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TITLE:	Specific Claims Funding
SUBJECT:	Specific Claims
MOVED BY:	Chief Maureen Chapman, Skawahlook First Nation, BC
SECONDED BY:	Chief Nelson Genaille, Sapotawayak First Nation, MB
DECISION:	Passed by the AFN Executive Committee

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**WHEREAS:**

- A. On October 16, 2008, a new process to improve the fairness, transparency, processing and funding of specific claims took effect based on four pillars announced by the federal government..
- B. The creation of the Specific Claims Tribunal of Canada (the "Tribunal") under the *Specific Claims Tribunal Act* establishes a new threshold for the assessment and adjudication of specific claims.
- C. Thorough and complete research carried out by qualified researchers is fundamental to the fair, final and effective resolution of specific claims.
- D. Decisions of the Tribunal are binding on all parties and are not subject to the possibility of appeal, save only for judicial review.
- E. Any First Nation advancing a specific claim with Canada must do so based on the probability that it may be subject to final adjudication by the Tribunal.
- F. Large numbers of new claims are arising as a direct result of the way Canada has been addressing claims.
- G. Funding for specific claims research and access to the Tribunal comes from the same fiscal envelope.
- H. The level of funding in this fiscal envelope has dropped significantly and it has been announced that it will drop by an additional \$ 2 million in 2014-15.
- I. Canada provides no funding for claims that are subject to judicial review.

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Certified copy of a resolution adopted on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014 in Brokenhead Ojibway First Nation, Manitoba

- J. Canada announced in its 2013 Federal Budget that a new allocation of \$54 million over two years was being made to support the resolution of specific claims and, despite this, First Nations are receiving cut backs.

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

1. Call on the Government of Canada to provide adequate funding to First Nations at all levels of the specific claim process, from research through to the Tribunal, and including for those claims that are subject to judicial review.

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