

MUSHKEGOWUK COUNCIL

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MUSHKEGOWUK COUNCIL 15TH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

RESOLUTION NO. 2000-08-18

Attawapiskat
First Nation

MOVED BY:

Chief Ignace Gull
Attawapiskat First Nation

EMERGENCY SITUATION IN ATTAWAPISKAT

Kashechewan
First Nation

SECONDED BY:

Chief Leo Friday
Kashechewan First Nation

WHEREAS the presence of diesel fuel contamination under the Attawapiskat First Nation elementary school and water plant; and

Fort Albany
First Nation

WHEREAS the Chief and Council closed J.R. Nakogee Elementary School on May 11, 2000 as the 500 children, staff and teachers have been exposed to benzene, a carcinogenic substance, and have exhibited symptoms of poisoning; and

Moose Cree
First Nation

ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS

WHEREAS the Chief and Council have therefore halted excavation work to expand the existing water plant, which does not meet the current needs of the community; and


New Post
First Nation

Certified copy of a Resolution
passed on August 31, 2000

WHEREAS the diesel fuel contamination of approximately 130,000 litres has existed in the soil for a period of twenty years, when the Department of Public Works turned the land over to Attawapiskat for construction of the school and the water plant;

Chapleau Cree
First Nation

Missanabie Cree
First Nation


Lawrence Martin
Grand Chief

WHEREAS the people of Attawapiskat, for the past 3 years, have been unable to use tap water, as the water is untreated and the people must obtain their drinking and cooking water from Culligan units in the hospital, the

August 31, 2000
Kashechewan, Ontario

school, and the water plant; and

WHEREAS the Chief and Attawapiskat representatives met with the Minister of Indian Affairs on June 7, 2000 to demand that:

- ◆ the diesel fuel contamination be cleaned up;
- ◆ bottled water be made available in the community
- ◆ portable facilities be installed for the August school term;
- ◆ the elementary school be demolished and replaced with a new school; and
- ◆ the new water plant be constructed with the intake originating from a source at the river;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Chiefs in Assembly, support Attawapiskat First Nation's efforts to protect the health and safety of its children and to obtain clean and safe water for its people.