

**ASSEMBLY OF MANITOBA CHIEFS  
GENERAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY  
OPASKWAYAK CREE NATION  
JANUARY 18 & 19, 2011**

**CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

**JAN-11.03  
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**Moved by:**

Chief Duke Beardy  
Tataskweyak Cree Nation

**Seconded by:**

Chief David McDougall  
St. Theresa Point First Nation

**CARRIED**

**RE: ACTION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE**

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**WHEREAS**, Jordan River Anderson, a young boy from Norway House Cree Nation, lived all his short life of five years in hospital because of jurisdictional wrangling by Federal and Provincial authorities over who would pay for his health care cost; and

**WHEREAS**, people around the world have been inspired by Jordan's experience to advocate for Jordan's Principle, the Child First Principle, to help the child first, without delay or disruption, with the Crown governments deciding later who pays the bill; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 12, 2007, the Members of Parliament in the House of Commons voted unanimously to support Jordan's Principle, through a motion "That, in the opinion of the House, the government should immediately adopt a child first principle, based on Jordan's principle, to resolve jurisdictional disputes involving the care of First Nations children"; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 5, 2008, the Province of Manitoba and the Government of Canada reached an agreement "to implement Jordan's principle in Manitoba so that First Nations children with multiple disabilities will continue to receive needed care without delays or disruptions resulting from jurisdictional disputes"; and

**WHEREAS**, Jordan's Principle applies to all government services to children and families, as a Child First Principle, and includes but is not limited to multiple disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, neither Manitoba nor any other jurisdiction in Canada has implemented Jordan's Principle, to help the Child First and settle funding disputes later; and

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**RE: ACTION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF JORDAN'S PRINCIPLE (cont'd)**

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**WHEREAS**, Canada has signed the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child, United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; and other documents which require the State to provide health, education, social and other services of equal quality to indigenous peoples; and

**WHEREAS**, Canada and Manitoba have held bilateral meetings and blocked any involvement of Manitoba First Nations becoming involved in these talks; and

**WHEREAS**, federal & provincial representatives continue to be involved in the Inter-Governmental Committee on Manitoba First Nations Health and other multilateral bodies, and have that opportunity to formally discuss with Manitoba First Nations and move action on Jordan's Principle, and choose not to do so; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe the memory of Jordan River Anderson must be honored by action to implement Jordan's Principle, to ensure his experience never happens to another First Nation child.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the AMC Chiefs in Assembly do hereby endorse our "Help the Child First Five Point Plan" to implement Jordan's Principle, and mandate the AMC Grand Chief and Chiefs Task Force on Health to undertake this plan:

1. AMC Chiefs in Assembly endorse and issue our public "Declaration on Action for the Implementation of Jordan's Principle", the Child First Principle (attached).
2. AMC Grand Chief, AFN Regional Chief, Chiefs and Councils engage the Assembly of First Nations National Chief and Executive, and leaders across the country in implementing Jordan's Principle.
3. Grand Chief, Chiefs and Councils advocate for the implementation of Jordan's Principle with Federal Prime Minister, Ministers, and Provincial Premier and Ministers, and senior civil servants of all levels to implement Jordan's Principle.

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PRINCIPLE (cont'd)**

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4. AMC promote Manitoba First Nations Jordan's Principle Expert Review Panel to adjudicate requests from children and families for services they cannot access on reserve.
5. AMC and Manitoba First Nations undertake a Public Awareness & Partnership Building Campaign to implement Jordan's Principle.

**FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED**, that the AMC work in partnership with the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society, Canadian Paediatric Association, the Canadian Medical Association, Amnesty International, and a growing list of individual and organizational supporters in Canada and the world, to ensure that action is taken this year to fully, and without equivocation, implement in spirit, intent, and practice Jordan's Principle in his homeland of Manitoba, and across Canada.

**CERTIFIED COPY**

***of a Resolution Adopted  
on January 18 & 19, 2011  
Opaskwayak Cree Nation, Manitoba***

  

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**Grand Chief Ron Evans**