



SOUTHERN CHIEFS' ORGANIZATION

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT INITIATIVE

EDUCATION REPORT

July - September 2005

Submitted to:

Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs

INTRODUCTION

This report covers the activities carried out by the First Nation Internal Education Working Group (IEWG) and SCO FAI staff for the following periods:

- April 2005
- May 2005
- June 2005

NORTHERN EDUCATION PERSPECTIVE:

SCO works in close proximity with Manitoba Keewatinook Ininew Okimowin (MKIO) to adequately include Northern Education objectives and perspectives into the FAI Education process. A sub-agreement has been entered into between SCO/MKIO stipulating arrangements.

APRIL – JUNE WORK PLANS:

- Chief Negotiators, David Walker (Canada) and Lorne Cochrane (AMC), met and approved the April – June 2005 Work Plans. Work plans include overall FAI coordination, joint review, Community Consultations, Province of Manitoba briefings and Personal Care Homes.
- All Tables to identifying 1st steps to practice jurisdiction, must be within existing structures.

FAI THREE YEAR EXTENSION:

- May 16, 2005 Minister Andy Scott submitted official three year extension to cabinet
- June 28, 2005 – Canada verbally approves 3 year Extension, September 2005-2008

NEGOTIATIONS:

- No formal negotiations have taken place during this period.
- June 28, 2005 Canada's introduces new Table Lead - Alain Grenier

Joint Canada/Education meeting schedule established:

- July 11, 2005 Southern Chiefs Organization
- August 16, 2005 Southern Chiefs Organization
- September 16, 2005 Southern Chiefs Organization

Meetings will focus on negotiating the two existing AIPs to completion by October 1, 2005

PROVINCE OF MANITOBA:

June 28, 2005 Province of Manitoba representatives attended the Joint All Tables. Manitoba stated that they are prepared join the FAI through two arrangements:

1. Primary Agreement (Bilateral First Nation/Canada) to be agreed upon
2. Companion Agreement (Tripartite First Nation/Canada/Province) that recognizes the primary agreement and identifies the specific components of Manitoba education.

Province suggests Sioux Valley Dakota Nation Comprehensive agreement serve as a model.

INTERNAL EDUCATION WORKING GROUP (IEWG):

Due to extensive travel schedules of FAI Staff to information sessions and budget constraints the IEWG was able to hold one meeting June 24, 2005.

- Development of Work Plans (internal & Joint) July 1, 2005 – March 31, 2006
- Not enough information in 10 year review on Education (Info session not successful)
- May 25, 2005 Director Robert Bunn provided FAI update to Education Directors
- IEWG host Education Workshop, Rolling River First Nation July 26, 2005
- FAI to host follow up meeting with Manitoba Education Directors August 11, 2005
- IEWG Planning session, identify 1st steps to practice jurisdiction August 3 & 4 , 2005

FAI COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSIONS:

- Norway House Cree Nation
- Black River First Nation
- Sagkeeng First Nation
- Mathias Colomb First Nation
- Dakota Tipi
- Swan Lake First Nation
- Birdtail Sioux

EDUCATION AGREEMENT-IN-PRINCIPLE (AIP):

- No changes have been made to the latest Education AIP draft #20 in lieu of Canada requesting two areas of change be made to Fiscal Relations & Aggregation chapters.
- July 5, 2005 all the Tables agreed that First Nations will maintain the original AIP wording conceptually agreed to by both parties June 23, 2004 draft # 20.
- The Education table will be taking lead in responding to Canada's Aggregation comments and CFM Table will take lead on Fiscal Relations comments.
- October 1, 2005 Education (AIP) deadline to complete
- Education AIP will now be referenced as 'Education Incremental Agreement'

NEXT STEPS:

- Analysis - Community Information Sessions
- Research on Aggregation position
- Develop Provincial/Education Work Plan and meeting schedule
- IEWG/Joint Work Plans finalized