## MUSHKEGOWUK COUNCIL

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MUSHKEGOWUK COUNCIL 16TH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

**RESOLUTION NO. 2001-09-23** 

Attawapiskat First Nation

MOVED BY:

Kashechewan First Nation Chief Leo Friday Kashechewan First Nation

SECONDED BY:

Fort Albany First Nation

Chief Mike Cachagee Chapleau Cree First Nation

Moose Cree First Nation

New Post First Nation

ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS

Chapleau Cree First Nation

Certified copy of a Resolution passed on September 26, 2001

Missanabie Cree First Nation

> Ignace Gull Grand Chief

September 26, 2001 Attawapiskat, Ontario SUPPORT FOR NORTHERN AND SHELTER ALLOWANCE INCREASE

WHEREAS the March 2, 2001 ruling the *Mushkegowuk Council v. Ontario* case recognized the importance of the 1965 Welfare Agreement and confirmed that First Nation consent is required before Ontario can designate a First Nation as a delivery agent for Ontario Works; and

WHEREAS in 1995, Ontario cut social assistance rates by 21.5% without consultation or the consent of the Mushkegowuk First Nations; and

WHEREAS Ontario First Nations are currently in discussion with Canada for the development of a bilateral agreement for social assistance; and

WHEREAS Mushkegowuk First Nations are currently delivering the Financial Assistance component of Ontario Works as an interim measure, pending completion of the First Nation-Federal bilateral agreement for social assistance; and

WHEREAS Ontario residents, in general, are experiencing substantial increases in fuel and energy costs which are substantially magnified in the Mushkegowuk communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mushkegowuk Chiefs in Assembly unequivocally support the All Ontario Chiefs' Resolution 01/21 regarding a rate increase of the current shelter allowance;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED that the Mushkegowuk Chiefs in Assembly supports the Chiefs of Ontario to advocate with the Ministry of Community and Social Services to increase the northern and shelter allowance to reflect the increases in fuel and energy prices and the higher cost of living in the remote northern communities.