

# **The Northern Forum**

## **Number 96, Resolution**

### **Use of Resolutions and Statements**

#### Issue:

The Northern Forum Board of Directors has traditionally used resolutions to convey both specific intent for action and declare support for or endorsement of specific ideas or events. The use of resolutions for these dual purposes is confusing and potentially unlawful in the full execution of corporate responsibilities.

Resolutions serve to convey specific intent, directions or actions on behalf of the governing body of the Northern Forum, Inc. Resolutions can be considered binding for the Corporation. Statements are used to express support, general intent, or to convey ideas or opinions that are not binding on the organization.

#### Recommendation:

The Secretariat of the Northern Forum recommends that future use of **Resolutions** be restricted to specific instructions, intent, or action on the part of the Board of Directors, the officers and committees of the corporation. Resolutions should be used to appoint officers and directors; approve work plans and budgets; change the Bylaws; approve projects; accept new members; and other official activities of the Northern Forum.

Furthermore, the Secretariat recommends that **Statements** be used to communicate support for ideas or activities; to convey ideas or communicate issues identified by the Board of Directors, which do not involve specific guidance, intent or action. Examples of Statements might include requests for support for regions affected by natural disasters; support of ideas or activities of other organizations such as the Arctic Council, other Non-Governmental Organizations or conferences; and to communicate support for projects that do not meet the criteria of Priority Projects of The Northern Forum.

#### **Be It Resolved, by the Board of Governors of the Northern Forum:**

That the above recommendations regarding the use of Resolutions and Statements by the Northern Forum Board of Governors be adopted as policy of The Northern Forum; and

That specific changes be made to the Bylaws of The Northern Forum that codify the use of these instruments.

**Signed and Approved this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2001, in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada**