

POLITICAL OFFICE:
109 Mission Road
Fort William First Nation, ON
P7J 1K7
(807) 626-9339
(807) 626-9404 Fax



ADMINISTRATION OFFICE:
111 Peter Street, Suite 804
Toronto, Ontario
M5V 2H1
Tel (416) 597-1266
Fax (416) 597-8365
1-877-517-6527
Website: www.chiefs-of-ontario.org

CHIEFS OF ONTARIO

39TH ALL ONTARIO CHIEFS CONFERENCE
June 25-26-27, 2013
Hosted by Whitefish River First Nation

RESOLUTION 13/10

SUBJECT: PRESCRIPTION OPIOID SURVEILLANCE

MOVER: Chief R. Donald Maracle, Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte

SECONDER: Chief Allan Towegeshig, Long Lake # 58 First Nation

DECISION: CARRIED

Abstentions: Deputy Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler, Proxy for Lac Seul First Nation and Chief Earl Klyne, Seine River First Nation

WHEREAS:

1. The abuse of certain prescription drugs has become an epidemic in many Ontario First Nation communities, with addiction rates as high as 70-80%;
2. This epidemic is affecting our communities and family structures through increased violence, theft, divorce, loss of needed human resources, and a host of other negative social problems;
3. First Nations in Ontario have supported Resolutions 08/68 (Prescription Drug Abuse Strategy) and 09/33 (First Nations Cancer surveillance, through linkage of the Ontario Cancer Registry and the Ontario portion of the Status Indian Registry that is maintained by Indian and Northern Affairs Canada [INAC]);
4. The Chiefs of Ontario (COO) have established a research partnership with the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences (ICES), and established a Data Governance Agreement to explore First Nations health research opportunities and to govern the collection, creation, use and disclosure of First Nations data by ICES in a manner that respects principles of Ownership, Control, Access and Possession (OCAP), resulting from Resolution 09/33;
5. The limited high-quality data on Prescription Opioid Misuse in First Nations in Ontario is a barrier towards the effective planning of appropriate services and supports for affected communities;
6. ICES is interested in collaborating with COO and Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB) on a research and data sharing partnership to explore potential avenues for research on prescription Opioid Misuse in Ontario;

7. This research could provide a comprehensive picture and baseline data on prescription trends among First Nations in Ontario, evidence linking Opioid-related health and social issues and deaths, and could track changes related to drug availability (e.g. OxyNeo, generic oxycodone, and Suboxone©) over time.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Chiefs in Assembly:

1. Direct the Ontario Chiefs Committee on Health to coordinate the development of relevant research in collaboration with ICES and NIHB.
2. Direct the Health Coordination Unit to work with ICES to form a Steering Committee to oversee this work and to guide the research questions to ensure relevance and appropriateness to First Nations.
3. Direct the Steering Committee to report back to Chiefs in Assembly in one year.
4. Direct that any involvement of First Nations in this process with federal and provincial partners is conditional on the recognition and non-derogation of the special fiduciary relationship between First Nations and Canada, and any resulting health information or management systems shall remain under the control of First Nations and their membership;
5. Confirm that this initiative is without prejudice to any Grand Council Treaty #3 health initiative with the federal or provincial government or any agreements with ICES.
6. Confirm that this initiative is without prejudice to any NAN initiative with respect to establishment of a research institute, and confirm that information obtained through this research would be available to the institute, as determined by the Data Governance Committee and Steering Committee.
7. Confirm that until the Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee are defined, the responsible party for deliverables will remain with the COO Health Coordination Unit.

Certified Copy of a Resolution dated June 26, 2013.



Stan Beardy, Ontario Regional Chief