

**RESOLUTION 3****Equitable Access to Health Care for First Nations Children**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT as the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) write a letter of support in favour of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal on First Nations Child Welfare currently being heard. And secondly, that CNA lobby the federal government to enact the intent of Jordan's Principle into health policy.

**Submitted by:** Rosanne Beuthin, 6936 Shiner Place, Brentwood Bay, B.C., V8M 1E8. Member of ARNBC and CRNBC (member #663450).

**Rationale:** To correct the inequities and injustices related to the provision (or lack) of health care for First Nation children across Canada. The case before the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal is related to a little boy, Jordan, who died in a Winnipeg hospital waiting for care to be arranged and provided. Jordan's Principle, a child policy, was written to support improvements in health care following this tragedy. It was unanimously passed in the House of Commons in 2007, but sadly, as the Canadian Paediatric Society reports, neither the federal government nor the provinces/territories have fully implemented Jordan's Principle; i.e., there has been a failure to take action on the principle and provide care and service to these children. It is unjust that non-First Nation children in Canada receive one standard of health care, and First Nation children born in the same country of Canada receive a lesser standard based on nationality.

**Relevance to CNA's mission and goals:** To advocate for the health and well-being of children. To shape and advocate for healthy public policy provincially/territorially and nationally.

**Key stakeholders:** First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada; First Nation Health Authority (West Vancouver).

**Estimated resources required or expected outcomes:** Minimal (costs associated with drafting and submitting letters).

**References:**

For information on the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal on First Nations Child Welfare, see [www.fnwitness.ca](http://www.fnwitness.ca).

For information about Jordan's Principle, see <http://www.fncaringsociety.ca/jordans-principle>.