



## **2009 Annual Conference Tacoma, Washington**

### **RESOLUTION #09-80**

#### **“DEVELOPING AN AFFILIATED TRIBES OF NORTHWEST INDIANS TRIBAL STRATEGY FOR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT OBAMA”**

### **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**, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 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 Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 23, ATNI member tribes met with the representatives of the United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) to develop recommendations concerning ATNI policy considerations for the meeting between President Obama and tribal leaders scheduled for November, 2009, now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians General Assembly approves the development and submission of a policy statement that includes the following major goals and priorities to the National Congress of American Indians and for President Obama's tribal leaders meeting, based on the following topics:

1. Updating the Presidential Tribal Consultation Policy to provide for accountability and enforcement procedures;
2. Establishing a comprehensive national study of key Federal Indian policies modeled after the American Indian Policy Review Commission established by the US Congress in 1975-77, including a provision on Indigenous rights;
3. Affirming and clarifying the United States' trust responsibilities and obligations and support for tribal self-government and self-determination for Native American tribes, including but not limited to treating tribes with parity;
4. Establishing a Special Court of Appeals designed to recognize, protect and enhance the sovereign authority of Indian tribes;
5. Correcting the erroneous interpretations of the law regarding the rights of tribes to tax and regulate activities on tribal lands;
6. Supporting the establishment of the Indian Development Finance Corporation and other similar opportunities for addressing economic development and financing to create an Indian Country Economy.

; and

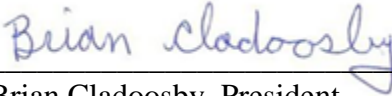
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ATNI approves the addition of other issues such as Health, Education, and Law Enforcement in ATNI's policy statement that are important to Northwest tribes and consistent with previous ATNI actions supporting such initiatives; and


**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ATNI approves the submission of ATNI's position on trust reform for submission to the National Congress of American Indians for consideration and recommended adoption; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ATNI in the spirit of government-to-government relationships urges the Obama administration to send all notices directly to all tribal chairs and continue sending notices to ATNI and National Congress of American Indians.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2009 Annual Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center & Trade Center in Tacoma, Washington on September 21 - 24, 2009.

  
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Brian Cladoosby, President

  
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Norma Jean Louie, Secretary