ANISHINABEK NATION



Fall Grand Council Assembly

2026 Information Package



Ajijaak Doodem
(Crane Clan)

Governance and Communications



NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 31

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Revisions to Bill C-37: First Nations Clean Water Act**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Taynar Simpson, Alderville First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Kelly LaRocca, Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Political
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Governance
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation has continued to advocate for and protect the inherent right and jurisdiction of the Anishinabek Nation First Nations to access safe, clean, and sustainable drinking water, and source water protection as detailed in Naaknigan #2026-28: Reintroduction of First Nation Drinking Water Legislation;

2. WHEREAS Canada has not maintained the preferred language of Bill C-61: First Nation Drinking Water Legislation and instead uses the legal principle of "progressive realization" to erode the human right to clean drinking water;

3. WHEREAS the First Nation settlement agreement of $6 billion is not the funding ceiling but is the starting point for ongoing drinking water settlement for First Nation individuals;

4. WHEREAS the current Bill C-37 restricts First Nation jurisdiction for Source Water Protection to reserve boundaries and does not allow for jurisdiction outside of First Nation lands; and

5. WHEREAS Canada has announced $4.6 billion over 5 years in the new funding associated with Bill C-37 but it was not identified as a permanent statutory funding guarantee.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief to meet directly with the Government of Canada and outline the following Anishinabek Nation demands for Bill C-37: *First Nations Clean Water Act*;

2. Require that Bill C-37 affirm the human right of every First Nation individual's access to clean, safe drinking water and replace Canada's legal language of "progressive realization";

3. Require Bill C-37 recognize the inherent, Aboriginal, and Treaty protected rights of First Nations in relation to water, source water, drinking water, and wastewater that is consistent with section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, 1982, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP);

4. Require Bill C-37 provide source water protection that extends beyond reserve land and removes limitations that may prevent protection of source waters and threats not adjacent to First Nation lands including treaty and Aboriginal title territories; and

5. Require that Bill C-37 remove discretionary language such as "may" and "best efforts" where it could prevent Canada from being held accountable for fulfilling its obligations relating to safe drinking water and wastewater treatment.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 32

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**First Nation Forest Firefighting**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Chad Edgar, Michipicoten First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Proxy Nathanial Paavola, Namaygoosisagagun First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Political
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Infrastructure
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS First Nations have historically has First Nation firefighters within communities that were trained and deployed, and supported forest fire efforts;

2. WHEREAS many years ago, forest firefighting was privatized by government resulting in loss of employment, loss of responsibility, and loss of income for families;

3. WHEREAS climate change has contributed to extreme weather resulting in drier conditions, and lands and territories more susceptible to fires;

4. WHEREAS we historically and presently recognize the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities of First Nation forest firefighters are more than adequate and on par with non-First Nation forest firefighters; and

5. WHEREAS we have many able and willing First Nations women, men, and communities who wish to have trained firefighters to help protect our lands, territories, and communities.

ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwaknagan, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Call upon the Governments of Canada and Ontario, and their partners to work with the Anishinabek Nation First Nations and First Nation forest firefighters on formal recognition of the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities of First Nation forest firefighters;

2. Call upon the Governments of Canada and Ontario to include Anishinabek Nation First Nations and First Nation forest firefighters in any economic opportunities arising out of forest firefighting or suppression activities on part with any other forest firefighting organization inside and outside of Canada; and

3. Support the efforts of the recognition and resources required for our First Nation forest firefighters and to work with organizations who support and advocate for this important work.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief





Waawaashkesh Doodem
(Deer Clan)

Social Development



NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 33

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**1965 Indian Welfare Agreement Negotiations**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Joe Miskokomon, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Kimberly Bressette, Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Social Development
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS on February 26, 2025, Canada, the Chiefs of Ontario (COO) and the Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) signed the Trilateral Agreement in Respect of Reforming the 1965 Agreement;

2. WHEREAS the Trilateral Agreement in Respect of Reforming the 1965 Agreement under ARTICLE 2 –Reforming the 1965 Agreement section 2.02 Process for Reforming the 1965 Agreement subsection (2) states; "Canada shall not amend, replace or terminate the 1965 Agreement or enter into a Reformed 1965 Agreement without consultation with Chiefs of Ontario and Nishnawbe Aski Nation. For clarity, this commitment to consultation is not to be interpreted in a way that prevents fulfillment of Canada's existing legal obligations, including, if applicable, the duty to consult with First Nations pursuant to section 35 of the *Constitution Act,* 1982.";

3. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation currently has representation on the 1965 Indian Welfare Agreement Reform Advisory Committee that provides advice and recommendations to the Indian Welfare Agreement COO Negotiation Team regarding the 1965 Indian Welfare Agreement negotiations with COO, NAN and Canada similar to the structure that was used during First Nation Child and Family Services (FNCFS) reform and Ontario Final Agreement (OFA) negotiations;

4. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation representatives have continuously raised the unique circumstances of ferry connected First Nations during the Ontario Final Agreement negotiations through the OFA Negotiations Advisory Committee;

5. WHEREAS the COO negotiations team were unsuccessful in securing any special consideration for the unique circumstances of the ferry connected First Nations within FNCFS reform. As Anishinabek Nation had only advisory capacity in FNCFS reform through the related technical advisory committee and did not have a seat directly at the negotiations table regarding FNCFS reform, it is obscure on the details of how the COO negotiations team argued vigorously in the best interest of Anishinabek Nation First Nations to seek special considerations for securing the remoteness adjustments for ferry connected First Nation communities;

6. WHEREAS the COO negotiations team conceded the position of a funding allocation that addresses the true costs of service provisions for ferry connected First Nations within FNCFS reform, and despite ongoing Anishinabek Nation advocacy at the COO 1965 IWA Reform Advisory Committee, COO has not yet provided clarity on how 1965 IWA reform will address the ongoing need to include ferry-connected communities within remoteness;

7. WHEREAS COO has blatantly disregarded the direction of the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs that have provided a resolution requesting more time to allow for fulsome engagement of the 39 First Nations and, despite ongoing Anishinabek Nation advocacy at the COO 1965 reform advisory committee, COO has not yet provided clarity on how it will address the ongoing need to include ferry-connected communities within remoteness for the purposes of 1965 IWA reform.

8. WHEREAS reform for the 1965 IWA is complex and will impact numerous social sectors (e.g. child welfare, social assistance, childcare and homemaking) and requires reform to occur through meaningful engagements directly with the expertise of Anishinabek First Nations leadership technicians; and

9. WHEREAS there is concern that the Anishinabek Nation requires more than advisory capacity to COO in order to effectively advance the interests of Anishinabek First Nations within 1965 reform.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct Grand Council Chief to approach the parties of the IWA negotiation table and request to be a full and direct participant in the negotiations process; and

2. If the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief's request is denied, the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly direct Grand Council Chief to secure a separate negotiation table with the Government of Canada and the province of Ontario to reform the 1965 Indian Welfare Agreement.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief





Gïigoonh Doodemenhs
(Fish Sub-clan)

Natural Resources and
Aboriginal Treaty Rights



ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 34

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Recognizing the Rights of Nature within Anishinabek Nation Territory**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Taynar Simpson, Alderville First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Laurie Hockaday, Curve Lake First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Lands and Resources
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation First Nations have the inherent right, jurisdiction, and sacred responsibility from the Creator to care for and protect Shkagamik-Kwe, Mother Earth, that includes Nibi, Aki, fish, wildlife, medicines, and all beings within Creation. This jurisdiction arises from Anishinaabe law, nationhood, relationships with Creation, Treaties, and responsibilities to future generations, and must be recognized and respected by federal and provincial governments;

2. WHEREAS the Anishinaabeg have relied upon healthy lands, waters, ecosystems, and relationships with all our relatives within Creation since time immemorial to exercise their inherent, Aboriginal, and Treaty rights and responsibilities;

3. WHEREAS Anishinabek Nation First Nations have relied upon healthy lands, waters, and ecosystems since time immemorial to exercise their inherent, Aboriginal, and Treaty rights, including fishing, harvesting manoomin and medicines, hunting, gathering, travelling, conducting ceremonies, maintaining cultural and spiritual relationships, and transmitting Anishinaabe laws, languages, knowledge, and identities to future generations;

4. WHEREAS Section 35 of the *Constitution Act,* 1982, recognizes and affirms existing Aboriginal and Treaty rights, and the honour of the Crown requires Canada and Ontario to uphold Treaty promises to consult and accommodate First Nations before making decisions that may adversely affect those rights;

5. WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) affirms Indigenous peoples' rights to self-determination, self-government, their own legal and decision-making institutions, lands, territories, waters and resources, environmental protection, Indigenous knowledge, and free, prior, and informed consent;

6. WHEREAS UNDRIP requires the government of Canada, in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples, to take all measures necessary to ensure that federal laws are consistent with it;

7. WHEREAS federal and provincial laws do not replace, extinguish, or diminish Anishinaabe laws, inherent jurisdiction, Aboriginal and Treaty rights, First Nation governance, or responsibilities relating to Rights of Nature;

8. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly adopted Naakinigan #2023-08, directing the Grand Council Chief to advocate for recognition of the Great Lakes as a living entity with personhood status and directing the Anishinabek Nation to develop a framework based upon Anishinaabe law, ecological integrity, First Nation interests, and guardianship;

9. WHEREAS recognizing Nature as a living and rights-bearing entity supports ecological integrity, strengthens recognition of Anishinaabe law, and ensures that the Rights of Nature are represented and protected in decisions affecting the health, integrity, and ability to flourish;

10. WHEREAS each Anishinabek Nation First Nation retains the authority to determine whether, when, and how it will recognize and protect the Rights of Nature within its traditional territory according to its own laws, governance, teachings, language, and community processes; and

11. WHEREAS Rights of Nature initiatives are emerging globally as legal and governance frameworks that recognize ecosystems and natural entities as rights-bearing and align with Indigenous legal orders that recognize reciprocal responsibilities between human beings and the natural world.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Recognize and affirm that Nature, including all interconnected ecosystems, waters, lands, and all living beings within Creation, is alive, sacred, and possesses inherent value and rights under Anishinaabe law, independent of its usefulness to human beings. The inherent Rights of Nature may include:

    i. the right to exist, live, and flourish;

    ii. the right to maintain ecological integrity, biodiversity, balance, and natural cycles;

    iii. the right to evolve and regenerate;

    iv. the right to restoration and rehabilitation following damage;

    v. the right to remain free from pollution, contamination, degradation, and destruction;

    vi. the right to sustain and fulfil its ecological functions;

    vii. the right to protection from individual and cumulative harms;

    viii. the right to be represented by First Nation-appointed Guardians, Knowledge Keepers, Elders, or other representatives;

    ix. the right to receive effective preventative, restorative, and remedial measures determined under Anishinaabe law;

    x. the right to seek enforcement and protection through mechanisms established by participating First Nations;

2. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to develop an optional and adaptable Anishinabek Nation Rights of Nature Declaration Framework, subject to available resources and direction of participating First Nations that:

    i. supports individual First Nations in developing their own Rights of Nature declarations;

    ii. provides optional model provisions respecting Nature's rights, Guardians, shared waters, consent, enforcement, and restoration;

iii. respects First Nation laws, languages, knowledge, ceremonies, governance, territorial relationships, and community mandates;

iv. sets out that any traditional knowledge used in developing the Rights of Nature Declaration Framework remains under the ownership, control, access and possession of participating First Nations and knowledge holders and is not disclosed or used without authorization;

3. Direct the Grand Council Chief to advocate for Canada and Ontario to:

i. recognize First Nation Rights of Nature declarations as expressions and exercising of Anishinaabe law, governance and jurisdiction, and responsibilities toward Creation;

ii. enter Nation-to-Nation Rights of Nature governance arrangements with participating First Nations;

iii. provide adequate, long-term and predictable funding for First Nations Guardians, monitoring, traditional knowledge and data governance, restoration, enforcement, and youth training;

4. Affirm the inherent jurisdiction of each Anishinabek Nation First Nation to develop, adopt, amend, implement, or decline its own Rights of Nature declaration, law, resolution, policy, protocol, or other governance instrument within its traditional territory, while affirming that each First Nation may determine:

i. the ecosystem, watershed, species, habitat, landscape, territory, or natural entity covered by its declaration;

ii. the Anishinaabe laws, language, teachings, and ceremonies upon which the declaration is based;

iii. the rights of Nature and corresponding human responsibilities;

iv. community decision-making and consent requirements;

v. Guardian, monitoring, enforcement, dispute-resolution, and restoration processes;

5. Affirm that a First Nation's decision not to adopt a Rights of Nature declaration shall not constitute a waiver, surrender, abandonment, or extinguishment of its jurisdiction, law, title, Aboriginal or Treaty rights, claims, interests, or responsibilities relating to Nature;

6. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to report to the Anishinabek Chiefs-in-Assembly on the development of the Rights of Nature Declaration Framework, engagement with First Nations, legislative and policy barriers, funding opportunities and progress toward Crown recognition of First Nation Rights of Nature declarations; and

7. Establish an Anishinaabe Rights of Nature Tribunal to hear alleged violations of Natures' rights, assess their impacts, and recommend or determine appropriate remedies in accordance with Anishinaabe laws, principles and governance processes.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 35

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Brownfields and Contaminated Sites in Anishinabek Strategic Regions**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Taynar Simpson, Alderville First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Laurie Hockaday, Curve Lake First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Political
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Lands and Resources
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS historically, environmentally hazardous brownfield and contaminated sites have been developed in areas inhabited primarily by minority communities, representing a form of racial discrimination. A disproportionate number of people who live in environmentally hazardous areas are members of an Indigenous or other marginalized community;

2. WHEREAS the Government of Canada has recognized and has affirmed the need for further environmental justice in Canada, noting that they will continue working towards eliminating racism and racial discrimination in all forms and manifestations;

3. WHEREAS based on available federal data from June 2026, it is conservatively estimated that 1694 contaminated sites exist within Anishinabek Nation's strategic regions, with approximately 325 sites within the Southwest Region, 1148 sites within the Southeast Region, 154 sites in the Northern Superior Region, and 676 sites in the Lake Huron Region;

4. WHEREAS remediation of brownfield and contaminated sites represents a crucial step towards revitalizing Mother Earth's damaged lands and waters. Site remediation works to eliminate or mitigate health, safety, environmental, liability, and land use concerns relating to potentially contaminated lands and waters. However, brownfields and contaminated sites are often costly and difficult to clean up, often requiring shared project oversight by colonial governments, private property owners, Indigenous communities, qualified professionals, and environmental consultants.

5. WHEREAS there are strict legislative and regulatory requirements associated with the remediation of brownfield and contaminated sites, often including the requirement to obtain a Record of Site Condition (RSC) to allow sites to undergo zoning changes for use by more sensitive populations (i.e. general residential use or use by sensitive receptor populations, including Indigenous peoples); and

6. WHEREAS funding programs, including the Lands and Economic Development Service Program, that support economic development, land management, and environment management activities for Indigenous communities and organizations continue to be over-subscribed, forcing Anishinabek Nation First Nations to compete for financial aid and technical support.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to engage with federal, provincial, and municipal governments, to address the concerns of the 39 Anishinabek Nation First Nations relating to brownfield and contaminated sites;

2. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to advocate for the development of a dedicated funding pool, designed to support future, on-going engagement related to the identification, management, and remediation of contaminated sites; and

3. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to continue to cite and remind the government of Canada of their commitment to eliminate environmental racism and racial discrimination that First Nations peoples face in all forms and manifestations.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 36

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Ontario's Northern Shield Energy Corridor**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Kwe Cathy Stevens, Nipissing First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Karen Bell, Garden River First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Lands and Resources
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Economic Development
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS On July 6, 2026, Ontario and Alberta announced the proposed Northern Shield Energy Corridor, including a proposed approximately 3,300 kilometer crude oil pipeline from Hardisty, Alberta to Sarnia, Ontario, designed to transport approximately 500,000 barrels of crude oil per day with potential expansion to approximately 800,000 barrels per day, connecting western Canadian heavy oil sands crude oil production with Sarnia's refining and petrochemical complex and existing energy and shipping infrastructure, with Ontario also exploring potential pipeline connections to new and existing ports and new domestic and export transportation routes;

2. WHEREAS the potential effects of the proposed corridor may extend beyond the pipeline right-of-way and should be assessed in relation to associated pumping, storage, refining, petrochemical, transportation, port and shipping infrastructure, including any future extensions or related facilities, and their potential cumulative effects on the lands, waters and rights of affected First Nations;

3. WHEREAS the proposed corridor forms part of a broader strategy by Ontario to accelerate major infrastructure and resource development projects in response to national economic and trade priorities. The July 2026 announcement follows recent provincial and federal initiatives intended to streamline approvals for projects considered to be in the national interest, including the implementation of *Ontario's Protect Ontario by Unleashing Our Economy Act,* 2025 (Bill 5), and ongoing discussions regarding nationally significant infrastructure;

4. WHEREAS the province has released the proposed route based on the current finding within the proposed feasibility study, additional planning, regulatory approvals, environmental assessments, First Nation engagement, and commercial commitments will be required before construction could proceed; and

5. WHEREAS the Lands and Resources Department is currently in the process of formulating a technical submission to the proposed Northern Shield Energy Corridor feasibility study based on a Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis of the route. No funding for capacity or engagement has been made available to support the Anishinabek First Nations in responding to Ontario's Ministry of Infrastructure's (MOI) request for feedback.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to continue analyzing the proposed Northern Shield Energy Corridor to gain insight into the potential impact to inherent Aboriginal and Treaty protected rights, as well as the cumulative effects of the proposed route;

2. Affirm that any analysis, engagement or advocacy undertaken by the Anishinabek Nation is intended to support and does not replace, limit or prejudice the governing and decision-making authority of each First Nation to undertake its own studies, engage directly with the Crown, or exercise its Aboriginal and Treaty rights and jurisdiction;

3. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to assess potential project-specific and cumulative effects on lands, waters, wetlands, fisheries, wildlife, human health, harvesting, cultural heritage, sacred and archaeological sites, drinking-water sources, emergency-response capacity, climate commitments, and the exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty rights, including risks associated with pipeline construction, operation, rupture, spill response and remediation, and future expansion and transportation connections;

4. Call upon Ontario to disclose the complete feasibility study mandate, route-selection criteria, corridor alternatives, mapping and GIS data, environmental and engineering assumptions, proposed pipeline capacity and product specifications, spill-risk and emergency-response assumptions, commercial and financing models, project governance options, proponent and ownership information, regulatory pathways, timelines, and all studies relied upon in advancing the proposal;

5. Affirm that participation in feasibility studies, technical reviews, mapping exercises or engagement processes and economic studies does not constitute support for, approval of or consent to the proposed corridor or any specific route, and is without prejudice to the rights, claims, jurisdiction and future positions of affected First Nations; and

6. Direct the Grand Council Chief to meet with Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation to advocate for long-term capacity funding and resources to support an engagement process with the Anishinabek Nation First Nations to ensure the First Nations understand the impacts to rights, accumulative effects, and provide advocacy, and technical support.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief



Ajijaak Doodem
(Crane Clan)

Governance and Communications



NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 37

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**First Nations Unity on Bill C39: Build Canada Strong Act Regarding Major Projects**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Greg Sarazin, Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation (AOPFN)**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Taynar Simpson, Alderville First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Political
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Economic Development
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has various provisions under Articles 3, 18, 19, 23, 26(1) and 32 that list the right to self-determination, the right to participate in decision-making that would affect their rights, the right to be consulted by States, and the right to the conservation, protection and use of their lands;

2. WHEREAS section 35 of the *Constitution Act,* 1982, recognizes and affirms the existing Aboriginal and Treaty rights of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada, and confirms that free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) requires meaningful First Nation participation before decisions are made that may affect First Nation rights, lands, or territories;

3. WHEREAS an urgent and unified First Nations approach is required to provide a response to the federal reforms to major projects, trade, transportation, energy, nuclear projects, transmission infrastructure, telecommunications, and economic zones which may have an impact on First Nation rights, lands, waters, territories, interests, governance, jurisdiction, environmental protection, and economic participation;

4. WHEREAS Canada intends to move from engagement into legislative and regulatory development, with feedback from the engagement that will inform drafting, implementation planning, capacity supports and future engagement. The reforms are intended to support timely decision-making for major projects, with the stated objective of reducing duplication, improving federal coordination, allowing federal processes to proceed in parallel, create a One Crown Consultation Process, and consider tools such as Federal Economic Zones and more flexible regulatory authorities;

5. WHEREAS First Nations are not opposed to improved coordination, clearer timelines, reduced duplication, or better federal decision-making, provided these reforms do not compress First Nation decision-making, reduce environmental protections, remove or degrade project-specific review, weaken accommodation, or replace meaningful consultation with administrative coordination;

6. WHEREAS streamlining and reduced project assessment could create risks for First Nation Treaty rights, Inherent rights, jurisdiction, sovereignty, governance, lands, waters, cultural sites, harvesting and archeology, and environmental protection where Canada relies on pre-approval, ministerial discretion, "low risk" classifications, reduced permitting, or shortened timelines, without early and properly funded First Nation involvement;

7. WHEREAS having a unified First Nation position on the federal discussion papers will help ensure that Canada receives clear, consistent direction on the minimum conditions required for rights-respecting reform. First Nations have often stated that federal project review and consultation processes work best when First Nations are engaged early, provided complete plain-language information, funded upfront, given sufficient time for internal governance and technical review, and able to influence outcomes and project design before decisions are functionally made; and

8. WHEREAS the federal reforms that sought First Nation engagement on major projects including transportation, energy, telecommunications, nuclear projects, transmission infrastructure, and economic zones must preserve project-specific review and must not create mechanisms that allow projects to proceed through reduced scrutiny where First Nation rights, lands, waters, territories, or interests may be affected.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Affirm that federal coordination, clearer timelines, reduced duplication, and more efficient decision-making are appropriate if those reforms respect First Nation's rights, are environmentally responsible, properly funded, and include First Nations well in advance of any proposed regulatory system;

2. Direct Anishinabek Nation to advocate for a unified First Nation's position on federal streamlining based on the following nine (9) prerequisites:

   i. **Early notice:** First Nations must be engaged early enough to influence decisions and determine potential project impacts before plans or approvals are advanced;

   ii. **Complete plain-language information:** First Nations must receive the information needed to understand proposals, assess impacts, and make informed decisions;

   iii. **Adequate and early capacity funding:** Funding must be provided early enough and at a level that supports meaningful participation;

   iv. **Investment in capacity building:** Canada should support the long-term staff, systems, and technical capacity First Nations need to participate as governments;

   v. **Respect for First Nation governance processes:** Federal and proponent timelines must allow First Nations to follow their own decision-making processes;

   vi. **Project-specific review:** Projects that may affect First Nation rights or territories must remain subject to meaningful individual review;

   vii. **Cumulative effects assessment:** Reviews must consider the combined effects of past, existing, and foreseeable development on rights and territory;

   viii. **Written responses to First Nation submissions:** Canada should explain in writing how First Nation concerns and recommendations were considered;

   ix. **Direct Nation-to-Crown consultation:** Consultation must include direct access to Canada's responsible decision-makers where First Nation rights may be affected;

3. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to advance the position that federal streamlining must not allow efficiency measures to become cost cutting, and that reforms should not reduce consultation, environmental protection, project-specific review, procedural safeguards, or First Nation decision-making;

4. Call upon Canada to confirm that no Federal Economic Zone, National Trade Corridor, transportation corridor, or energy or nuclear project will be designated when it affects First Nation rights, lands, waters, territories, or interests without early, direct, properly funded, and First Nation specific engagement;

5. Call upon Canada to establish a First Nations-led process, supported by adequate funding, to review proposed legislative and policy reforms on federal streamlining; assess implications for First Nation rights and environmental protection; support the use of Traditional Knowledge, rights impact assessments, cumulative effects assessments, and socio-economic well-being studies where appropriate; support coordinated First Nation analysis; and ensure that any One Crown Consultation Process, or similar mechanism, strengthens direct Canada to First Nation consultation and First Nation decision-making;

6. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to call upon Canada to support Long-Term Relationship Agreements (LTRAs) with affected First Nations, where appropriate, so that consultation, funding, monitoring, accommodation, economic participation and Canada–First Nation responsibilities are established on a long-term basis rather than addressed project by project; and

7. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to report back to the Chiefs-in-Assembly in 2027 on Canada's response to First Nation's concerns regarding federal streamlining, including whether Canada has provided funding, technical briefings, draft legislative or regulatory text, written responses to First Nation submissions, and concrete safeguards to protect First Nation rights, jurisdiction, governance, and environmental protections.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief





Waabizheshii Doodem
(Marten Clan)

Revenue, Finance, and the Economy



ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 38

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Advocating for Stewardship and Transparency with Artificial Intelligence**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Taynar Simpson, Alderville First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Kimberly Bressette, Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Economic Development
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS Nibi (water) is not a resource or a commodity, it is the foundation of all life. Nibi is a living relative and a sacred responsibility that supports our food security, ceremonies, medicines, and livelihoods. Nibi holds a deep spiritual meaning to Anishinaabekwe, based on balance and respect. This relationship is being threatened. The rapid growth of Artificial Intelligence (AI) infrastructure is placing new and largely unregulated pressure on freshwater as well as major increases in energy demand, risking ecological health and impacting Anishinabek Nation First Nations inherent Aboriginal and protected Treaty rights;

2. WHEREAS in June 2026, the federal government released "Canada's National Artificial Intelligence Strategy: AI for All", with no consideration for potential environmental impacts, protection of inherent Aboriginal and/or Treaty protected rights, and excludes any new regulations, policies, or specific actions to safeguard against these impacts. Without proper oversight, transparency, and First Nation leadership in decision-making, these AI developments threaten the balance that has sustained our First Nations and their citizens for generations;

3. WHEREAS while both the provincial and federal governments promote a stronger economy by weakening various regulations and protections, these moves have the potential for advancing impacts to the environment, as well as strains on electricity grids

and freshwater resources, impacting inherent Aboriginal and Treaty protected rights; and

4. WHEREAS AI capabilities will continue to evolve rapidly, so ongoing monitoring and oversight are essential to ensure the sector progresses without impacting the Anishinabek Nation territory. The expansion of AI infrastructure must not come at the expense of Nibi and must respect the jurisdiction of the Anishinabek Nation First Nations, uphold our laws, and ensure that Nibi is protected as a living entity for future generations.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct the Grand Council Chief to advocate for the provincial and federal governments to ensure inherent Aboriginal and Treaty protected rights are not impacted, that science-based and Indigenous Knowledge in environmental protections are included, and that Anishinabek Nation First Nations are included in policy discussions to ensure transparency on water usage data relating to AI data centers are kept, shared, and released;

2. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to develop a discussion paper focused on AI data center infrastructure and their potential impacts on Anishinabek Nation First Nations inherent Aboriginal and Treaty protected rights, the environment, and the Great Lakes, and to monitor the AI sector as it continues to evolve over time; and

3. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to provide the final discussion paper to the Chiefs-in-Assembly by Fall Grand Council Assembly 2027, that will highlight the main findings that could be priority of the Anishinabek Nation.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief



Maang Doodem
(Loon Clan)

Intergovernmental Affairs
and Aboriginal Treaty Rights



ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 39

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Permanent and Predictable Core Funding for First Nations Emergency Management**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Greg Sarazin, Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation (AOPFN)**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Proxy Nathanial Paavola, Namaygoosisagagun First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Infrastructure
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Infrastructure
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP), including Articles 4, 7, 18, 23 and 39, affirms the rights of Indigenous Peoples to autonomy and the means to finance their autonomous functions, to life and security, to participate in decisions affecting them, to determine and administer programs through their own institutions, and to access financial and technical assistance from States;

2. WHEREAS Anishinabek Nation First Nations possess inherent jurisdiction and responsibilities to protect their citizens, lands, infrastructure, culture, and community well-being, and effective all-hazards emergency management requires sustained First Nation-led capacity across prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery;

3. WHEREAS First Nations are expected to maintain emergency plans, coordinate emergency operations and evacuations, train personnel, conduct exercises, communicate with citizens, maintain essential equipment and supplies, and serve as the first line of response until additional assistance becomes available;

4. WHEREAS existing funding arrangements, including short-term, proposal-based, event specific and reimbursement-based funding, do not ensure that every First Nation has permanent, predictable, adequate, and flexible core funding to employ dedicated emergency management personnel and maintain year-round readiness;

5. WHEREAS the absence of reliable core funding can force First Nations to use own-source revenues or redirect limited funding from housing, health, education, infrastructure, and other essential community priorities, while contributing to outdated plans, limited training and exercises, staff burnout, equipment gaps, delayed readiness, and greater human and financial costs when emergencies occur;

6. WHEREAS the 2022 Report of the Auditor General of Canada found that Indigenous Services Canada's (ISC) approach to emergency management in First Nations communities was more reactive than preventative and recommended that Canada, in collaboration with First Nations, determine the number of emergency management coordinator positions required and allocate funding on the basis of risk and need to ensure sustained community capacity; and

7. WHEREAS the emergency management capacity and funding gap affects Anishinabek Nation First Nations, and other First Nations throughout Ontario and Canada, and requires coordinated community, regional, provincial, and national advocacy.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Affirm that emergency management is an essential core community service and that every Anishinabek First Nation must have access to permanent, predictable, adequate, direct, and flexible core funding to establish and maintain First Nation-led emergency management capacity;

2. Direct the Grand Council Chief, Deputy Grand Council Chief, Leadership Council, and Anishinabek Nation, in partnership with Anishinabek Nation First Nations, to urgently advocate that the governments of Canada and Ontario co-develop with First Nations and implement, within twelve (12) months of the adoption of this resolution, a sustainable First Nations emergency management core funding framework that:

i. provides funding directly to First Nations;

ii. is based on community-defined needs, all-hazards risk, geography, remoteness, population, accessibility requirements, evacuation complexity, and actual costs;

iii. does not require own-source revenues or matching funds;

iv. is in addition to, and does not replace or reduce, existing response, recovery, mitigation, infrastructure, or other program funding;

3. Call upon the governments of Canada and Ontario to provide immediate interim funding while the permanent framework is being developed, with each First Nation receiving an allocation sufficient to employ a dedicated full-time Emergency Management Lead, or to establish an equivalent First Nation-selected shared or regional service model, together with additional capacity where risk and need require it, and with eligible core costs including salaries and benefits, backup and succession capacity, training and certification, hazard and risk assessments, emergency plan development and maintenance, exercises, emergency operations and communications, evacuation and continuity planning, community education, mutual aid, equipment and supplies, maintenance and lifecycle replacement, culturally grounded supports, and reasonable administration;

4. Direct the Anishinabek Nation, subject to the direction of each Anishinabek First Nation and respect for First Nations data sovereignty, to engage Anishinabek Nation First Nations in documenting current emergency management capacity, funding gaps, risks, costs, and community experiences, and to use this information to support evidence-based advocacy and the development of the funding framework; and

5. Direct the Grand Council Chief and Anishinabek Nation to work with the Chiefs of Ontario, other Provincial Territorial Organizations, independent First Nations, and the Assembly of First Nations to advance aligned provincial and national resolutions and coordinated advocacy, and to report back to the Chiefs-in-Assembly at the next Grand Council Assembly and regularly thereafter on progress toward permanent First Nations emergency management core funding.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief





Gïigoonh Doodemenhs
(Fish Sub-clan)

Natural Resources and
Aboriginal Treaty Rights



ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 40

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Approval and Implementation of the Anishinabek Nation Métis Action Plan**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Kwe Cathy Stevens, Nipissing First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Chad Edgar, Michipicoten First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Choose an item.**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Legal
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	Click or tap here to enter text.

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS the development of the Anishinabek Nation Métis Action Plan reflects the direction provided by Anishinabek leadership in Resolution #2026-21;

2. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation has developed an updated Métis Action Plan to provide strategic direction regarding Metis-related issues, policies, legislation, litigation, governance initiatives, and other developments that affect Anishinabek Nation First Nations and their rights, interests, territories, and jurisdictions;

3. WHEREAS Anishinabek Nation First Nations require coordinated research, analysis, advocacy, communications, and engagement to address evolving Métis-related issues and ensure informed decision-making by leadership;

4. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation Métis Action Plan establishes priorities and actions to support the protection and advancement of Anishinabek Nation First Nations rights, interests, governance, and jurisdiction in relation to contemporary Métis-related developments; and

5. WHEREAS Métis-related issues continue to evolve and require ongoing review, analysis, and engagement to ensure that the priorities of the Anishinabek Nation remain current and responsive to emerging developments.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Approve the Anishinabek Nation Métis Action Plan as presented, developed pursuant to the direction provided by the Chiefs-in-Assembly in Resolution #2026-21;

2. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to commence implementation of the Métis Action Plan and undertake priorities, objectives, and actions identified therein;

3. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to establish and support an Anishinabek Nation Métis Action Plan Committee, as set out in the Métis Action Plan, to oversee implementation, coordination, reporting, and review of the Plan;

4. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to monitor and report on progress made toward implementation of the Métis Action Plan to the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly, as appropriate;

5. Affirm that the Métis Action Plan is a living document and may be updated from time to time to reflect emerging issues, evolving priorities, and direction provided by Anishinabek leadership; and

6. Affirm that the Anishinabek Nation Métis Action Plan is not directed at the historical, recognized Red River Métis.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 41

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Anishinabek Nation Position on Métis Rights**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Kwe Cathy Stevens, Nipissing First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Chad Edgar, Michipicoten First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Choose an item.**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Legal
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	Click or tap here to enter text.

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation First Nations hold inherent rights that are Treaty and constitutionally protected within their respective territories;

2. WHEREAS the Government and Industry recognition and implementation of Métis rights, governance arrangements, harvesting activities, and self-government initiatives are impacting the rights, interests, jurisdiction, and territories of Anishinabek Nation First Nations;

3. WHEREAS Anishinabek Nation First Nations throughout Ontario have concerns regarding the recognition of Métis communities, Métis citizenship registries, harvesting activities, and rights assertions throughout Anishinabek First Nation territories;

4. WHEREAS Anishinabek Nation First Nations maintain that their inherent rights, that are Treaty and constitutionally protected, pre-date the assertion and recognition of any Métis rights, and therefore Anishinabek Nation First Nations must be consulted as the primary rights holders on any Métis-related matters affecting their rights, interests, territories, jurisdiction, or governance;

5. WHEREAS the Royal Proclamation of 1763 recognized Indigenous Nations as distinct political entities and established protections intended to prevent the unlawful acquisition of Indigenous lands and interests without proper Crown processes and Indigenous consent;

6. WHEREAS over the past two decades, legal, policy, and political developments relating to Métis identification, citizenship, and rights assertions have evolved significantly, while efforts to address historical inaccuracies and inequities affecting First Nations identity and citizenship continue, resulting in an ongoing reassessment and refinement of the Anishinabek Nation's understanding and position on Métis-related issues;

7. WHEREAS decisions respecting Métis citizenship, enrollment, and recognition directly affect the scope of Métis rights assertions and have corresponding implications for First Nations rights, territories, resources, harvesting opportunities, consultation processes, and jurisdiction; and the Anishinabek Nation rejects the characterization of Métis citizenship and enrollment decisions as purely internal matters where such decisions affect or expand the rights asserted against lands, waters, and resources in which First Nations hold rights and interests;

8. WHEREAS the federal and provincial governments have proceeded with the recognition of Métis rights, communities, and governance arrangements within Anishinabek Nation First Nation territories without the consent of, or meaningful consultation with, impacted Anishinabek Nation First Nations;

9. WHEREAS the federal and provincial governments have failed to give sufficient consideration to research and historical evidence that debunks the existence, identification, or recognition of asserted Métis communities, and rights-bearing collectives within Anishinabek Nation First Nation territories;

10. WHEREAS harvesting is integral to the exercise of inherent and Treaty protected rights and is connected to food security, culture, stewardship, traditional knowledge, and the management of resources for future generations;

11. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation First Nations reject assertions of Métis harvesting rights within Anishinabek Nation territories, and have identified the need for continued research, coordinated advocacy, and engagement with governments and affected First Nations to address the impacts of Métis harvesting policies and practices; and

12. WHEREAS Ontario's recognition and implementation of Métis harvesting within Anishinabek Nation territories has proceeded without the approval of affected

Anishinabek Nation First Nations and continues to impact access to traditional harvesting areas, stewardship responsibilities, resource management, conservation, and the exercise of inherent and Treaty protected rights.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Affirm that the Anishinabek Nation First Nations do not recognize or accept any assertions of Métis rights, harvesting rights, governance authorities, or community recognition within Anishinabek Nation territories;

2. Affirm that inclusion within any Métis citizenship registry or membership list does not, in and of itself, establish constitutionally protected rights or harvesting rights within Anishinabek Nation territories;

3. Affirm that Anishinabek Nation First Nations are primary rights holders for their respective territories and their approval must be obtained first and foremost on any Government decision, policy, legislation, agreement, treaty process, harvesting framework, or other initiative relating to Métis rights, governance, citizenship, community recognition, or land and resource use;

4. Affirm that the Crown has existing Treaty relationships and unresolved inherent right claims, and any government recognition, implementation, or advancement of Métis rights, interests, governance agreements, policies, legislation, or treaties cannot diminish, derogate from, infringe upon, or otherwise adversely affect the Treaty and constitutionally protected inherent rights of the Anishinabek Nation First Nations;

5. Maintain that any exercise of asserted Métis harvesting rights within Anishinabek Nation territories requires consent of the Anishinabek Nation First Nations and evaluated in accordance with applicable law and must respect the rights, interests, and jurisdictions of Anishinabek Nation First Nations;

6. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to continue monitoring, researching, and responding to Métis rights assertions, harvesting activities, community recognition claims, and related legal and policy developments affecting Anishinabek Nation First Nations;

7. Call upon Canada or Ontario to first obtain approval of Anishinabek Nation First Nations before recognizing, implementing, or advancing any Métis-related rights, governance arrangements, harvesting frameworks, legislation, agreements, or policies that may affect Anishinabek Nation territories, treaties, inherent rights, or any other interests of

the Anishinabek Nation First Nations;

8. Direct the Grand Council Chief to communicate to Ontario that the province's recognition of Métis harvesting cards does not override, diminish, or resolve the Aboriginal, Treaty, jurisdictional, or stewardship rights and responsibilities of Anishinabek Nation First Nations;

9. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to work with Treaty groups and First Nations throughout Anishinabek Nation territory to advance Treaty-based research and positions, while affirming that each First Nation retains authority over matters affecting its Treaty and traditional territory;

10. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to continue working with the Ministry of Natural Resources on harvesting-related issues through the Anishinabek/Ontario Resource Management Council (A/ORMC);

11. Reserve the right to amend, withdraw, or adopt positions on Métis-related issues as circumstances evolve, and affirm that Anishinabek Nation First Nations are the primary rights holders within and throughout their territories, treaties and must be consulted first on any matters that may affect their rights and interests; and

12. Reserve the right to amend, withdraw, or adopt positions on Métis-related issues as circumstances evolve, and affirm that Anishinabek Nation First Nations are the primary rights holders within and throughout their territories, treaties, and must be consulted first on any matters that may affect their rights and interests; and

13. Affirm that the Anishinabek Nation position on Métis Rights is not directed at the historical, recognized Red River Métis.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 42

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Acceleration of First Nations Land Claim Process**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Proxy Terri Fisher, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Karen Bell, Garden River First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Legal
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS Crown or Treaty land in Canada is available to all Canadians, citizens, including non-First Nations governments;

2. WHEREAS First Nations are generally required to undertake extensive historical, legal, and evidentiary research to substantiate assertions of Aboriginal rights, Aboriginal title, and specific or comprehensive claims;

3. WHEREAS Canada's and Ontario's assertions of Crown sovereignty and underlying title exist alongside the recognition that Aboriginal title is an inherent Indigenous right affirmed by section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*;

4. WHEREAS the term "land claim" may not fully reflect the First Nation perspective that Aboriginal title and rights pre-existed Crown assertions of sovereignty, and that claim processes often involve seeking recognition or resolution of outstanding Indigenous interests in land and resources;

5. WHEREAS the resolution of First Nation claims and related negotiations frequently takes many years, and in some cases, more than a decade due to their complexity and the historical research required;

6. WHEREAS Canada has statutory authority to expropriate lands for federal public purposes including transportation infrastructure, national parks, defense, and other federal initiatives, and may establish specialized regulatory or economic development regimes through legislation;

7. WHEREAS Ontario plans for future municipal growth and infrastructure requirements and may expropriate land for public purposes, including roads, schools, and parks. Ontario may also establish specialized planning or economic development frameworks through legislation; and

8. WHEREAS Canada and Ontario are subject to constitutional obligations relation to the recognition, protection, and implementation of Aboriginal and Treaty rights under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Call upon Canada and Ontario to study and report on measures to accelerate the resolution of First Nation land claims, including but not limited to:

    i. government land use planning mechanisms to support the expansion of reserve lands;

    ii. possible expropriation of land for settlement of section 35 breaches involving land;

    iii. the creation of designated land areas adjacent to existing reserves that may be available for future land claim settlements;

    iv. the development of statutory and regulatory measures to facilitate the timely settlement of land claims (e.g. Municipal Service agreements guidelines for municipalities);

    v. the amendment of existing federal and provincial legislation, including expropriation legislation, to facilitate the efficient resolution of land claims;

    vi. the establishment of limitations on incompatible land uses and third-party interests in areas surrounding existing reserves where such measures would support future land claim settlements;

vii. any other measures that would advance the fair and timely resolution of First Nation land claims; and

2. Request that the governments of Canada and Ontario report back on the results of their study and implementation, including recommendation and implementation options, prior to their next respective general elections.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 43

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Duty to Consult Engagements to Support Anishinabek Nation First Nations**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Chris Plain, Aamjiwnaang First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Larry Roque, Wahnapitae First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Legal
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS the duty to consult and accommodate is a binding constitutional obligation that legally requires the Crown to engage with First Nations before making decisions that could adversely affect their established or asserted Aboriginal and treaty protected rights;

2. WHEREAS there have been legislative changes in recent years that dramatically accelerate resource development and the construction of major infrastructure projects across the country, moving to fast-track major infrastructure, energy, and resource development projects;

3. WHEREAS while the provincial and federal governments maintain that the new legislation contain legislative wording that respects section 35 rights, many First Nations leaders, legal experts, and constitutional advocates contend that the practical frameworks bypass meaningful engagement and represent an attempt to systematically reduce or delay the constitutional duty to consult and accommodate and abandon the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) that is required by the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People* (UNDRIP) which Canada codified into federal law;

4. WHEREAS the rush of new legislation is likely to escalate pressures on Anishinabek Nation First Nations lands and resources and the capacities of Anishinabek Nation First Nations to be fully and meaningfully consulted and accommodated and to ensure that their inherent, Aboriginal, and Treaty protected rights are upheld through resource extraction and major projects developments;

5. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation held regional sessions in the Spring of 2026 focused on strategic supports for Anishinabek Nation First Nations surrounding Bills 5 and C-5 and is currently developing and updating duty to consult and accommodate tools and resources to share with Anishinabek Nation First Nations; and

6. WHEREAS with provincial and federal legislation being implemented to fast-track resource extraction and major projects developments, it is important for the Anishinabek Nation to hold engagements where it can share duty to consult related tools and resources that can support Anishinabek Nation First Nations to be equipped to address the increased duty to consult pressures that may emerge from the new legislation.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to plan and implement duty to consult engagement sessions at which the Anishinabek Nation can share duty to consult guidance, tools and resources to support Anishinabek Nation First Nations to develop and/or enhance their duty to consult capacity to address increased duty to consult pressures that may emerge as a result of recent provincial and federal resource extraction and major projects legislation (inclusive of issues pertaining to resource storage, transportation, refining); and

2. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to seek and secure funds needed to plan and implement the direction.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief



Ajijaak Doodem
(Crane Clan)

Governance and Communications



NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 44

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Restorative Justice for Anishinabek Nation First Nations**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Kwe Karen Bell, Ojibways of Garden River First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Proxy Nathanial Paavola, Namaygoosisagagun First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Governance
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Legal
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS the Creator gave the Anishinaabe people the inherent right to govern themselves as Nations;

2. WHEREAS Anishinabek Nation First Nations never ceded inherent jurisdiction over lawmaking, community safety, or traditional responsibilities to justice;

3. WHEREAS the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) affirms the inherent right of Indigenous Peoples to self-determination and self-government, including the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, social, and cultural institutions, and to revitalize and uphold their languages, laws, and legal traditions;

4. WHEREAS colonial justice and governance systems have displaced and failed to recognize and implement our Anishinabek laws, legal orders, and governance structures that sustained our Anishinabek Nation First Nations since time immemorial;

5. WHEREAS historic and continuing colonial laws, policies, and socioeconomic inequities contribute to significant justice and community safety challenges in Anishinabek Nation First Nations, which are compounded by inadequate recognition, resources, and mechanisms to implement and enforce Anishinabek laws;

6. WHEREAS Anishinabek First Nation leadership has identified a need to advance justice and community safety beyond the scope of the existing policing and justice services, including through restorative justice, prevention, diversion, crisis response, re-integration, and culturally grounded alternatives to criminalization; and

7. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation Legal Department has received project funding from the Department of Justice Canada to engage the thirty-nine (39) Anishinabek Nation First Nations in identifying shared and regional specific justice and community safety priorities and proposed actions.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to coordinate two in person sessions, one in the North and one in the South, focusing on restorative justice, community safety and the advancement of Anishinabek laws and legal orders;

2. Direct that the sessions may include presentations on effective First Nation justice and community safety initiatives and facilitated discussions to identify priorities, service gaps, practical actions, timelines, resources requirements, and measures of progress;

3. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to continue advancing the justice and community safety priorities identified through the sessions, including developing advocacy and implementation tools that call upon federal and provincial governments to recognize and respect Anishinabek laws, legal orders, customs, and jurisdiction; and

4. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to report back on the progress and recommendations at the 2027 Grand Council Assembly for further direction.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 – 45

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Governance Strategy Training for Anishinabek Nation First Nations**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Chris Plain, Aamjiwnaang First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Cathy Stevens, Nipissing First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Governance
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation Declaration of 1980 states "The Creator gave the Anishinabek Nation the inherent right to govern themselves";

2. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation is committed to supporting the revitalization of Anishinabek laws, protocols, and principles by implementing traditional governing structures and decision-making procedures, including Anishinaabe Aadziwin and Anishinaabemowin, the first language of the Anishinabek;

3. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation, by way of pipe ceremony, adopted the Anishinabek Nation Chi-Naaknigewin, along with the principles of Ngo Dwe Waangizid Anishinaabe (One Anishinaabe Family), 2012;

4. WHEREAS the inherent right to govern ourselves has been recognized by the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) Article 3: Self-determination and Article 4: Self-government;

5. WHEREAS due to the current federal and provincial political landscape and the challenges it brings to First Nations, it will be essential to equip our Nations with the governance capacity training to strategically support and address community-based priorities and needs;

6. WHEREAS Anishinabek First Nation Leadership have cited the need for capacity training to support strategic governance needs for the thirty-nine (39) Anishinabek Nation First Nations;

7. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation has key alliances and collaborations which will provide opportunities for partnerships to support strategic governance training; and

8. WHEREAS there is a need for a collaborative and cohesive effort towards implementation of Anishinabek Nation traditional governance to enhance community development.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to seek options for resourcing the support for governance strategy training for Anishinabek Nation First Nations;

2. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to draft a training strategy that is focused on First Nations governance needs;

3. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to explore collaborative partnership opportunities as options for implementing First Nation governance strategy training; and

4. Direct the Anishinabek Nation Governance Department to report back on progress and recommendations at the 2027 Grand Council Assembly for further direction.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief





Waawaashkesh Doodem
(Deer Clan)

Social Development



NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 46

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Extension of First Nation Off-Reserve Representative Funding**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Shane Tabobondung, Wasauksing**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Cathy Stevens, Nipissing First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Social Development
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS while the Ontario Final Agreement (OFA) provides some funding certainty for First Nations, the funding shifts from an actuals model to an allocation model based upon the First Nation's First Nations Child and Family Services (FNCFS) actuals claims up to March 31, 2024. This decision did not allow many First Nation's to fully hire up and operationalize their FNCFS services, such as First Nation (Band) Representative Services (FNRS). Therefore, many First Nation baseline allocations under the OFA are inadequate to sustain the First Nation's standard of services and adjust for evolution identified by community needs;

2. WHEREAS FNRS provide critical supports for our children and families who are involved with, or at risk of involvement with, the child welfare system by advocating for our children's rights and best interests to maintain (or repatriate) connections to their First Nation community, culture, and identity. These connections are critical to protecting our

children from the well-documented and devastating harms that result from disconnection from community and culture;

3. WHEREAS without the meaningful participation of a First Nation's Band Representative, Provincial Child Welfare Agencies, and the Provincial Courts cannot adequately comprehend the First Nation's customs, traditions, and practices that inform the child's sense of identity, belonging, and connection to community;

4. WHEREAS the distinction between on and off-reserve residence does not diminish the need for FNRS and holds no practical relevance to a child's inherent right to safety, cultural connection, and well-being within the child welfare system;

5. WHEREAS for many First Nations, large populations of their citizenship reside off-reserve due to various circumstances beyond their control, many due to historic displacements, underfunding, and systemic circumstances. A child does not cease to belong to their Nation because they live outside reserve boundaries, and FNRS are the mechanism through which those Nation-specific interests, perspectives, and connections are maintained and advanced regardless of where a child resides;

6. WHEREAS the *Anishinabek Nation Child Well-Being Law* authorizes the Children's Commissioner to advocate for all citizens (E'Dbendaagzijig) regardless of residency on or off-reserve;

7. WHEREAS Anishinabek Nation First Nations do not discriminate and/or force the colonial construct of on and off-reserve boundaries within our traditional territories, and the authority for the care and well-being of our E'Dbendaagzijig is the responsibility of our First Nations regardless of where they may reside;

8. WHEREAS the Government of Ontario does not currently provide funding for First Nations for the provision of FNRS. Canada funds First Nations for FNRS for children and families residing on-reserve through FNCFS funding and the OFA, but is of the view that funding for FNRS for off-reserve in Ontario is the responsibility of the Government of Ontario;

9. WHEREAS for our First Nations children off-reserve, FNRS act as a lifeline to maintain (or develop) connections to their specific First Nation community, culture, and identities, as was recognized through the Inquest into the Death of Devon Freeman and the jury's verdict that funding be provided for Devon's Principle and the right to return home;

10. WHEREAS on April 1, 2025, the Agreement Respecting Funding for First Nation Representative Services Off-Reserve in Ontario (FNRS Off-Reserve in Ontario Agreement) between Chiefs of Ontario (COO), Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN), and Canada came into effect. The FNRS Off-Reserve in Ontario Agreement recognizes the value and importance of FNRS and provides that Canada will fund First Nations in Ontario at their actual costs for the provision of FNRS to First Nations children and families residing off-reserve; however, this agreement ends March 31, 2027;

11. If an extension or long-term solution to the FNRS off-reserve funding is not achieved, the impact on our children will be significant. Many children will be left without the support, resources, and services that help keep them safe and connected to their families and communities. This outcome is inconsistent with the principles underlying the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal's First Nations child welfare decisions, which seek to ensure First Nations children receive the services and supports they need, when they need them without discrimination.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Call upon the Government of Canada to extend funding at actuals for FNRS off-reserve in Ontario, based on the principle of Jordan's Principle, to ensure that children connected with First Nations are not abandoned due to systemic discrimination not of our First Nation's making;

2. Call upon the Government of Canada to maintain an interim funding arrangement for FNRS off-reserve beyond March 31, 2028, until a long-term, equitable, and sustainable funding arrangement has been negotiated, approved, and implemented by either the Government of Canada or the Government of Ontario;

3. Call upon the Government of Ontario to obtain the necessary mandate without delay to negotiate a long-term, equitable and sustainable funding solution for FNRS off-reserve;

4. Affirm that this resolution is without prejudice to First Nations' inherent jurisdiction and right to self-determination, including the ability of First Nations to negotiate or pursue separate FNRS off-reserve funding arrangements;

5. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to formally communicate this resolution to COO, the Government of Ontario, and ISC and provide an update to Chiefs on responses within 3 months; and

6. Direct the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief and the Anishinabek Nation Children's Commissioner to monitor and support the advocacy required for our First Nation's E'Dbendaagzijig.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief



Ajijaak Doodem
(Crane Clan)

Governance and Communications



NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 47

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Omnibus Resolution of the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs in Assembly**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Kwe Kelly LaRocca, Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Chris Plain, Aamjiwnaang First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Political
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Governance
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs in Assembly desires to review, approve, and adopt multiple Naaknigan simultaneously in the best interests of time; and

2. Whereas the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs in Assembly deem it to be in the best interests of the leadership to approve each of the specific Naaknigan set forth below.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Hereby approve and adopt the following six (6) distinct Naaknigan with the same force and effect as if each had been voted upon and adopted individually:
   i. ANGCA 2026-47A: Developing a Neurodivergent Strategy;
   ii. ANGCA 2026-47B: Anishinabek Nation Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Table;
   iii. ANGCA 2026-47C: Addressing Student Transportation Funding and Service Gaps for First Nations;
   iv. ANGCA 2026-47D: Supporting Sustainable Special Education Funding for Anishinabek Learners;

v. ANGCA 2026-47E: Political Office-Governance Manual Update and Regional Chief Review; and

vi. ANGCA 2026-47F: Taxation Management on First Nation Territory; and

2. Direct that the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief and the Anishinabek Nation staff are empowered and directed to take all such further actions, and to execute and deliver all such further instruments and documents, as may be necessary or advisable to consummate the intent and accomplish the purposes of the six (6) Naaknigan contained herein.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief



Makwa Doodem
(Bear Clan)

Health and Healing



ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 – 47A

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Developing a Neurodivergent Strategy**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Kwe Cathy Stevens, Nipissing First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Kimberly Bressette, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Choose an item.**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Health
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Health
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	Click or tap here to enter text.

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS there is an increasing population of Anishinabek Nation First Nation members who are Neurodivergent or have a Developmental Disability, (meaning they have differing mental and neurological functions compared to neurotypical individuals that affect their daily life). This includes Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and other acquired brain injuries;

2. WHEREAS in some communities specialized services are not available, and where they are available, those services do not consider cultural and traditional practices;

3. WHEREAS there is a limited data on Autism in Indigenous populations, suggesting that First Nation children are diagnosed later, receive fewer services, and are more likely to experience culturally inappropriate care;

4. WHEREAS frontline workers, educators, caregivers, and community members have access to minimal resources on how to support individuals with Neurodivergence and Developmental Disabilities thereby compounding the stigma and isolation for those living with FASD;

5. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation FASD Program, continues to receive many requests from Anishinabek Nation member First Nations to provide training and supports for various Neurodivergence and Developmental Disabilities and the Anishinabek Nation does not currently have a strategy to develop a such a program; and

6. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation Health Secretariat does not currently have access to funding to support the development of a Neurodivergent Strategy to support developmental exceptionalities in the Anishinabek First Nations apart from the FASD program.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct the Grand Council Chief to advocate for capacity and funding for the Anishinabek Nation and Anishinabek member First Nations for the development of a comprehensive Anishinabek Nation Neurodivergent Strategy that includes, but is not limited to:

   i. Advocating for the research, development, and implementation of an Anishinabek Nation strategy;

   ii. Advocating for the necessary resources to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy inclusive of an evaluative framework;

   iii. Supporting the Health Secretariat in creating research protocols with partner organizations and research institutions;

   iv. Engaging in dialogue with relevant government authorities, funders, and other partners to advocate for the inclusion of funding for Neurodivergence, Developmental Disabilities and acquired brain injuries; and

2. Direct the Health Secretariat to develop any related protocols to working with partner organizations and research institutions.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA- 2026 – 47B

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Anishinabek Nation Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) Table**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Tayner Simpson, Alderville First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Kimberly Bressette, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Choose an item.**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Health
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	Click or tap here to enter text.

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. That Indigenous peoples including Anishinabek Nation First Nations continue to experience significant disparities in health outcomes relative to mainstream Canadians;

2. That the Non-insured Health Benefits Program (NIHB) exists as "part of a broader system of Federal, Provincial and Territorial programs and services contributing to the health of First Nations" (per NIHB website) whereby NIHB is intended to provide coverage for pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, mental health counselling, dental care, vision care, and medical transportation;

3. That the NIHB's intent is to work with First Nations and Inuit partner organizations at the national and regional level to share program and benefit information, identify areas for improvement, and obtain input and guidance;

4. That the Chiefs of Ontario (COO) successfully negotiated and received support for four NIHB Navigators whose stated role is "to provide advocacy and liaison support on behalf of First Nation clients and organizations as well as assistance in addressing and resolving NIHB issues and making NIHB more accessible and less challenging";

5. That the Anishinabek Nation's Political Office and Health Secretariat continue to receive numerous calls for assistance from Anishinabek Nation members experiencing challenges dealing with NIHB; and

6. That while the federal government may believe it adequately works with First Nations by working with only the Assembly of First Nations and the single Regional First Nations organizations, Anishinabek First Nations members see Anishinabek Nation as their main advocacy organization and therefore the Anishinabek Nation needs to have an appropriate conduit to assist the Anishinabek Nation members with the NIHB challenges and to provide advocacy on their behalf.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct the Anishinabek Nation's Chiefs Committee on Health (CCoH), with the support of the Anishinabek Nation Health Secretariat, to establish an Anishinabek Nation NIHB Table that will receive and respond to Anishinabek Nation members NIHB concerns and challenges;

2. Direct the Anishinabek Nation NIHB Table to document and collect aggregate data regarding the nature of the NIHB concerns and issues to substantiate discussions with the NIHB on areas for change and improvement. The Anishinabek Nation NIHB Table will also guide the CCoH on the identification of NIHB issues that require political advocacy; and

3. Require the Anishinabek Nation NIHB Table to work jointly with the CCoH to provide updates annually and semi-annually to the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Assemblies through the CCoH's reports.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief



Ajijaak Doodem
(Crane Clan)

Governance and Communications



ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 – 47C

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Addressing Student Transportation Funding and Service Gaps for First Nations**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Kwe Kimberly Bresette, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Tim Ominika, Wiikwemkoong First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Choose an item.**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Education
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	Click or tap here to enter text.

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS safe, reliable, and equitable transportation remains a significant barrier for First Nations students attending both First Nation-operated schools and provincially funded schools;

2. WHEREAS transportation was discussed extensively during the development of Ontario's Reciprocal Education Approach (REA), however no consensus was reached and transportation was ultimately excluded from the REA base fee, leaving transportation arrangements to be negotiated locally between First Nations and school boards;

3. WHEREAS the Indigenous Education Office and Student Transportation Unit are currently engaging First Nations, transportation consortia, and school boards to better understand existing transportation arrangements affecting First Nations students;

4. WHEREAS transportation funding provided through the Interim Funding Formula does not adequately reflect the actual costs experienced by First Nations, including rising operational costs, vehicle replacement requirements, accessible transportation needs, and the unique realities of remote and geographically dispersed communities; and

5. WHEREAS the Anishinabek First Nations have identified ongoing transportation challenges, including insufficient funding for complex transportation routes, limited access to specialized transportation services for students with high needs, and service disruptions resulting from school board transportation shortages and delays.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Call upon Indigenous Services Canada to establish sustainable and equitable transportation funding that recognizes and adequately reflects the significantly higher costs of transporting First Nations students compared to provincial education systems;

2. Call upon the Ontario Ministry of Education, school boards, and transportation consortia to identify and address factors contributing to transportation service disruptions and support earlier transportation planning for First Nations students;

3. Call upon school boards and transportation consortia to work collaboratively with First Nations to implement student-centered, reciprocal, and cost-effective transportation solutions, including coordinated transportation services for students with high and complex needs; and

4. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to continue advocating for equitable transportation funding and improved transportation services through provincial and federal education tables and engagement processes.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 – 47D

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Supporting Sustainable Special Education Funding for Anishinabek Learners**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Kwe Kimberly Bresette, Kettle and Stony Point First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Tim Ominika, Wiikwemkoong First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Choose an item.**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Education
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Political
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	Click or tap here to enter text.

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS all Anishinabek children have the right to equitable access to quality education and specialized supports that meet their individual learning needs;

2. WHEREAS the High-Cost Special Education (HCSE) supports students whose needs cannot be met through regular classroom programming and interventions;

3. WHEREAS the Interim Funding Formula (IFF) does not adequately account for the unique cost drivers experienced by First Nations, including higher rates of students requiring specialized supports, recruitment and retention challenges, increased service delivery costs, and limited economies of scale;

4. WHEREAS on February 10, 2025, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) issued a Jordan's Principle Operational Bulletin indicating that school-related requests would generally be redirected to existing provincial and federal programs unless they met a substantive equality threshold;

5. WHEREAS the Education Assistants represent the largest subcategory of approved education-related Jordan's Principle requests, with 2,437 approved requests in Ontario during the 2024-25 school year, representing over $135.3 million in approved funds for students with high needs;

6. WHEREAS no commitment has been made by ISC or the Ontario Ministry of Education regarding replacement investments or measures to ensure continuity of services for First Nation students affected by these changes;

7. WHEREAS the Ontario First Nation Special Education Working Group (OFNSEWG) administers the HCSE needs-based funding process and, in the 2025-26 funding cycle, First Nations submitted requests totaling approximately $24 million while only $8.2 million was available for allocation, demonstrating a significant gap between need and available resources; and

8. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation, through the Chiefs and Technical Committee on Language and Learning (CTCLL), and the Ontario Technical Table on the Interim Funding Approach (OTTIFA), has consistently advocated for predictable and sustainable HCSE investments, however ISC has not accepted these recommendations due to budget limitations.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to seek funding for a comprehensive high-cost special education needs assessment and retain external expertise, as required;

2. Call upon Indigenous Services Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Education to establish sustainable and predictable High-Cost Special Education funding that reflects the actual needs of First Nation students and supports substantive equality;

3. Call upon Indigenous Services Canada to maintain education-related Jordan's Principle supports, including Education Assistants, at no less than 2024-25 approved funding levels until a long-term funding solution is implemented;

4. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to continue advocacy through provincial and national education tables for increased and sustainable High-Cost Special Education funding; and

5. Direct the Anishinabek Nation Education Secretariat to work with First Nations and partners to document unmet High-Cost Special Education needs and support evidence-based funding advocacy.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026-47E

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Political Office – Governance Manual Update and Regional Chief Review**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Kwe Kelly LaRocca, Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Michele Solomon, Fort William First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Choose an item.**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Political
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Governance
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	Click or tap here to enter text.

