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## 1988 Keewatin Leadership Summit

## Resolution #1

## Constitutional Recognition of Inuktitut

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit does not accept the total lack of effective mechanisms to preserve and enhance the Inuktitut language;

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit recognizes and affirms the Inuktitut language as the basis of Inuit culture and livelihood;

AND WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit insists on achieving the recognition of the Inuktitut language as an official language of Canada through the land claims process as an affirmation of the aboriginal rights of the Inuit people;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit direct the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut:

- -to demand that the Government of Canada recognize the Inuktitut language as an official language of this country through a language recognition provision in the land claims agreement,
- -and to ensure that this and other provisions receive constitutional recognition and protection;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut cannot successfully obtain this recognition and protection of the Inuktitut language by a clause in the Canadian Constitution obtained through the land claims process, then the Keewatin Leadership Summit directs TFN to pursue any and all other means to ensure this recognition and protection in the supreme law of this country.

Date: Sat, Jan 23, 1988

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## Resolution #2

#### Bonuses for Bilingual Employees

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit wants to see real recognition of the skills of workers who are bilingual in Inuktitut and another language, both as a recognition of the value of Inuktitut language skills in the workplace and as a motivator for young people preparing to enter the labour force;

AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories and organizations which represent Inuit employees have special responsibilities in regard to recognizing and encouraging the use of Inuktitut in the workplace;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit believes that both private and public sector employers should recognize the skills of all their employees who can speak Inuktitut and another language by paying them a clearly defined bilingual bonus similar to that currently received by members of the NWT Teachers' Association who can pass a basic Inuktitut proficiency test;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit believes that the Government of the Northwest Territories should take a lead role in this regard;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit demands that if the Government of the Northwest Territories refuses to recognize the value of Inuktitut in the workplace, as it has during the last two contract negotiations with the Union of Northern Workers, that the UNW must never again leave bilingual bonuses on the contract negotiation table with the GNWT in order to get other benefits for their non-native members.

Date: Mon, Jan 25, 1988

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# 1988 Keewatin Leadership Summit Resolution #3

## Relocation of the T.F.N. Leadership to Ottawa

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit has expressed its concern about the recent decision of the Board of Directors of the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut to relocate its leadership to Ottawa from its northern headquarters;

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit believes that the relocation of Inuit leaders to southern Canada will weaken the organization by almost eliminating contact between the leadership and their constituency;

AND WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit believes that the land claims issues and the process itself are crucial to the Inuit future, and far too important to be dealt with in Ottawa alone;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit urge the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut's Board of Directors to reconsider its decision to relocate its leadership to Ottawa at its next Board of Directors meeting.

Date: Mon, Jan 25, 1988

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## Resolution #4

#### Free Trade

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit desires and supports a healthy and self-sufficient economy in the Canadian North;

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit is acutely aware of the drastic economic fluctuations which have taken place over the years, particularly in the renewable resources sector which is the primary source of income for most Inuit;

AND WHEREAS the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada has not been consulted on the question of "free trade";

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit direct the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada to research the Free Trade Agreement recently signed by the US and Canada, and to fully inform the Inuit as to how the significant economic changes which this agreement will bring about will affect the economy of the Canadian North, particularly as it will affect the renewable resources sector and the employment situation in our homeland.

Date: Mon, Jan 25, 1988

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## Resolution #5

## The Role of T.F.N.

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit believes in and supports the work of the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut in its negotiations with the Government of Canada on behalf of Inuit;

AND WHEREAS T.F.N. needs the united support of its constituency in order to speak to the federal government in a firm and confident manner;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit makes a public vote of confidence regarding the work of the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut on negotiating the Nunavut claim;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit approves of the framework which has been set for the completion of the overall Agreement-in-Principle between T.F.N. and the Government of Canada, and in turn for the final settlement of the Nunavut claim.

Date: Mon, Jan 25, 1988

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## Resolution #6

#### Child Care

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit is aware of the growing need for child day care services within the Keewatin region;

WHEREAS the child day care facilities which currently exist in the region are insufficient to meet the needs of the users;

WHEREAS inadequate financial support is currently provided to operate the facilities effciently;

WHEREAS better child day care facilities would allow more young parents to attend adult education courses and seek employment, and go to work on time each morning without having to worry about their babysitter;

WHEREAS child day care centres are excellent vehicles for the delivery of life skills and work skills training to young adults;

WHEREAS the responsible care of children deserves considerably more respect and higher pay levels than it currently receives;

WHEREAS day care centres provide excellent small business opportunities, especially in smaller communities where public facilities are not available;

AND WHEREAS parents can not and should not be expected to pay the full cost of adequate salaries, facilities and utilities in the North, especially in the smaller communities:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit urges the Government of the Northwest Territories to allocate sufficient resources to allow the development and secure operation of reliable child day care services which meet the needs of the families and the economy of the Keewatin region.

