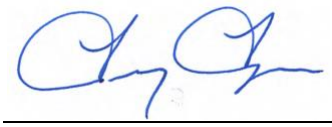
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. That the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly calls on Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to:

    a. Secure the necessary authority to extend the timeline for expenditure of the Budget 2024 $50 million for seismic mitigation in First Nation schools, beyond March 2027; and
    b. Work with the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) to co-develop a Seismic Mitigation Program for B.C. First Nations schools, similar to the program B.C. has for public schools, with distinct funding, so that the program does not impact other essential capital priorities for First Nation education facilities in B.C.; and

2. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly supports FNESC to continue working with ISC on a phased approach to develop a seismic mitigation program with distinct funding, options for facility condition assessments, a new operations and maintenance funding model, and the development of a minor capital program for First Nations schools.

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief