BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

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

Resolution 41/2026

SUBJECT:	**CALL TO WITHDRAW AND END THE PROCESS OF UNILATERALLY DEVELOPED OPERATIONAL BULLETINS ASSOCIATED WITH FIRST NATIONS CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES AND JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE**
MOVED BY:	**PROXY MARY TEEGEE, TAKLA FIRST NATION**
SECONDED BY:	**CHIEF SHANA THOMAS, LYACKSON FIRST NATION**
DECISION:	**CARRIED**

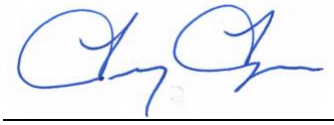
WHEREAS:

A. In 2016, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) substantiated a human rights complaint against Canada, finding that Canada's design, management and control of the First Nations Child & Family (FNCFS) program and Jordan's Principle was discriminatory and harmful to children and families;

B. in *First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada et al. v. Attorney General of Canada (for the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada)*, 2016 CHRT 2, the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal found Canada was discriminating against First Nations children and their families by failing to implement the full scope of Jordan's Principle and denying First Nations children the equal provision of child and family services, and ordered Canada to stop its discriminatory policies and practices;

C. efforts to reform the FNCFS program, Jordan's Principle, and Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) are ongoing and the CHRT is currently considering a Canada-led and a First Nations-led plan for long-term reform;

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Terry Teegee, BC Regional Chief

D. in the interim, ISC remains in control of the design and management of the FNCFS program and Jordan's Principle, and has issued multiple operational bulletins over the last two years without any consultation. These operational bulletins provide information regarding changes in operating procedures related to processing requests under Jordan's Principle and the terms & conditions of the FNCFS program;

E. The operational bulletins have restricted access to the supports and services children and families need, causing further harm to First Nations children;

F. Making unilateral program changes through administrative bulletins while long-term reform is before the CHRT undermines the Tribunal's orders and risks repeating the very discrimination CHRT found;

G. the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which the government of Canada has adopted without qualification, and has, alongside the government of B.C., passed legislation committing to implement, affirms:

Article 18: Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures, as well as to maintain and develop their own indigenous decision- making institutions.

Article 19: States shall consult and cooperated in good faith with Indigenous Peoples through their own representatives institutions in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them;

Article 21(2): States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of (indigenous peoples') economic and social conditions. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.

Article 22(1): Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities in the implementation of this Declaration.

(2): States shall take measures, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, to ensure that indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination.

Article 24(2): Indigenous individuals have an equal right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. States shall take the necessary steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of this right;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly call on Canada, through the Minister of Indigenous Services to immediately withdraw the unilateral First Nations Child and Family Services and Jordan's Principles

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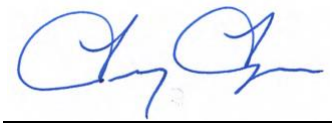
operational bulletins issued without consultation; and to stop issuing operational bulletins, directives or other administrative measures affecting these programs;

2. the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly call on Canada to ensure that until the operational bulletins are withdrawn, that no First Nations child or youth is denied or delayed services and that every request is assessed in line with the CHRT orders and in the best interests of the child;

3. the BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly call on Canada to engage in meaningful consultation with First Nations leadership and experts of their choice, prior to making any changes to the design or management of the FNCFS program or Jordan's Principle; and

4. The BCAFN Chiefs-in-Assembly call on Canada consistent with Article 19 of the UN Declaration to engage in meaningful consultation and cooperation with the free, prior and informed consent of First Nations and their experts on the design and implementation of long-term reform to fully and finally end the discrimination, as ordered in 2016 CHRT 2.

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