RESOLUTION

Nishnawbe Aski Nation

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100 Back Street, Unit 200 Thunder Bay, ON P7J1L2



20/09

Support for Clean Drinking Water Class Action

WHEREAS many First Nations in Ontario and across Canada have suffered and continue to suffer from a lack of access to clean, safe drinking water on-reserve;

WHEREAS Neskantaga First Nation and Curve Lake First Nation have commenced class proceedings against Canada in Federal Court to seek immediate relief for First Nations across Canada affected by drinking water advisories, and compensation for the harms they have suffered;

WHEREAS Neskantaga and Curve Lake are coordinating their approach with the Tataskweyak Cree Nation, which commenced similar proceedings in Manitoba;

WHEREAS these class proceedings have been certified recently by the courts;

WHEREAS the class action alleges that Canada has been negligent, breached its fiduciary duties, breached the honour of the Crown, and breached various rights under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms;

WHEREAS the proposed class for these proceedings includes all First Nations subject to a drinking water advisory which lasted at least one year from November 8, 1995, to the present, and all the members of such First Nations;

WHEREAS in order to respect the self-determination of First Nations, the class action does not automatically include First Nations, but allows them to "opt in" to advance the rights of their communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Nishnawbe Aski Nation Chiefs-in-Assembly support the Neskantaga and Curve Lake First Nations in advancing these class proceedings on behalf of First Nations in Ontario and throughout Canada;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Chiefs-in-Assembly call on Canada to finally resolve the deplorable condition of drinking water on-reserve and compensate the First Nations and First Nation members who have suffered from this national and international disgrace for so long.



RESOLUTION 20/09: Support for Clean Drinking Water Class Action

DATED AT THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO, THIS 20TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2020.

MOVED BY: Chief Christopher Moonias, Neskantaga First Nation **SECONDED BY:** Chief Sheldon Oskineegish, Nibinamik First Nation

DECISION: CARRIED

Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler

Deputy Grand Chief

