



## NUNAVUT TUNNGAVIK INC.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Rankin Inlet, Nunavut**

**November 15-17, 2021**

**Resolution No. RSA-21-11-13**

**Child Welfare**

**Moved by:** Johnny Kootook

**Seconded by:** Peter Taktogon

**WHEREAS** social inequities and other socio-economic factors stemming from a colonial legacy have caused Nunavut Inuit children to be disproportionately placed in the foster care and adoption system in and outside of Nunavut;

**AND WHEREAS** children being separated from their families, culture, language and community can have devastating impacts not only on those individuals but on whole communities;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of Canada passed into law *An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families* in 2019 affirming the inherent right and jurisdiction of First Nations, Inuit and Métis to exercise self-government on children, youth and family issues, and establishing the principle of cultural continuity, including the continuous transmission of Indigenous languages, cultures, customs and traditions, as an integral part of the best interests of the child;

**AND WHEREAS** the majority of children in care in Nunavut are Inuit, and the need to ensure their interests in receiving appropriate care that reflects their cultural identity and substantive equality is consistent with Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, Inuit laws and customs on family unity, and the best interests of the child;

**AND WHEREAS** at a meeting held in October 2012, NTI Membership, among other things, called upon the Government of Nunavut to ensure that appropriate residences are available or established in Nunavut for the care of Inuit children in need of protection;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Members call upon the Government of Nunavut to:

- (1) work with Inuit Organizations to examine its legislation, policies and practices on foster care and adoption,
- (2) identify immediate actions that could be taken to implement the spirit and intent of the 2019 federal legislation,
- (3) transform its foster care and adoption system to fully respect Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit,
- (4) ensure that child welfare services, family support services for children in care, at risk or whose parents have passed away are provided in Nunavut, and
- (5) work with Inuit Organizations to increase Inuit participation in the provision of child welfare and family support services.

**In Favour:** All  
**Against:**  
**Abstentions:**

**Carried:** ☒  
**Defeated:** ☐

Dated: November 17, 2021