



National Aboriginal Housing Association Sixteenth National Urban Aboriginal Annual General Meeting

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 100 Lyon Street
Ottawa Ontario

September 25, 2010

CHAIR: Harold Tarbell

REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS

Welcome and Opening

The meeting was opened with an Invocation by Elder Thomas Louttit at 10:00 AM

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tarbell at 10:15 AM.

Secretary's Report

It was confirmed that there were 13 voting delegates.

Approval of the Agenda

Motion 1: To accept the Agenda.

Moved by: Robert Byers
Carried by: Larry Bellerose
Disposition: Carried

President's Report

In lieu of a formal address, a list of accomplishments of the last year was presented:

NAHA Accomplishments During Past Year

- 2009 Annual Conference and AGM "From Homelessness to Home Ownership"
- Access to stimulus funding
- National Appeal to member organizations to assist NAHA in meeting its costs
- Maintenance of Website "aboriginalhousing.org"
- Work with Canadian Aboriginal Aids Network to develop a policy on housing for persons with HIV/AIDS. Letter of support for Research Funds was provided.
- Member of the Policy Planning Group for the North American Housing & HIV/AIDS Research Summit in Toronto, June 2-4, 2010
- Work with the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples on the national conference
- Linking with "Canada Without Poverty"
- Distribution and promotion of "A Time for Action: a National Plan to Address Aboriginal Housing"
 - Letters to the Prime Minister and selected Ministers, November 20, 2009
 - Letter of support to selected federal Ministers for Ten Year Action Plan to Address Urban Aboriginal Housing
 - Participant in discussion on Poverty & Homelessness hosted by the National Liberal Caucus, where we distributed 75 copies of Action Plan

Motion 4: That NAHA discuss with the Wellesley Institute and with the NAHA membership the question of identifying possible funders in support of research, policy development and operations of NAHA in the future.

Moved: Jim Lanigan
Seconded: Frances Laforme
Disposition: Carried

Selection of Auditor:

Motion 5: That we retain the firm of Andrew Foreman and Company as the auditor for NAHA for the current fiscal year.

Moved by: James Lanigan
Seconded by: Brian Bedwell
Disposition: Carried

Approval of Minutes – 2009 AGM

After some discussion and some minor amendments, including insertion of Robert Byers of Namerind (Saskatchewan) being elected, the following motion was made:

Motion 6: To accept the Minutes of the 2009 AGM as amended.

Moved by: Larry Bellerose
Seconded by: Mannie Amyotte
Disposition: Carried

Report on Resolutions of 2009:

Resolution 1-2009

Support for Kawartha and Otonabee Homes - Peterborough, Ontario

Whereas Aboriginal Peoples of Canada require special targeted, specifically designed programs and allocations due to the over representation of Aboriginal people in housing need as compared to the need of the general population; and,

Whereas one of the core principles of the NAHA is that Aboriginal people must be in control of the operations, management and ownership of Aboriginal housing; and,

Whereas the City of Peterborough has launched a suit against two urban Native corporations namely Kawartha Homes and Otonabee Homes, placing both Corporations in "receivership"; and

Whereas the appointed Receiver appears to be working with the City of Peterborough to facilitate the sale of the assets of both Corporations against the wishes of the corporate Aboriginal membership; and,

Whereas the Judge hearing the case has ruled that the two Native owned Corporations being in receivership do not have the right to retain and direct counsel; and ,

Whereas this ruling abrogates the common law right to retain and direct counsel and the legal counsel for the Aboriginal Corporations has given notice to appeal this ruling.

Therefore be it resolved that the NAHA encourage and support housing organizations whose mandate may be jeopardized by the ruling on the "right to Counsel" to mount an awareness campaign of the impact of this undertaking of this nature on Aboriginal and other housing corporations ; and,

Be it further resolved that NAHA members and friends commit to support the pending appeals process to the degree possible; and,

Finally, be it resolved that the NAHA take action to advocate for the fair and just resolution of this case, with the goal of both Corporations being returned to Aboriginal control and ownership.

Moved: Marcel Swain, Lu'ma Native Housing Society

Seconded: Sandra Brown, Lloydminster Métis Housing Group Inc.

