

**CHIEFS OF ONTARIO
ANNUAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY
June 13-15, 2023**

**RESOLUTION 23/12A
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SUBJECT: ADULT EDUCATION START-UP AND EXPANSION FUNDING

MOVER: Chief Shirley Keeper, Pikangikum First Nation

SECONDER: Chief Shelly Moore-Frappier, Temagami First Nation

DECISION: CARRIED

WHEREAS:

1. The *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UN Declaration) states:
 - Article 14(1): Indigenous peoples have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning.
 - Article 14 (2): Indigenous individuals, particularly children, have the right to all levels and forms of education of the State without discrimination.
 - Article 19: States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the Indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them.
 - Article 23: Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development. In particular, indigenous peoples have the right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programs affecting them and, as far as possible, to administer such programs through their own institutions.
2. In 2022, the federal government committed \$350M nationally over five years to expand access to adult (over 21) education, prioritizing secondary school completion and upgrading; flowing a portion of the funding through the Interim Funding Approach for learners over 21 via the nominal roll and a portion set aside for Start-up/Expansion of adult education programs;

3. Chiefs of Ontario Leadership Council approved the Ontario-Specific Implementation Proposal for Adult Education that calls for ISC to work with First Nations to develop funding allocations, reporting requirements and adjustments to the Interim Funding Approach to support implementation of the Adult Education funding;
4. Chiefs in Assembly Resolution 51-18 mandates the Ontario Technical Table – Interim Funding Approach (OTTIFA) to examine and refine the Interim Funding Approach (IFA) to address gaps and underfunded areas for First Nations K-12 learners and schools. The OTTIFA has established an Adult Education Task Team to develop recommendations for learners over 21 in secondary education and for adult education;
5. The Adult Education Task Team recommends that First Nation access to the Start-up/Expansion funds for the next four years include:
 - Development of a Survey of Interest distributed annually to all communities and eligible First Nation schools and organizations; and
 - Start-up/Expansion Survey of Interest results used determine allocations for Start-up and Expansion with an equitable distribution of the allocations across interested First Nations and organizations;
6. Funding for adult education supporting First Nation learners over 21 to complete secondary education must continue beyond the five-year commitment and must be expanded to include other adult education programs beyond secondary completion.

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

1. Fully support the recommended approach to distribute the Adult Education Start-up/Expansion funding.
2. Direct the Adult Education Task Team to review (and revise if necessary) the recommendations previously developed and approved by the Chiefs and Technical Committee on Languages and Learning (CTCLL) and COO Leadership Council for the application of funding to support learners over 21 through the Interim Funding Approach.
3. Fully support the Ontario Technical Table on the Interim Funding Approach (OTTIFA) to develop recommendations for the continuation and expansion of Adult Education programming.

4. Direct that the recommendations developed by the OTTIFA be considered for approval by the CTCLL and the Leadership Council prior to submission to Indigenous Services Canada for implementation.
5. Report back to the Chiefs in Assembly periodically over the next 4 years.

Certified Copy of a Resolution passed June 15, 2023



Glen Hare, Ontario Regional Chief