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## Resolution #7

#### Comments & Attitudes of I.T.C. President

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit's first resolution, 'Constitutional Recognition of Inuktitut', was meant to express how strongly the delegates feel about the importance of the role of the first language ever spoken in this country to the survival of Inuit culture, and to give the TFN negotiators support and direction in regard to the importance of achieving recognition and protection for Inuktitut in the Canadian constitution, whether the government believes in this or not;

WHEREAS this motion was expressed in a positive manner, as was motion #5 which expressed firm support for the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut in its land claims negotiations with the Government of Canada

AND WHEREAS the President of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada made a very negative comment to the media about this resolution without first consulting the ITC Board of Directors:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit has no option but to make a public vote of non-confidence in the President of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada.

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## Resolution #8

#### An Arena in Chesterfield Inlet

WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories is projecting a significant surplus for the current fiscal year;

WHEREAS the Hamlet of Chesterfield Inlet has expressed its desire for an arena for many years;

AND WHEREAS Chesterfield Inlet has never had an arena of any kind, and the construction of an arena would greatly increase recreational opportunities for the people of Chesterfield Inlet;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit request the Government Leader, the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs and the Minister Responsible for Youth to approve a capital expenditure of approximately \$1.5 million to allow the construction of an arena in Chesterfield Inlet during the fiscal year 1988/89.

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## Resolution #9

#### Calm Air

WHEREAS the delegate to the Keewatin Leadership Summit are thoroughly fed up with asking Calm Air to improve its service to the people of the Keewatin;

WHEREAS several communities experience serious problems in regard to delayed cargo;

WHEREAS the very high number of mechanical breakdowns has reduced people's confidence in the aircraft to near zero;

AND WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit believes that only competition will result in improved air passenger and cargo services in the Keewatin region, as it has in the Baffin region;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit telex its concerns to the federal Ministers of Transport and DIAND, with copies to the opposition critics, our Member of Parliament, GNWT ministers, etc.;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit invite Nunasi Northland Air to reapply for a licence from the Canadian Air Transport Commission to offer scheduled services in the Keewatin;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit ask that Keewatin Chamber of Commerce support such an application at its upcoming Annual General Meeting;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that should progress not be made on this issue by April 1st that the Keewatin Regional Council send a delegation to Ottawa to lobby the Federal Minister of Transport.

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## Resolution #10

#### Consultations

WHEREAS the major Inuit and public bodies sometimes make significant changes in their operations, structure, employees etc. as a result of directives from their boards, financial problems, etc.;

WHEREAS these changes often have serious impact on the services they provide, the communities they operate in, etc;

AND WHEREAS such changes have sometimes been carried out in a great hurry and without opportunity for comment by concerned groups and individuals;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit request all the major Inuit and public organizations to adopt policies of carrying out active consultations with their constituencies before finalizing major decisions.

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## Resolution #11

## Recognition of the Skills of Dog Team Owners

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit recognizes and appreciates the skills of people who maintain dog teams in the region, and the significant role they play in maintaining this important element of Inuit culture;

WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit wishes to support the growth of dog teams in the region, and the teaching of these skills to our young people;

AND WHEREAS the Keewatin Leadership Summit wishes to support the recognition of these skills through inclusion of dog team racing in regional winter games;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit supports the creation of a regional association of dog team owners;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit delegate the Keewatin Regional Council to work with such a body to secure funding for an annual regional dog racing competition.

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# 1988 Keewatin Leadership Summit Resolution #12

## **GNWT** Support for Second Transmitters

WHEREAS CBC and local programming are different but equally valuable kinds of radio programming;

WHEREAS different constituencies within any given community often prefer different types of programming at the same time (eg. community programming in Inuktitut and regional news & current affairs in English);

WHEREAS the effective local radio societies and equally effective CBC Keewatin programming compete for limited access to the one radio transmitter which exists in most communities;

WHEREAS the GNWT Department of Communications has played an important and greatly appreciated role in setting up community radio in the Keewatin;

AND WHEREAS negotiating with the Canadian Radio, Television and Telecommunications Commission to obtain permission for a separate licence is a difficult and time-consuming bureaucratic headache;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit requests the Assistant Deputy Minister of Communications to respond to our request with an action plan to consult the appropriate community and licencing bodies to introduce separate community-owned transmitters as soon as possible.

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## Resolution #13

## Country Food in Hospitals

WHEREAS Inuit patients want and need country food while in hospital in Churchill and Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS the Transition Centres in Churchill and Winnipeg already serve country food;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Keewatin Leadership Summit requests both hospitals to begin offering a choice of country or southern food to Inuit patients.

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