



Canadian Federation of University Women
Fédération Canadienne des Femmes Diplômées des Universités

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Mr. Shawn A-in-chut Atleo, National Chief
The Assembly of First Nations
473 Albert Street, Suite 810
Ottawa, Ontario K1R 5B4

September 23, 2010

Dear Sir :

We are writing to express support for your campaign on quality education for First Nations children and youth. Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) is a national, non-partisan, voluntary, self-funded, non-governmental organization of about 10,000 women university graduates in 118 Clubs across Canada. A central goal of CFUW is to ensure women's equality, and to improve access to education, peace, justice and human rights.

Every year, at our Annual General Meeting, we adopt resolutions proposed by clubs or standing committees. These become the basis of advocacy campaigns. This year, one of the resolutions proposed by the CFUW Standing Committee on Education dealt with the issue of enhancing equity in funding for First Nations citizens:

RESOLVED, That Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) urge the Government of Canada to make it a priority to collaborate with Aboriginal, provincial and territorial governments to ensure designated educational funding, indexed to inflation and adjusted annually for population increase, including multidisciplinary resource

funding for items such as but not limited to:

1. Early Childhood Education
2. School infrastructure and equipment
3. Books, school libraries and information technology resources
4. Student assessment facilities
5. Skills development and
6. A culturally sensitive curriculum

All of which will ensure that Aboriginal students from preschool to adulthood are able to achieve their maximum potential; and

RESOLVED, That the federal, provincial, territorial and Aboriginal governments work together to create a system of accountability for the funding and the quality of the education provided.

We would welcome an opportunity to work with your Communications Director in a collaborative fashion to ensure that our advocacy efforts on this matter are geared to your timeline and action plan for maximum impact.

CFUW holds special consultative status at the United Nations and serves on the Sectoral Committee on Education of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. We will have a representative at the Sectoral Committee meeting in November in Ottawa. CFUW is also the largest of 79 national affiliates of the International Federation of University Women (IFUW).

We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Brenda Wallace, National President, CFUW

Liette Michaud, Chair, CFUW National Committee on Education