Action:

NAHA gained intervenor status on the appeal hearing along with ONPHA and CHFC; NAHA representative participated in local meetings in Peterborough. A decision on the appeal hearing is pending. The housing Corporations are continuing to operate in receivership under the direction of an interim Aboriginal Board. However, the City of Peterborough is working with the Corporations and other stakeholders to devise a method to return control and operation of the two Corporations to Boards of Directors made up of Aboriginal persons at the local level

Resolution 2-2009

Endorse and commit to the National Aboriginal Housing Action Plan by NAHA members

Whereas NAHA is mandated to advocate for predictable and sustainable funding to preserve existing urban Native housing and to respond to the growing housing need in urban centres and surrounding non-reserve communities and in the north; and

Whereas NAHA has prepared a national call for action entitled “*A Time for Action: A National Plan to Address Aboriginal Housing*” requesting the federal government to establish a non reserve Aboriginal Housing Trust as a funding mechanism to respond to the disproportionate social and affordable housing needs of Canada’s non reserve Aboriginal population;

Therefore be it resolved that the members of the NAHA endorse the national call for action and commit to engage in creating an awareness and acceptance of this plan at the national, provincial, territorial and municipal levels of government.

Moved: David Seymour, M’akola Group of (Housing) Societies

Seconded: Sandra Brown, Lloydminster Métis Housing Group Inc

Action:

Distribution of “A Time for Action” to a number of federal Cabinet Ministers, to the Leaders of the Opposition, and to the Senate; letters to Prime Minister and key Ministers & Opposition; several press releases with other national housing organizations, distribution of A Time for Action to all NAHA members and other Aboriginal housing organizations.

Resolution 3-2009

Advocating for Acceptance of the Action Plan by all Levels of Governments

Whereas NAHA and its members have endorsed a national Plan of Action for Aboriginal housing which is designed to: Prevent the further growth in Aboriginal Housing need; Reduce and equalize core housing need as compared to the general population; Preserve and improve existing Aboriginal housing supply; Reduce Aboriginal homelessness; and Increase Aboriginal home ownership; and

Whereas this plan calls on the Federal government to establish a multi-year National Aboriginal Housing Trust to continue addressing Aboriginal housing need in Canada;

Therefore be it resolved that NAHA and its member organizations advocate at all levels of government to create an awareness, acceptance and commitment of governments to the National Aboriginal Housing Plan; and

Be it further resolved that members of NAHA call on the Federal Government to include NAHA and other Urban / Rural Native Housing Providers to establish a Board of Aboriginal Trustees comprised of equal representations (as defined in the constitution) who have backgrounds and expertise in housing to direct the allocation of funds and to manage the investment of these funds to achieve established housing targets; and

Finally, be it resolved that NAHA advocate with the Board of Aboriginal Trustees to direct the allocation of funds on behalf of Urban / Rural Aboriginal Housing providers.

Moved: Marcel Swain, Lu’ma Native Housing Society

Seconded: Larry Bellerose, Ontario Aboriginal Housing Support Services Corporation

Action:

Distribution of “A Time for Action” to a number of Cabinet Ministers and Leaders of the Opposition; letters to Prime Minister and key Ministers & Opposition; several press releases with other national housing organizations

Resolution 4-2009

More engagement by NAHA member organizations in addressing Aboriginal Homelessness

Whereas studies in larger Canadian cities affirm that Aboriginal families, men, women and children are over represented among the homeless population; and

Whereas there is continuing evidence of increasing numbers in the Aboriginal homeless ranks; and

Whereas there is no clear Aboriginal specific data upon which to measure performance;

Therefore be it resolved that NAHA's member organizations embrace the concept of "*homes first*" in addressing Aboriginal homelessness; and

Be it further resolved that NAHA members collaborate with established shelters serving Aboriginal clients to provide improved access to supportive and independent living by Aboriginal homeless persons; and

Finally, be it resolved that NAHA encourage members, in areas where the need for shelter and services for the Aboriginal homeless is the greatest, to develop Aboriginal specific emergency and supportive shelters to address this need in their affordable community housing plans.

Moved: Patrick Stewart, Vancouver Homelessness Committee

Seconded: Leah Link, Prince Albert Community Housing Society Inc

Action

2010 Conference agenda includes a focus on homelessness; NAHA working closer with other national organizations such as Canada Without Poverty, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, the Canadian Council on Social Development, and the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network (CAAN). Letter writing campaign supporting Bill C 304. Participation in joint press releases on Bill C304 with other national organizations.

