



2021 Virtual Mid-Year Convention

RESOLUTION #2021 – 27

“IN SUPPORT AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE NATIVE PATHWAYS PROGRAM AT THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE”

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of ATNI; and

WHEREAS, The Evergreen State College (TESC) is located on the She-nah-nam, or Medicine Creek Treaty territories and homelands of the Nisqually, Puyallup, Steilacoom, Squaxin, S’Homamish, Stehchass, T’Peek-sin, Squiail, and Sa-heh-wamish peoples; and

WHEREAS, The Evergreen State College established the Native American Studies in 1972 under the leadership of the late Mary Ellen Hillaire (Lummi), and first Native American hired at TESC; and

WHEREAS, The Evergreen State College established the Reservation-Based, Community-Determined Program under the leadership of Dr. Carol J. Minugh (Gros.Ventre Tribe) in 1989, with the Quinault Indian Nation being the first place-based site, became the Native Pathways Program in 2017; and

WHEREAS, The Native Pathways Program (NPP) has more than doubled student FTE since 2017 and provides learning opportunities across the state in place-based sites; and

WHEREAS, The Native Pathways Program has it’s own NPP Student Governance Council; and

WHEREAS, The NPP Student Governance Council is planning the first annual Mary Ellen Hillaire Scholars and Leaders symposium (2021-2022); and

WHEREAS, The Native Pathways Program and NPP Student Governance Council is proposing to be acknowledged and resourced as NPP: School of Indigenous Studies offering all levels of academic curriculum facilitated through an Indigenous lens for students to earn a BA in Humanites degree; and

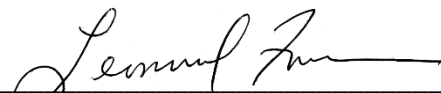
WHEREAS, The NPP: School of Indigenous Studies proposes a graduate program focused on Tribal and Indigenous interdisciplinary studies; and

WHEREAS, The Native Pathways Program secures and sustains Memorandum of Understandings with various higher learning institutions and tribal partners; now


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI supports and acknowledges the Native Pathways Program’s mission, vision, and growth at The Evergreen State College.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2021 Virtual Mid-Year Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Portland, Oregon, on May 24 – May 27, 2021, with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary