



South Wind

The official newspaper of the Manitoba Southern Chiefs' Organization, Inc."

Send comments or feedback to:
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Greetings from
Southern Grand Chief -
Chris Henderson

Booshoo!
Hoko da!
T a n s i !
Greetings! On behalf of the Anishinabe, Dakota and Cree Nations of the Manitoba Southern Chiefs' Organization, I extend my warmest greetings to our Elders, Veterans, Chiefs, Council Members and First Nations citizens.



I welcome you to our premier official newspaper, *South Wind*. The purpose of the *South Wind* newspaper is to update and educate all Southern First Nations citizens about the issues we are facing and bring awareness of the actions pursued. This newspaper will appear in every edition of Grassroots News, bi-monthly, and we invite your comments and feedback.

As well, I encourage you to tune in to NCI-FM 105.5 FM on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. to the **SCO Radio Show**. Listen in as my co-host Corey "The Grand Coyote" Whitford and I engage in one-on-one political dialogue with our Southern Chiefs and other special guests.

Since elected as the Southern Grand Chief of Manitoba on June 24, 2004, I have had the honour of visiting 16 Member First Nations of SCO. I want to apologize to those Member First Nations that I have not yet visited. I look forward to visiting your communities during this fall and winter.

As the Southern Grand Chief, my role is purely political. As the official political representative and primary spokesperson of the Southern Chiefs of Manitoba, I need to state that I do not govern nor do I possess any inherent political authority. The Southern Chiefs are the leaders of their local governments, and as such, they instruct and direct me as their political representative. I do not instruct the Southern Chiefs, they in turn instruct me.

Our regional political organization (SCO) is comparable to that of the United Nations' structure. For example, our Member First Nations gather in a Chiefs' Summit and adopt resolutions on specific issues such as housing, health and education, which then provides me direction and a mandate to pursue.

In closing, on behalf of our Member First Nations, I honour, remember and salute all First Nations veterans, past and present, who have taken up the call to serve this country in times of conflict. Miigwech for all your courage, sacrifices and commitment!

Aboriginal Funeral Chapel Boycott

On Friday, October 15, 2004 the Winnipeg Free Press published the story, where the Southern Chiefs Organization were urging all Aboriginal people to boycott the services of the Aboriginal Funeral Chapel. The reason for this boycott is the disrespectful and insensitive treatment that First Nations people have received during their time of mourning.

This ill-fated treatment is highlighted after a citizen from the Sandy Bay Ojibway First Nation made the initial complaint regarding the Aboriginal Funeral Chapel; many other individuals disclosed similar incidents. The complaint portrayed the Aboriginal Funeral Chapel of being persistent in demanding full payment for the services, during the families' time of grief. The remark stated by the Aboriginal Funeral Chapel clearly expressed, if payment were not immediately received.... the family would not be able to go on with a funeral.

"This type of inconsiderate and uncompassionate conduct should not be tolerated by anyone and we need to put a stop to this behavior. The Aboriginal Funeral Chapel is preying on our people in the darkest times of their lives," stated the complainant. The Aboriginal Funeral Chapel is exploiting the term "ABORIGINAL" to persuade our people to use their services.

The SCO Chiefs-in-Summit Resolution September 29, 2004

SOUTHERN CHIEFS' ORGANIZATION
CHIEFS-IN-SUMMIT
WAYWAYSECCAPPO FIRST NATION
SEPTEMBER 29 & 30, 2004

RESOLUTION Sept, 29, 2004 - #01

SUBJECT: SEVERING ALL BUSINESS WITH THE ABORIGINAL FUNERAL HOME

WHEREAS, the Aboriginal Funeral Home on Selkirk Avenue in Winnipeg seeks our First Nation business in providing funeral services when a death occurs in the family and community; and

WHEREAS, there have been several issues regarding the conduct of various senior management of the Aboriginal Funeral Home when trying to obtain payment for services rendered; and

WHEREAS, this type of conduct is the anti-thesis of our indigenous traditional way.

THEREFORE THE CHIEFS-IN-SUMMIT RESOLVE: all southern Chiefs-in-Summit hereby sever all business and boycott economic ties with the Aboriginal Funeral Home until such time as the issues identified are dealt with in an appropriate and honoured manner.

MOVED BY: Chief Irvin Melvor; Sandy Bay First Nation

SECONDED BY: Councillor Charlie Boucher; Pine Creek First Nation

DATE: September 29, 2004

CARRIED: carried

Certified Resolution Adopted on September 29 & 30, 2004, Waywaysseccappo First Nation, MB, Canada

Grand Chief Chris Henderson
Southern Chiefs' Organization Inc.

Chief Norman Bone
Chairperson of the SCO Chiefs' Executive Committee



Aboriginal Funeral Chapel - 724 Selkirk Ave.



MIIGWECH!



BOYCOTT: to refuse or cease to deal with something such as an organization, a company, or a process, protest against it and to force it to become more acceptable.