Resolution 5-2009

Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) Tracking Aboriginal Homelessness

Whereas the HIFIS Initiative administered by Human Resources and Social Development Canada (HRSDC) facilitates more efficient operations at the homeless shelter level by putting in place the tools, training and agreements needed to gather comprehensive data on shelter use by the homeless population; and

Whereas HIFIS software allows shelters and other service providers to record client-level information to manage their services; and

Whereas the software, training, and user support are available free to shelters and service providers across Canada via a toll-free national support desk number or email address; and

Whereas established partnerships provides an opportunity for shelters and service providers to obtain free computers, software, and technical support to meet their technological needs; and

Whereas Aboriginal peoples are over represented among the homeless populations with limited Aboriginal specific information available on their numbers and use of shelters;

Therefore be it resolved that NAHA collaborate with HRSDC and with shelter providers with the objective of compiling Aboriginal specific national data on Aboriginal homelessness and shelter use, and

Finally, be it resolved that NAHA and its member organizations commit to publishing a national annual report to create a greater understanding of the depth of the Aboriginal homelessness crisis and to establish base line data on which to measure progress and to begin curbing the increasing rate of homelessness of Aboriginal people.

Moved: Jim Durocher, Camponi Housing Corporation, (Saskatoon)

Seconded: Tracy Sauv , Anduhyaun Inc, Toronto

Action

Efforts were undertaken by NAHA with HRSDC to develop a pilot HIFIS project in 3 regions of Canada with support from the Department. Unfortunately, this did not come to fruition. While data on Aboriginal homelessness continues to be required to support targeted efforts, we must continue to count on mainstream organizations for data.

Resolution 6-2009

Endorsement of Bill C-304 National Housing Strategy - Libby Davis

Whereas Bill C-304, an Act to ensure secure, adequate, accessible, and affordable housing for Canadians was put forth as a private members bill by MP Libby Davies and was subjected to first reading on February 10, 2009; and,

Whereas the Bill calls for CMHC officials to consult with provincial Ministers, municipalities and Aboriginal communities in order to establish a national housing strategy; and

Whereas the Bill is inclusive of Aboriginal representatives in this consultation and development process; and

Whereas NAHA and its member organizations are well positioned to contribute positively to the establishment of the Act to be known as the *"Secure, Adequate, Accessible and Affordable Housing Act"* and are committed to a National Housing Strategy that is inclusive of targeted Non-Reserve Aboriginal housing under Aboriginal control;

Therefore be it resolved that NAHA and its member organizations publicly endorse Bill C-304;

Finally, be it resolved that the Board of Directors of NAHA support Bill C-304, and that includes intervention and advocacy with municipal, provincial and Federal Ministers and officials having responsibility for housing and be consistent with the research Report *"A Plan for Action: National Plan to Address Aboriginal Housing"*

Moved: David Seymour, M'akola Group of (Housing) Societies

Seconded: Patrick Stewart, Vancouver Homelessness Committee

Action

NAHA is working closer with other national organizations such as Canada Without Poverty, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, the Canadian Council on Social Development and the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network. Letter writing campaign supporting Bill C 304. Participation in joint press releases on Bill C304 with other national organizations

Resolution 7-2009

Aboriginal Administration of Assisted Aboriginal Home Ownership Programs

Whereas Aboriginal people (54%) are underrepresented in Canada's home owner population compared to the other Canadians (68%); and

Whereas the federal and provincial governments are challenged with stimulating the struggling economy and maintaining jobs for Canadian workers; and

Whereas there is currently a stable housing market combined with access to moderate interest rate mortgage funds, and the housing industry is recognized as having a positive dual impact on both housing commodities and jobs; and

Whereas the existing federal/provincial urban Aboriginal Housing Trust Agreements include support to assist home ownership; and

Whereas urban Aboriginal housing corporations are best positioned to promote homeownership among their tenant populations and community members, create an awareness of the benefits and practicality of home ownership, and engage bankers, realtors, appraisers, solicitors and governments in workable models of delivery;

Therefore be it resolved that where governments and/or corporations are delivering assisted home ownership programs to Canadians that Aboriginal housing corporations establish working relationships to enhance access by Aboriginal people to the programs offered and to determine the level of success these institutions are having in meeting the needs of Aboriginal applicants seeking to buy a home; and

Be it further resolved that NAHA in collaboration with its member organizations develop a comprehensive Aboriginal assisted home ownership portable program model that can be administered and delivered relative to the needs and resources; and

Finally, be it resolved that NAHA call on its member organizations to lobby provincial and territorial governments to direct a share of the assisted home ownership funds to the stewardship of Aboriginal corporations.

