

2009 Winter Conference Tulalip, Washington

RESOLUTION #09 - 21

"AFFILIATED YOUTH OF THE NORTHWEST INDIANS AMBASSADOR PROGRAM"

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 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 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 youth of Affiliated Youth of the Northwest Indians Ambassador Program (AYNIAP) represent a great natural resource; and

WHEREAS, today's youth of the AYNIAP will one day become leaders; and

WHEREAS, the youth need leadership training and experiences to better prepare them for these important roles; and

WHEREAS, the youth should be given the opportunity to bring about positive changes in the existing conditions on the reservation; and

WHEREAS, the young people between the ages of 14 and 20 should have a greater voice in matter concerning them; and

WHEREAS, the youth, through their collective action can serve as a catalyst to bring about more unity and harmony on the reservation; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for a mechanism which will allow for the distribution of information, coordination of activities, and sharing of resources; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for interaction and communication among the youth representing the various schools and communities; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians declare that the spiritual, mental, physical and social well-being of our youth is the highest priority; and

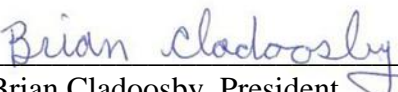
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in order to provide a greater voice for our youth and give the greater opportunities to develop as leaders, ATNI authorizes, in order to provide the formation of the AYNIAIP to operate under the supervision and with the support and encouragement of ATNI; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tribes affiliated with ATNI will financially support the Executive Board of AYNIAIP and ATNI at national conferences including but not limited to National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) and Northwest Indian Youth Conference (NWIYC); and


BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, ATNI will support AYNIAIP in an effort to bring about positive change in Native America and to provide youth with greater opportunities to work with other youth leaders throughout the nation.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2009 Winter Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Tulalip Resort & Casino, Tulalip, Washington on February 19, 2009 with a quorum present.



Brian Cladoosby, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary