

RESOLUTION No. 7 - FIRST NATIONS PROPERTY OWNERSHIP INITIATIVE (FNPOI)

WHEREAS the Lands Advisory Board takes note of the prominent public relations campaign underway to gather support for a proposed First Nations Property Ownership Initiative

AND WHEREAS this proposal is being touted as ultimate solution to First Nation land governance, taxation of land and First Nation economic development

AND WHEREAS its proponents have, for their own purposes, chosen to disparage and/or misrepresent the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management and its implementation, including slurs against the people of the Muskoday First Nation in the book "Beyond the Indian Act"

AND WHEREAS the Lands Advisory Board has profound concerns about the claims being made on behalf of this proposal, the methods being used to advance it and the understatement of legal, practical and cost issues were it is to be adopted

AND WHEREAS the FNPOI proposal in essence promotes fee simple title to First Nation lands which would permit those lands to be sold on the open market, which is directly contrary to the principles embraced in the Framework Agreement that First Nation lands cannot be sold

AND WHEREAS the Assembly of First Nations has, at its 2010 Assembly in Winnipeg, passed Resolution No. 44 rejecting the proposal for an FNPOA

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Lands Advisory Board advise Canada, the Assembly of First Nations and the First Nation Tax Commission that the Framework Agreement First Nations reject the proposal for a First Nations Property Ownership Act and support AFN Resolution No. 44 (2010)
2. That the Lands Advisory Board remind Canada, the Assembly of First Nations and the First Nation Tax Commission that one of the fundamental principles of the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management is that reserve lands cannot be sold, which stands in stark opposition to the FNPOI proposals for marketable fee simple title on First Nation lands
3. That the Lands Advisory Board, on behalf of the Framework Agreement First Nations, deplores the misinformation about, and shoddy analysis of, the Framework Agreement in the book "Beyond the Indian Act" and demands an apology to the Chief, Council, Elders and people of the Muskoday First Nation for the slurs made about them in that book.

4. That the Executive be directed to communicate the above as indicated and, within its discretion, to other interested First Nations, Tribal Councils and Associations and to the general public if so advised, and that the Executive specifically communicate the Lands Advisory Board's concerns, on behalf of the Framework Agreement First Nations to the authors of the book "Beyond the Indian Act"
5. That the Executive take steps to inform First Nations across Canada that one means of ensuring that marketable fee simple title cannot be imposed on their reserve lands is to adhere to and ratify the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management

Moved: Chief Marianne Couchie

Seconded: Chief Alice Thompson

Date: November 3, 2010