Moved: Ray Hamilton, Métis Urban Housing Assn. of Saskatchewan

Seconded: Sandra Brown, Lloydminster Métis Housing Group Inc.

Action

OAHSSC and Skeegin Elnoog are directly engaged in the delivery of programs to assist Aboriginal home ownership, as is Miziwe Biik in Toronto. These delivery systems have enjoyed strong success. The three programs and their respective delivery systems were developed at the provincial and municipal levels and are in accord with the NAHA's position on increasing homeownership among Aboriginal peoples.

Resolution 8-2009

Advocate federal recognition and implementation of the right to housing

Whereas Canada's failure to respond to the homelessness crises is in violation of its international commitments including the Declaration of Human Rights and is a violation of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms specifically Section 7, which guarantees the right to life, liberty and security of the person, and Section 15, which guarantees the equal protection and benefit of the law without discriminate; and

Whereas Aboriginal people are over represented in the homeless population by as much as a factor of 10; and

Whereas NAHA believes the right to housing should be recognized and affirmed by the Government of Canada;

Therefore be it resolved that NAHA and its member organizations actively promote the "Right to Housing" as its cornerstone of its Aboriginal Housing Strategy; and

Finally, be it resolved that NAHA pursue representation in the Advocacy for Tenants Ontario (ACTO) *Right to Housing Working Group* and support its efforts to file a Charter application in the Ontario Superior Court in the spring of 2010.

Moved: Jim Durocher, Camponi Housing Corporation, Saskatoon

Seconded: David Seymour, M'akola Group of (Housing) Societies

Action:

NAHA has advocated for the recognition and acceptance of the Right to Housing in the broad distribution of its Action Plan. There has been only limited contact with the ACTO Right to Housing Working Group throughout the year. This resolution should continue to stand as a work in progress.

Resolution 9-2009

Promotion of a National Action Plan to Address Aboriginal Housing

Whereas the National Aboriginal Housing Association (NAHA) and the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP) signed a Protocol dated May 4, 2006 committing to support development of more effective housing policies and programs for aboriginal peoples in Canada; and

Whereas the protocol commits NAHA and CAP to work collaboratively in dealing with all levels of government and other organization of like mind on matters of mutual interest that impact non reserve Aboriginal housing; and

Whereas the Protocol envisions the continued cooperative effort among the parties to promote safe, decent and affordable housing for aboriginal peoples;

Therefore be it resolved that NAHA and CAP establish a joint committee to develop and carry out a communication plan to promote NAHA's 2009 action plan: "*A Time for Action: A National Action Plan to Address Aboriginal Housing*"

Moved: Patrick Stewart, Vancouver Homelessness Committee

Seconded: Tracy Sauv , Anduhyaun Inc, Toronto

Action:

NAHA distributed copies of the paper, "A Time for Action", widely to federal and provincial government bodies, as well as to National Aboriginal organizations, including CAP. NAHA continues to work closely with CAP on housing matters, as evidenced by the strong CAP delegation at this conference. NAHA and CAP did engage in joint efforts to plan this national conference.

Resolution 10-2009

Housing Standards on Reserves in Canada

Whereas housing standards are currently set at a minimum standard by CMHC and vary throughout our Traditional Territories; and

Whereas housing standards are currently causing the lack of sustainable housing within the First Nation Traditional Territories;

Therefore be it resolved that NAHA call on Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to review and raise minimum standards within our traditional Territories with a view to creating opportunity to develop and build healthy homes that are secure, energy efficient; such as R2000 and the Equilibrium Homes.

Moved: Tracy Sauv , Anduhyaun Inc, Toronto

Seconded: Leah Link, Prince Albert Community Housing Society Inc.

Action: *No follow up action on this resolution. Will continue as a work in progress.*

RESOLUTION 11-2009

NO to Olympics! YES to Feb 14th Memorial March!

Whereas the City of Vancouver, Olympic officials, and the Vancouver 2010 Integrated Security Unit are trying to change the historic Feb 14, 2010, "*March for Murdered and Missing Women*" in order to ensure 'flow of Olympic traffic' down Hasting Street; and

Whereas resident of the DTES and supporters of the Memorial March, completely oppose any change in date, time, or route of the Memorial March, and this March has been happening for 18 years to honour our sisters who die each year due to the violence of physical, mental, emotional and spiritual abuse; and

Whereas it is far more significant and sacred than the Olympic Games, which have already increased poverty, homelessness, and policing in our neighbourhood.

Therefore be it resolved that NAHA and its member organization support the position of the Downtown East side residents that there be no attempt to change or control the Feb 14th Memorial March and that not a single person will be forcibly removed, evicted or displaced from their homes in the Downtown East Side and any other communities due to the Olympics.

Moved: Patrick Stewart, Vancouver Homelessness Committee

Seconded: Sandra Brown Lloydminster M tis Housing Group Inc.

Action: *The February 14, Memorial March took place as scheduled.*

Resolution 12-2009

Land Trusts

Whereas it is time to review the landholding of the various Aboriginal Housing Groups and explore alternative methods of holding land to maintain sustainable housing,

Therefore be resolved that the Directors explore alternative methods of land holding and particularly Land trusts with a view to developing alternative methods of sustainable housing.

Moved: Jim Lanigan, Gignul Non-Profit Housing Corporation, Ottawa

Seconded: Sandra Brown, Lloydminster M tis Housing Group Inc

Action:

Brenda Torpy, CEO of the Champlain Housing Trust, the largest community land trust in the United States with over 4000 members, is a guest speaker NAHA's 2010 conference and policy forum. Resolution will stand as a work in progress.

New Business:

Resolution 1-2010: Engaging in the implementation of the Urban Aboriginal Strategy

Whereas the UAS was developed in 1997 and was announced under “Gathering Strength”, a community-based initiative to improve the social and economic conditions of Aboriginal peoples in urban centres; and

Whereas the national priorities of the UAS are to improve the life skills, promote job training, skills and entrepreneurship, and to support women, children and families; and

Whereas the object and principles of the UAS are consistent with the purpose of the NAHA and its member organizations, which are mainly controlled by and for Aboriginal peoples, are community-focussed and are directed to the enrichment of the urban Aboriginal family,

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Directors of NAHA work with its member organizations to take and active role in the collaboration, cooperation and coordination of UAS initiatives by participating in the work of community-based UAS service provider committees and/or coalitions in building successful partnerships with all levels of government, social institutions and the corporate community.

Mover: Robert Byers
Seconder: Mannie Amyotte
Disposition: Carried

Resolution 2-2010: Support for a renewed mandate of the Urban Aboriginal Strategy

Whereas the Urban Aboriginal Strategy facilitates collaboration among urban Aboriginal service providers and governments, social and charitable institutions and the corporate sector and promotes efficient and effective use of available financial support; and

Whereas the UAS is a key Strategy in the social, cultural and economic advancement of urban Aboriginal peoples as the accept greater responsibility to address quality of life issue sin the urban setting; and

Whereas any interruption in the Strategy’s mandate could seriously erode the established infrastructure in the 13 designated cities and threaten projects in the planning and development stages impacting negatively on functional relationships,

Therefore Be It Resolved that the renewal process include increased financial resources and an expanded designation of cities in which the UAS can be introduced; and

Be It Further Resolved that NAHA and its member organizations aggressively advocate and endorse the renewal and expansion of the UAS.

Mover: Frances Laforme
Seconder: Jim Lanigan
Disposition: Carried

Resolution 3-2010: Formal appointment of Tina Hlady as NAHA’s representative to the CHRA Board

Whereas the Canadian Housing Renewal Association (CHRA) invites the NAHA to appoint from among its members a representative to champion Aboriginal issues and input into policy development and decision-making of its Association; and

Whereas Tina Hlady, the Executive Director of the Aqanttanam Housing Society in Cranbrook, BC, was endorsed by the NAHA Board of Directors and acclaimed by the CHRA Board,

Therefore Be It Resolved that the 16th Annual General Assembly of NAHA formally sanction of Tina Hlady as its official representative to the CHRA Board to serve out the remaining tenure of the appointment.

Mover: Larry Bellerose
Seconder: Jim Lanigan
Disposition: Carried

Resolution 4-2010: Support for the Report of the Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology, “In From the Margins: A Call to Action on Poverty, Housing and Homelessness”

Whereas the Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology’s Subcommittee on Cities has published a report entitled, “*In From the Margins: A Call to Action on Poverty, Housing and Homelessness*” which contains 71 recommendations, of which one third of the recommendations were contained in NAHA’s presentation to the Committee and impact directly on the housing challenges facing urban Aboriginal peoples and organizations; and

Whereas the recommendations are consistent with the principles and goals of NAHA’s “*National Plan to Address Aboriginal Housing*”; and

Whereas key recommendations include:

- Sustained and adequate funding for affordable housing;
- Support for local and provincial non-profit housing developers;
- Support for the development of a national housing and homelessness strategy with a ten-year commitment;
- Expansion of the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS):
- Support for the “*Housing First*” approach;
- Subsidies for Aboriginal home providers for new and existing units;
- UAS to be used as a platform for greater collaboration and investment in addressing housing and poverty of Aboriginal peoples in urban centres;
- Targeted funding for Aboriginal peoples
- Establishing a national working group for identifying priorities and designating funding;
- Multi-year funding to address longer term problems;
- Adequate support for poverty, housing and homelessness organizations;
- Funding for community-based initiatives

Therefore Be It Resolved that NAHA and its member organizations fully endorse the report and its recommendations and advise the Prime Minister, leaders of the opposition and the Senate of their support and convey a call for action on the recommendations.

Mover: Mannie Amyotte
Seconder: Brian Bedwell
Disposition: Carried

Resolution 5-2010: Addressing the link between Housing and Health with an emphasis on HIV and AIDS

Whereas significant research has been undertaken domestically and internationally that demonstrates the link between stable housing and sustaining health; and

Whereas new research projects have been proposed that specifically respond to the needs of Aboriginal persons living with HIV and AIDS; and

Whereas the National Aboriginal Housing Association is a key stakeholder and advocate on Aboriginal Housing policy and programming in Canada;

Therefore Be It Resolved that NAHA maintain a leadership role in developing and implementing housing policy that recognizes the direct link between housing and health; and

Be It Further Resolved that NAHA and its member organizations develop and support policy specifically responding to the needs of Aboriginal persons living with HIV and AIDS; and

Finally Be It Resolved that NAHA maintain a strong partnership with the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network as a research partner and collaborator in the development of a National Aboriginal Housing Strategy that includes strategic directions related to HIV and AIDS.

Mover: Frances Laforme
Seconder: Brian Bedwell
Disposition: Carried

Resolution 6-2010: Public demonstration to support the third and final reading of Bill C-304

Whereas at its 2009 General Meeting, NAHA and its member organizations announced its support for Bill C-304, then at the stage of its first reading in the House of Common; and

Whereas over the year, at and when opportunities were presented, NAHA publicly acted on this resolution by mounting a letter campaign, speaking at political event and by collaborating and working in cooperation with other supporting national organizations; and

Whereas the proposed “*Red Tent Campaign*” is being organized and led by “*Canada Without Poverty*” and other national organizations on October 19, 2010, to support a decision in favour of the passing of Bill C-304 which is scheduled for Third Reading in the House of Commons on October 20, 2010,

Therefore Be It Resolved that NAHA call on its member organizations and affiliates to show strong support for the success of the Bill by actively participating in the Day of Action in their respective cities; and

Be It Further Resolved that NAHA call on its member organizations and NAHA affiliates to raise the necessary finances to be a visible participant in the Red Tent Campaign; and

Finally Be It Resolved that where possible, a Red Teepee be included among the red tents to visibly reflect the Aboriginal presence and support for this Bill.

