MUSHKEGOWUK COUNCIL

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Mushkegowuk Council 20th Annual Assembly 2005

Resolution No. 2005-09-20

Moved by:

Attawapiskat First Nation

Chief Leo Friday
Kashechewan First Nation

Kashechewan First Nation Seconded by:

Chief Mike Carpenter Attawapiskat First Nation

Fort Albany First Nation

Moose Cree First Nation

New Post First Nation Adopted by Consensus

Chapleau Cree First Nation Certified copy of a Resolution passed on Sept. 22, 2005

Missanabie Cree First Nation

Stan Louttit, Grand Chief

September 22, 2005 Moose Factory, Ontario

<u>Customary Care for Children –</u> Payukotayno

WHEREAS the Mushkegowuk Chiefs have approved Payukotayno: James & Hudson Bay Family Services as the Child Welfare Authority for the Mushkegowuk Region; and

WHEREAS it is the desire of the Chiefs in Assembly that Payukotayno initiate the traditional practices of Customary Care for children in the Mushkegowuk area as an alternate and less intrusive measure to the current Family Court system; and

WHEREAS Customary Care is recognized under section 10 of the Child and Family Services Act; and

WHEREAS the Ministry and the Province of Ontario have been reluctant to recognize the initiation and application of customary care by Native Child Welfare Authorities in the Province of Ontario, including Payukotayno; and

WHEREAS the Ministry and the Province of Ontario under its Foster and Customary Care services does not take into consideration the geographic and high cost of living in the north in its established rates for foster and customary care rates; and

WHEREAS it is desirable for Payukotayno to establish its own Customary Care guidelines in conjunction with the First Nations in the Mushkegowuk territory despite the challenges created by the Ministry.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs in Assembly direct Payukotayno to establish Customary Care guidelines and appropriate allowance rates for children in care in conjunction with the respective communities serviced by Payukotayno.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Chiefs in Assembly direct that upon completion and approval of the Customary Care guidelines for children in care by the community leadership, they be implemented by Payukotayno no later than January 2006.