2021 Virtual Mid-Year Convention

RESOLUTION #2021 – 28

“SOVEREIGNTY SUMMIT 2021”

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, since time immemorial, the Indigenous peoples of our region have possessed the inherent right to self-determination and self-governance to make exclusive decisions regarding their lands, territories, people, resources, and sacred sites; and

WHEREAS, during its 107th plenary meeting convened on September 13th, 2007, the United Nations adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), recognizing the inherent rights, including a recognition that no other sovereign shall make unilateral decisions affecting the lands, territories, people, resources, and sacred sites without their Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC); and
WHEREAS, at the 107th United Nations plenary meeting, the United States cast its vote in opposition to UNDRIP however, during the second annual White House Tribal Nations Conference convened on December 16th, 2010, President Barack Obama announced that the United States would finally endorse the UNDRIP; and

WHEREAS, the ATNI member tribes seek to fully implement the universal and globally adopted human and civil rights set forth in the UNDRIP, including FPIC, and recognize that policy objective requires the aggressive, strategic, inclusive, and effective multilateral action that is the leadership legacy of ATNI; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI calls for a Sovereignty Summit 2021 to convene its member tribes on the traditional homelands of the Squaxin Island people for that purpose.

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.

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Leonard Forsman, President      Norma Jean Louie, Secretary