



**SPECIAL CHIEFS ASSEMBLY**  
**November 20-21-22, 2018**  
**Toronto, Ontario**

**RESOLUTION 49/18**  
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**SUBJECT: FIRST NATIONS HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT IN ONTARIO  
INITIATIVE: COMMUNITY-LED CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT AND  
SUSTAINMENT PHASE**

**MOVER: Chief Scott McLeod, Nipissing First Nation**

**SECONDER: Chief Paul Syrette, Ojibways of Garden River First Nation**

**DECISION: CARRIED**

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**WHEREAS:**

1. The Chiefs in Assembly passed Resolution 14/08 at the June 2014 All Ontario Chiefs Conference mandating the ongoing effort towards the development of meaningful and practical digital health tools and processes for First Nations in Ontario;
2. Since June 2014, the First Nations Health Information Management in Ontario initiative (FNHIMiO) has been overseen by the Knowledge Management Advisory Group (KMAG) consisting of experienced Health Directors and Clinical Leads from Nipissing First Nation, Garden River First Nation, Oneida First Nation, Constance Lake First Nation, Couchiching First Nation and KO Tribal Council;
3. Since 2016, with the support and direction of the Chiefs of Ontario Health Coordination Unit, First Nation communities have successfully managed the annual agreement with the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch-Ontario Region (FNIHB-OR) for this initiative. To date Oneida Nation of the Thames, Garden River First Nation and Nipissing First Nation have been signatories to the agreement;
4. Digital health, health information management or e-health refers to clinical client records, individual health information or personal health information (PHI). When health information is well managed individuals have access to and control of their personal health records;
5. Health information management is separate and apart from the current Chiefs of Ontario work on data management and governance that focuses on aggregate data collected for research or surveillance. In order to participate in data management First Nations must first have autonomy and capacity to manage their own health information;

6. In collaboration with provincial agencies and with funding support from FNIHB Ontario Region, KMAG has developed, tested and implemented practical health information management tools and processes that enhance circle-of-care coordination and advance health information data sovereignty for First Nations in Ontario;
7. KMAG has reached a point where the focus of this technical work is now successfully shifting towards further extending digital health support to other First Nations or First Nation Health Services Organizations and many are already working with the KMAG and the FNHIMiO team;
8. To best support the ongoing use of digital health tools by any and all First Nations in Ontario who elect to participate, the KMAG group seeks to establish a non-political, community-based and community-led First Nation Digital Health Support Organization to be hosted within a First Nation community with reporting and accountability directly to the Ontario Chiefs in Assembly;
9. In accordance with the Chiefs of Ontario mandate to become less service delivery focused. This shift in structure and governance will create a community based solution that better ensures ground-level, practical and community-driven tools and models that will continue to be advanced, evolved, supported and extended to interested First Nations across the province.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Chiefs in Assembly:**

1. Mandate the Knowledge Management Advisory Group to use the committed, ongoing FNHIMiO funding provided by FNIHB Ontario Region (and any additional funding sources as deemed necessary and appropriate) to establish a non-political, community-based and community-led First Nation Digital Health Support Organization to be hosted within a First Nation community with reporting and accountability directly to the Ontario Chiefs in Assembly. This organization will work with any and all First Nations in Ontario who seek support to advance their digital health capacity and health information sovereignty. This organization will be specific to digital health information management and not a data management or data governance entity.

**Certified Copy of a Resolution dated November 20-22, 2018**



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**RoseAnne Archibald, Ontario Regional Chief**