

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the

NATIONAL INDIAN BROTHERHOOD / ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

As represented by the duly elected National Chief, Mr. Phil Fontaine

and the

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDSHIP CENTRES

As represented by the duly elected President, Ms. Vera Pawis Tabobondung

WHEREAS the National Indian Brotherhood / Assembly of First Nations (hereinafter referred to as the 'AFN') and the National Association of Friendship Centres (hereinafter referred to as the 'NAFC') have indicated a desire to enter in a Memorandum of Understanding; and

WHEREAS the AFN recognizes the important urban service delivery function of the NAFC and the priority issues of access to culturally appropriate service for First Nations peoples living in urban areas; and

WHEREAS the NAFC recognizes that AFN is a political organization and advocate for First Nation governments; and

WHEREAS the AFN and the NAFC agree that it is our mutual desire to work together in support of all First Nations peoples, regardless of residency,.

THEREFORE the AFN and NAFC agree as follows:

1. The AFN and the NAFC enter into this Memorandum of Understanding, as a first step towards the development of protocol agreements to guide the parties in an effective working relationship, including discussion and confirmation of the following elements:
 - a) Inclusion of NAFC within the AFN policy processes, in particular, participation in AFN Policy Forums to provide urban analysis;
 - b) Joint research projects aimed at building common evidenced-based policy positions in regards to urban First Nations peoples (e.g., citizenship);
 - c) Enhanced communication networks between NAFC and AFN, including constituent members, through mutual notification (as appropriate) and joint efforts where it is deemed strategically advantageous; and
 - d) Consideration of future relationships and inclusion within organizational structures;
2. By entering into this Memorandum of Understanding, the AFN and the NAFC agree to develop a supportive and collaborative relationship on other issues of mutual concern;
3. The AFN National Chief and the NAFC President agree to meet twice annually to reaffirm their

commitment to this Memorandum of Understanding, develop strategies to fulfill the objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding and to review the progress of this Memorandum of Understanding;

4. All communications in connection with this Memorandum of Understanding shall be sufficiently given if personally delivered, sent by facsimile, or mailed by prepaid first class mail and addressed as follows:

To: Chief Executive Officer
Assembly of First Nations
Trebla Building
473 Albert Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 5B4
Fax: (613) 241-5808

To: Executive Director
National Association of Friendship Centres
275 MacLaren Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K2P 0L9
Fax: (613) 594-3428

6. The AFN and the NAFC agree to develop the aforementioned protocols with the goal of presenting it to their respective members for discussion and ratification.
7. The AFN and the NAFC by the signatures affixed below do hereby signify their understanding and acceptance of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding on this 10th day of April 2006.