



**2024 Annual Convention
Ridgefield, Washington**

RESOLUTION #2024 – 39

**“SUPPORT FOR THE NORTH STAR WASHINGTON STATE TRIBAL
PREVENTION SYSTEM”**

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 natural, 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, opioid overdose deaths for AI/AN youth ages 15-24 in the Northwest were double the rate of non-AI/ANs between 2018 and 2022; and

WHEREAS, in the State of Washington, emergency department visits for drug overdoses among AI/AN youth aged 0-19 increased to 37.4% (from 106.7 to 146.5 per 10,000 ED visits) between 2019 and 2023; and

WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic has devastated Tribal communities, families, and overwhelmed law enforcement, health care, and social service providers; and

WHEREAS, the Tulalip Tribe hosted the National Tribal Opioid Summit in 2023 and the Washington Tribes held Washington Tribal Opioid Summits in 2023 and 2024 (collectively "Summits") where AI/AN youth were identified as a priority; and

WHEREAS, Northwest Tribes have prioritized opioid/substance use prevention focused on AI/AN youth and have identified the Planet Youth Icelandic Prevention Model as the long-term solution to reduce opioid/substance use, overdoses and deaths; and

WHEREAS, the Planet Youth Icelandic Prevention Model is a population-wide primary prevention process designed to have a long-term impact in communities on reducing youth substance use through creating a healthy built environment; and

WHEREAS, Planet Youth was developed from the Icelandic Prevention Model, an evidence-based participatory approach with demonstrated effectiveness in reducing substance use in Iceland for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Planet Youth has supported hundreds of communities around the world, including indigenous communities; and

WHEREAS, Planet Youth is designed to strengthen protective factors, mitigate risk factors, and build healthy community environments for positive youth development by focusing on key domains in the local school-community: family, peer group, school and after school; and

WHEREAS, Planet Youth is established on the following pillars of success: evidenced-based practice, community-based approach, and creating and maintaining a dialogue among research, policy, and practice; and

WHEREAS, five Washington Tribes have committed to implementing the Planet Youth Icelandic Prevention Model and have named their project the North Star Washington State Tribal Prevention System (North Star); and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that we support Northwest Tribes in their efforts [to stop opioid/substance use, overdoses and deaths among AI/AN youth and] to develop and nurture future generations of healthy and thriving AI/AN youth; and

WHEREAS, Health and Human Services (HHS) and Indian Health Service (IHS) funding, as well as other federal agencies funding, will be needed to successfully implement prevention systems, such as the North Star; and

WHEREAS, IHS funding for tribes must be allocated through self-governance Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA) Title I contracts and Title V compacts; and

WHEREAS, IHS Annual Funding Agreements with Title I and Title V tribes must allow for the inclusion of prevention services, activities, and events; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI supports implementing prevention systems, such as the North Star Washington State Tribal Prevention System (North Star); and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI calls on Congress and the Administration, including Health and Human Services and Indian Health Services, to support funding opportunities for prevention systems, like the North Star Washington State Tribal Prevention System (North Star); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI calls on the Indian Health Service to support prevention services, activities, and events through inclusive language in Title I and Title V annual funding agreements between Indian Health Service and tribes; and

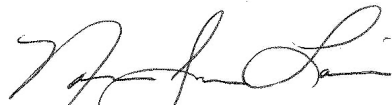
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of ATNI until it is withdrawn or modified by a subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2024 Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of the Northwest Indians, held at ilani Casino Resort, Ridgefield, Washington on September 29 – October 3, 2024 with a quorum present.



Leonard Forsman, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary