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**CHIEFS OF ONTARIO
ANNUAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
June 14-15-16, 2022**

**RESOLUTION 22/16A
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SUBJECT: ADVOCATING FOR INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES

MOVER: Ogimaa Shining Turtle, Whitefish River First Nation

SECONDER: Chief Kelly LaRocca, Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation

DECISION: CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

WHEREAS:


1. Ontario First Nation communities send the majority of their students to provincial school boards for Elementary and secondary education;
2. The Ministry of Education is responsible for the development of curriculum and school boards and schools are responsible for the implementation of curriculum;
3. The Ontario Language Curriculum Grades 1-8 have not been revised since 2006 and the Ontario English Curriculum Grades 9-10 and Grades 11-12 have not been revised since 2007;
4. For all Ontario Secondary students, the English program includes compulsory courses, which are required for graduation;
5. The First Nation, Métis and Inuit Education policy framework states that the Ministry of Education will integrate content that reflects First Nation, Métis, and Inuit histories;
6. In the "The Journey Together: Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples" document, the Ontario Government commits to enhancing mandatory learning about residential schools, the legacy of colonialism and the rights and responsibilities we all have to each other as treaty people, cultures, and perspectives throughout the Ontario curriculum and related resources;
7. Recommendation #63 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission called upon the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada to maintain an annual commitment to Aboriginal education issues, including increasing student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect;

8. First Nations-content in the provincial school system should not be limited to First Nation, Metis and Inuit Studies and the Social Science and Humanities curriculum;
9. Much content in English Curriculum is based on English writers and Eurocentric values and excludes Indigenous writers and worldviews.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Chiefs in Assembly:

1. Direct the Ontario Regional Chief, with support from the Chiefs of Ontario Secretariat, to advocate for:
 - a. More appropriate terminology in education curricula that encompasses inclusivity of First Nation content (example: change 'English'/'French' to 'Language Arts');
 - b. More regionally appropriate First Nations content into elementary and high school curricula; and
 - c. Equitable representation of First Nation teachers on the Ministry of Education curriculum revisions teams, including curriculum content contributors and throughout the review process.

Certified Copy of a Resolution dated June 15, 2022



Glen Hare, Ontario Regional Chief