

FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

RESOLUTION #0907.06

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENT OF A FIRST NATIONS COMMON SERVICES (FNCS) ORGANIZATION

WHEREAS:

- A. The First Nations Technology Council (FNTC) was created by First Nations Summit Resolution #0602.12 and mandated to develop a Technology Plan to address issues, including:
- high speed internet connection,
 - technology skills development, and
 - development of technical support
- B. Resolution #0306.05 supported the First Nations Technology Council 2006-2008 Strategic Plan.
- C. There are still approximately 100+ communities without broadband connectivity. BC has committed to connecting these communities and they, as well as the Leadership Council on behalf of FNTC, continue lobbying Canada to provide matching funding.
- D. The Connecting Communities Agreement of 2005 provided many currently served communities with a broadband point of presence. It did not, however, provide a 'last mile' solution which would distribute broadband to all community buildings. Most communities are not large enough to build a business case to become their own ISP (internet service provider), nor has there been a local ISP willing to serve the community.
- E. FNTC is proposing to aggregate the 100+ communities still to be served and communities that have not distributed their broadband throughout the community in a Common Network Services organization, including ISP and Help Desk functions, to ensure the sustainability of a broadband network in small rural and remote communities. Opportunities to provide other common services i.e. GIS, multimedia, information management, etc. could be developed as needed. Without such a common services organization, many of the small communities will not have the resources to use technology as a tool of transformative change.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly mandate the First Nations Technology Council to develop the concept of First Nations Common Network Services organization with First Nations Network Services being the foundation.

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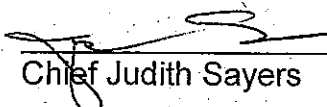
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2. That the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly support the First Nations Technology Council in seeking legal and professional organizational development advice to recommend the most appropriate organization required to provide common network services, including common ISP services: – cooperative, joint venture with industry partner(s), consortium of First Nations communities or Tribal Councils, etc.
3. That connectivity to communities should go beyond connecting administration offices and should include all households.
4. That connectivity standards must be defined to include the ability to do clinical telehealth and to transfer information, such as land files included in geographic information systems.
5. That the First Nations Summit Chiefs in Assembly support the First Nations Technology Council in seeking funding to develop a First Nations Common Network Services organization that could form a base from which to build on for application support and other common services.

MOVED BY: Kathryn Teneese, Ktunaxa Nation
SECONDED BY: Chief Darren Blaney, Homalco First Nation
DATE: September 28, 2007

Passed by consensus.

ENDORSED BY:



Chief Judith Sayers



Dave Porter



Grand Chief Edward John