



# MUSHKEGOWUK COUNCIL

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**Mushkegowuk Council  
34<sup>th</sup> Annual Mamowihitowin**

**Resolution No. 2019-10-13**

**Moved by:**  
Chief David Nakogee  
Attawapiskat First Nation

**Appointing Cree Speaking Justice of  
the Peace for Mushkegowuk Region**

**Seconded by:**  
Tom Kioke, Proxy  
Taykwa Tagamou Nation

**WHEREAS**, Mushkegowuk communities have maintained a nation-to-nation relationship with Ontario and Canada; and


**WHEREAS**, Mushkegowuk communities have an inherent right of self-governance, especially with respect to matters of justice, and law and order; and

**WHEREAS**, all bail hearings for accused persons from Mushkegowuk communities are all held in Timmins and Cochrane; and thus, accused are deprived of the support systems provided by family and community; and

**WHEREAS**, sureties for accused persons from Mushkegowuk communities oftentimes cannot appear in-person to testify at bail hearings, placing the accused person at a disadvantage; and

**Carried**

Certified copy of a resolution passed  
on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jonathan Solomon, Grand Chief

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Attawapiskat First Nation

Attawapiskat  
First Nation

Kashechewan  
First Nation

Fort Albany  
First Nation

Moose Cree  
First Nation

Taykwa Tagamou  
Nation

Chapleau Cree  
First Nation

Missanabie Cree  
First Nation

**WHEREAS,** Indigenous accused in Northern communities, in particular those facing language barriers, are more likely to plead guilty if they are denied bail, leading to a higher incidence of wrongful convictions and incarceration; and

**WHEREAS,** the Mushkegowuk Council believes that appointing a Cree-speaking Justice of the Peace for Mushkegowuk people will increase access to justice for accused persons from Mushkegowuk communities, and benefit these communities as a whole,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mushkegowuk Council will request that the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario create a post for an Indigenous, Cree-speaking Justice-of-the-Peace for the Mushkegowuk territory.