Mover: Robert Byers
Seconder: Mannie Amyotte
Disposition: Carried

Resolution 7-2010: NAHA’s involvement in a CHRA-led national interim committee to determine the interest and/or involvement of Aboriginal organizations in a national Learning Network (LN) for Community Advisory Boards (CABS)

Whereas the Government of Canada announced extended funding of \$269.6M for the HPS to March 2011 and committed to maintain housing and homelessness programs to 2014 as part of its five-year commitment; and

Whereas plans for designated communities are developed by community advisory boards or CABS facilitating access to the HPS and creating a formal method in which to connect and learn from one another; and

Whereas national research affirms broad support for CHRA to take on the lead role in exploring the structure and purpose of a National Learning Network /secretariat consisting of member CABS; and

Whereas CHRA recommends that a small national interim Coordinating Committee be established that would include Aboriginal representation to further develop the national learning network model,

Therefore Be It Resolved that NAHA Directors appoint from among its member organizations a representative with experience in the implementation of HPS at the community level and currently engaged in working with the homeless to the interim coordinating committee; and

Be It Further Resolved that NAHA’s representative participate in the committee to make an assessment of whether it is advantageous for Aboriginal housing and homelessness organizations to participate in a future national CAB LN

Mover: Jim Lanigan
Seconder: Larry Bellerose
Disposition: Carried

Resolution 8-2010: Support for Bill C-545: an Act to Eliminate Poverty in Canada

Whereas Canada continues to have a high rate of poverty, by one standard measure with 4.7 million people living in low-income households across Canada in 2006, of whom almost 1 million are children; and

Whereas poverty is largely concentrated in urban areas with two-thirds of Canada's poor living in Canada's largest urban areas in 2006; and

Whereas more than 70% of Aboriginal individuals and families reside in Canada's cities; and

Whereas the level of educational attainment, rates of employment and household income is well below the Canadian norm, while rates of incarceration, joblessness, homelessness and frequency of health-related problems exceed Canadian standards and are symptoms of poverty; and

Whereas the current economic recession has resulted in significantly deteriorating economic conditions for many Aboriginal persons in both rural and urban Canada; and

Whereas the United Nations Human Rights Council called on the Government of Canada in 2009 to develop a national strategy to end poverty; and

Whereas the passing of Bill C-545, an Act to Eliminate Poverty in Canada, would mandate a federal plan to eliminate poverty and ensure critical mechanisms for accountability for progress,

Therefore Be It Resolved that NAHA and its member organizations support the "*Dignity for All*" Campaign led by Canada Without Poverty and "Citizens for Public Justice" that calls for vigorous and sustained action by the federal Government to combat the structural causes of poverty in Canada; and

Be It Further Resolved that NAHA inform the Prime Minister and his Cabinet, the opposition parties and the public at large of its endorsement and support of Bill C-545.

Mover: Robert Byers
Seconder: Mannie Amyotte
Disposition: Carried

Date and Location of Next Conference and AGM

Mr. Robert Byers, CEO of Namerind housing, extended an invitation for NAHA to hold its 17th Annual Conference and General Meeting in Regina, in September, 2011, and they would be glad to serve as the local host.

Motion 7:

To accept Namerind's offer and that we hold the 17th Annual Conference and General Meeting in Regina in September, 2011, at a date and place to be determined by Namerind in cooperation with NAHA.

Moved by: Frances Laforme
Seconded by: Larry Bellerose
Disposition: Carried

Election of Directors

President: David Seymour – M'Akola Group of Societies, Victoria, BC, was elected unanimously for position of President for a two year term.

Vice-President: Vacant

Treasurer: Jim Lanigan, Gignul Non-Profit Housing Corporation, Ottawa, ON

Secretary: Frances Laforme, Urban Native Homes, Hamilton, ON

The directors currently filling positions for each province are as follows:

Saskatchewan –	Robert Byers and Mannie Amyotte, Namerind
Ontario –	Larry Bellerose, OAHSC and Tracey Sauvé, Anduhyaun, Toronto, ON
Quebec –	Gilles Bérubé and Marjolaine Doucet, Waskahegen
New Brunswick –	Gary Gould, Skigin Elnooog Housing Corporation, Fredericton NB
Labrador –	Joe Goudie,
At Large:	Marcel Swain, Lu'ma Native Housing Society, Vancouver, BC

Adjournment:

Motion to Adjourn: Mannie Amyotte