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS the Chiefs-in-Assembly endorsed the Anishinabek Nation Political Office and Procedures Manual through Naaknigan #2024-03;

2. WHEREAS the current Leadership Council governance model includes four Regional Chiefs that represent each Anishinabek Nation region, respectively, that is complemented by the Grand Council Chief and Deputy Grand Council Chief;

3. WHEREAS any foundational change to the Regional Chief governance or compensation model requires approval of the Chiefs-in-Assembly; and

4. WHEREAS the ongoing political advocacy needs for each Anishinabek Nation region will require ongoing strategic discussion, analysis, and evaluation to best support ongoing and future advocacy needs.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to evaluate the Regional Chief governance model, including Statement of Mandates (role and responsibilities), and administrative support cost estimates with recommended updates to the Anishinabek Nation Political Office and Procedures Manual;

2. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to develop a collective process that reflects the selection of the regional leadership to support the advocacy needs of all Anishinabek Nation citizens; and

3. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to present the initial evaluation report in November 2026, seek additional information and feedback from each region and present the Final Report in February 2027 to the Anishinabek Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

ANISHINABEK GIMAAG-MAAWNJIIDIWAAD
Hosted by Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn, Southeast Region, Ottawa, ON
Baashkaakodin Giizis 3 – 4, 2026

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 – 47F

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Taxation Management on First Nation Territory**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Chad Edgar, Michipicoten First Nation**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Greg Sarazin, Algonquains of Pikwakanagan First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Choose an item.**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Political
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Legal
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	Click or tap here to enter text.

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS First Nations are sovereign nations and were recognized as such by the Crown in the Royal Proclamation of 1763 and as evident in the signed treaties that followed across what is now called Canada;

2. WHEREAS the Treaties across Anishinabek Nation First Nation territories did not surrender sovereignty nor the taxation powers of a nation;

3. WHEREAS the Anishinabek Nation has consistently advocated for the First Nation right to tax exemption as a right for all Anishinabek Nation governments and citizens, for revenues, expense, businesses, and personal incomes of our citizens.

4. WHEREAS as separate, sovereign nations, First Nations have the right to tax exemption and taxation of other despite having had to struggle and navigate through administrative hurdles to have this right recognized.

5. WHEREAS implementing the right to taxation and tax exemption will allow all First Nation communities the opportunity to engage fully in our economy;

6. WHEREAS the spirit and intent of Treaties signed across Anishinabek Nation First Nation territories included the common intent of sharing the wealth of the land;

7. WHEREAS in modern treaties taxation is negotiated and the First Nation government can have taxation authority recognized in a shared arrangement between both provincial and federal government;

8. WHEREAS the federally and First Nation approved Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement at chapter 13 includes the possibility of future negotiations in taxation; and

9. WHEREAS mutual and shared benefit from the wealth of the land through taxation may create the appropriate incentives for both the Crown and First Nations to foster efficient mutually agreeable economic development.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Call upon Ontario and Canada to enter tripartite discussions with the Anishinabek Nation on the coordination of taxation authority of First Nations, including implementing the right to tax exemption and a tax revenue/sharing distribution model for Treaty/Inherent/Crown lands to First Nation communities and promotion of education and awareness to non-Indigenous population; and

2. Direct the Anishinabek Nation Grand Council Chief to advocate for interested First Nations to negotiate such an arrangement.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoke
Southeast Regional Chief

NAAKNIGAN ANGCA 2026 - 48

Debaachigaadeg (Subject)	**Support for Missing and Murdered E'Dbendaagzijig and Human Trafficking Response Strategy**
E-gaandinang (Mover)	**Gimaa Kwe Kimberley Bressette, Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point**
E-ko-niizhing e-gaandinang (Seconder)	**Gimaa Kwe Cathy Stevens, Nipissing First Nation**
Be-minidag (Status)	**Carried**
Niigaan bebemkaan enakiing (Lead Department)	Political
Naadamaage bebemkaan enakiing (Support Department)	Governance
Nendowendizig (Opposed)	**None**
Gegoo e-kidsig (Abstained)	**None**

MANOO-DA-KIDOOMGAD:
(LET IT BE SAID)

1. WHEREAS E'Dbendaagzijig are foundational to First Nation society and there is no higher priority to our people than keeping all members of our First Nations safe.

2. WHEREAS Naakinigan #2024-27 Call to Establish a Missing Women and Girls, Men and Boys Provincial and National Data Bank was supported unanimously at the Grand Council Assembly in October 2024;

3. WHEREAS Indigenous peoples who represent 5% of Canada's population, now account for 30% of all homicide victims and are killed at a rate more than 8 times that of non-Indigenous Canadians, while simultaneously comprising over 50% of identified human trafficking victims, leaving families and communities to navigate violence, disappearance, and exploitation with inadequate systemic support;

4. WHEREAS victims of violence, disappearances, and exploitation including their families often experience long wait times, limited support, and fragmented systems resulting in delayed justice or no justice at all;

5. WHEREAS the United Nations Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples documented a clear connection between extractive industry worker camps and increased violence against Indigenous women;

6. WHEREAS Despite the June 2019, release Reclaiming Power and Place – The Final Report of the National Inquiry into missing and murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, documenting systemic causes of violence including colonial policy, racism, and institutional failures - human trafficking and violence against women and girls has reached a crisis level and despite six years of federal commitments, only two of those Calls for Justice have been completed to date;

7. WHEREAS mining and other companies with an interest in resource extraction or other business ventures across all territories operating on or adjacent to First Nations territories have the most direct stake in MME and human trafficking prevention, and have a corporate social obligation to ensure they do not cause adverse impacts on the First Nation communities of the territories that they operate within;

8. WHEREAS a partnership with these mining companies through the Mining Association of Canada's Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) framework has been proposed to develop and implement a strategic response model to focus on collaboration with communities and families in providing support and work towards eliminating incidences of human trafficking and MME; and

9. WHEREAS Missanabie Cree Business Corporation (MCBC) is therefore is leading a movement to transform how Canada responds to MME and Human Trafficking cases by building capacity to collaborate with existing agencies to review and resolve cases, support every family, strengthen safety in every community, and deliver prevention and healing programs that will reach over 10,000 people across Ontario over the first two years of launching and hundreds of thousands of people thereafter for years to come. This is more than a strategy, it is a commitment to our people that we will no longer stand by waiting for others to solve a crisis that continues to take the lives of our loved ones.

BIGIDNAMOG DASH GIINWI ANISHINAABE GIMAAG-MAAWANJIDIWAAD:
(LET IT BE ACTED UPON THAT WE, THE ANISHINABEK CHIEFS-IN-ASSEMBLY):

1. Support and endorse the MCBC MME and Human Trafficking Prevention and Response Strategy as the official First Nation-led framework focused on prevention, healing, awareness, justice, investigation, family support, and long-term systems change;

2. Call upon the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario, all Provinces, Territories and Municipalities in Canada, and all relevant agencies and corporations operating in Canada to formally recognize, support, and invest in sustainable and long-term funding mechanisms for this strategy and the implementation of the MCBC MME Prevention and Response Strategy as a leading First Nation-led response model for Ontario and Canada;

3. Support the Corporate Partnership Strategy on MME/HT Prevention with key mining companies operating across Canada, resource development companies, contractors, and industry partners having an interest in developing within and operating on or near First Nation territories;

4. Call upon industry partners and corporations operating within or adjacent to First Nation to contribute financially and operationally toward MME Prevention, awareness, healing, training, safety initiatives, and community-based supports as part of their social responsibility and reconciliation commitments;

5. Direct the Anishinabek Nation to work with all police services in Ontario to share all investigative information on unsolved MME cases over 2 years old with family, MCBC, and First Nation leadership;

6. Call upon all police services in Ontario to work with MCBC and consider MCBC's MME Prevention Response Strategy a formal part of how they operate and collaborate with and respond to MME cases and work with First Nation victims, families and loved ones of victims. Demand that all Police Services across Canada, and public safety agencies strengthen collaboration with First Nation-led MME response initiatives, specifically MCBC and this First Nation-led strategy to reduce and eliminate MME in our communities;

7. Support and participate in First Nation-led prevention and healing initiatives including but not limited to, training, programming in educational institutions and public spaces, ceremonies, circles, peer support, trauma-informed care, culturally grounded mental health supports, land-based healing, youth empowerment programming, a dedicated community support phone line led by MCBC and supports for families and loved ones affected by MME and Human Trafficking;

8. Support the development and promotion of MCBC's public awareness campaign, including the official symbol of hope, public education initiatives, media campaigns, events, and social enterprise activities designed to raise awareness, mobilize allies, and generate sustainable support for MME and Human Trafficking prevention efforts;

9. Direct the Anishinabek Nation and MCBC and MCBC's non-profit arm dedicated to this initiative Honoring Our Sacredness to continue engaging First Nations, families, survivors, youth, Elders, Knowledge Keepers, governments, corporate partners, law enforcement agencies, and community organizations in the continued development, implementation, and expansion of this work across Ontario and Canada; and

10. Direct that this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Premier of Ontario, relevant federal and provincial ministers, Indigenous leadership organizations, police leadership bodies, resource development companies, corporations and foundations who support Indigenous communities and reconciliation, and media as part of a clear public support and declaration of change, and strategic partners for awareness, collaboration, funding, and action.

Linda Debassige
Grand Council Chief

Marsha Smoké
Southeast Regional Chief