Nishnawbe Aski Nation
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RESOLUTION: 07/85
PARKS DE-DESIGNATION

WHEREAS the Northern Table is a bilateral process with the Government of Ontario for a government-to-government dialogue regarding First Nations issues on land and resources use;

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario's protected areas, including parks, were established without meaningful consultation with First Nation accommodation and without seeking the consent by First Nations whose traditional homelands were affected;

WHEREAS it is the formal and non-negotiable position of an increasing number of Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) First Nations to have the provincially-designated protected areas in their traditional homelands removed;

WHEREAS NAN representatives at the Northern Table have consistently and repeatedly informed representatives from the Government of Ontario of this non-negotiable position on protected areas;

WHEREAS the political level of the Northern Table process was not fully utilized to address higher level issues, such as the de-designation of protected areas;

WHEREAS the Minister of Natural Resources has the authority to initiate de-designation of protected areas, but remains unwilling to exercise that authority;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED NAN Chiefs-In-Assembly direct NAN to immediately remove the issue of de-designation of provincial protected areas from the technical level of the Northern Table process, and from the general Northern Table process;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED NAN Chiefs-In-Assembly direct the NAN Executive to initiate a separate political level process with the Province of Ontario to deal with the de-designation of protected areas created by the Government of Ontario;

FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED NAN Chiefs-In-Assembly direct NAN Executive Council to seek the necessary resources to undertake and complete this political level process.

DATED AT TIMMINS, ONTARIO THIS 15th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2007.

MOVED BY: Proxy Frank McKay, North Caribou Lake First Nation

SECONDED BY: Chief Matt Winter, Kingfisher Lake First Nation

CARRIED

Grand Chief **Deputy Grand Chief**