



Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn Negotiation Office  
**Mi'kmaq Rights Initiative**

Our Rights. Our Future.

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FILE: 02-24-17 R#1

## THE ASSEMBLY OF NOVA SCOTIA MI'KMAQ CHIEFS

### **TITLE:** RESOLUTION RESPECTING PROPOSED CHANGES TO HARVESTER DOCUMENTATION

**WHEREAS** the Province of Nova Scotia initiated consultation under the August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010, Terms of Reference for a Mi'kmaq-Nova Scotia-Canada Consultation Process in a letter dated November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province sent similar letters requesting consultation with Sipekne'katik and Millbrook First Nations;

**AND WHEREAS** the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs have raised significant concerns regarding the Province's acceptance of the ATRA Passports over the last 20 years;

**AND WHEREAS** currently the Province accepts the following identification of a Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia harvester; 1.) a valid Status Card associated with a Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia First Nation Band; 2.) an Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Access (ATRA) Passport issued by the Native Council of Nova Scotia;

**AND WHEREAS** the Premier, Minister of Natural Resources and Minister of Environment have committed, in meetings and by official correspondence, that the Province will cease to recognize the ATRA card as a form of Mi'kmaq harvester identity,

**AND WHEREAS** the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs responded to the letter requesting consultation in a letter dated December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 supporting the recommendation for a temporary approach to provide access to former eligible ATRA card holders prior to the long term beneficiaries process being available;

**AND WHEREAS** the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs is in the process of developing a long term beneficiaries process with the intention of having the system in place for fall 2017;

**AND WHEREAS** the Province and the Assembly have been jointly working on a temporary harvest license that would fill the gap between the date that ATRA cards are no longer recognized and the start of the long term beneficiaries process;

**AND WHEREAS** the Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs and the Province would like to end official consultation and begin implementation of the temporary license to end ATRA card recognition;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**

1. The Assembly of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq Chiefs wishes to conclude the consultation with the Province and proceed with the implementation of the temporary harvest licence process.
2. With the adoption of the temporary licence process, the Assembly calls upon the Province to officially end recognition of the ATRA card.
3. The Assembly authorizes Chief Rod Googoo, Lead Chief of Lands, Wildlife and Forestry to further this resolution on the Assembly's behalf.
4. Continue community dialogue on the long term Beneficiaries process to be ready for implementation by the Fall.

**MOVED BY:** Chief Carol Dee Potter  
**SECONDED BY:** Chief Norman Bernard  
**IN FAVOR:** 11  
**AGAINST:** 0  
**ABSTENTIONS:** 0  
**DECISION:** Motion carried.

**CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:**

Date: February 24, 2017

  
Janice Maloney  
Executive Director