



2024 Winter Convention Portland, Oregon

RESOLUTION #24 – 03

“ENDORSEMENT OF THE 2024 NATIVE CDFI NETWORK POLICY PRIORITIES”

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 Native CDFI Network (NCN), founded in 2009, is the only national member coalition of the Native community development financial institutions (CDFI's) in the country; and

WHEREAS, the NCN's mission is to grow and strengthen Native CDFI's through policy advocacy, capacity building, and increasing access to capital to support the economic prosperity of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian communities; and

WHEREAS, NCN is governed by a nine-member national board of directors elected by NCN member CDFI’s who annually set and regularly update the organization’s top-line federal policy priorities; and

WHEREAS, the ATNI approved Resolution #19-18 on May 23rd, 2019, that formed the Northwest Native Lending Network (NNLN) that was recommended for approval at 2019 ATNI-EDC Economic Summit on April 9th, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the NNLN determined that to be effective in achieving its purpose of increasing access to capital, there was a need for further ATNI authorization of advancing policy initiatives; and

WHEREAS, at the request of the NNLN and the ATNI Economic Development Committee, the ATNI membership approved Resolution #19-42, “Support for Northwest Native Lending Network Policy Advocacy” on October 10th, 2019, at the ATNI Annual Convention; and

WHEREAS, the NNLN has reviewed the 2024 NCN Policy Priorities and approved these to be consistent with NNLN prior policy interests and recommend approval by the ATNI Economic Development Committee and ATNI Membership at the 2024 ATNI Winter Convention; and


WHEREAS, the ATNI Economic Development Committee reviewed this resolution and NCN priorities and approved advancing these for the ATNI General Membership’s consideration; now


THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI approves of and supports the 2024 Native CDFI Network’s Policy Priorities to improve services, capital, and tools for Native CDFI’s; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI will rely on the Northwest Native Lending Network and the ATNI Economic Development Corporation to provide periodic reports and updates to the ATNI Economic Development Committee and ATNI General Membership.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2024 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Hyatt Regency, Portland, OR, January 28 – February 31, 2024, with a quorum present.


Leonard Forsman, President


Norma Jean Louie, Secretary