



2010 Annual Conference Spokane, Washington

RESOLUTION #10 - 49

"SUPPORT THE PORTLAND AREA FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAFAC) RECOMMENDATION TO FUND A DEMONSTRATION PROJECT(S)"

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 to 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 the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Area Indian Health Service (PAO-IHS) adopted a Health Services and Facilities Master Plan in October 2005, which identified future primary, secondary, and to the extent possible tertiary specialty care referral health centers to meet the service needs for the 43 Portland Area tribes; and

WHEREAS, the Portland Area Facilities Advisory Committee (PAFAC) was appointed by the PAO-IHS Director to oversee a pilot project to develop recommended adaptations to the current Health Facilities Construction Priority System (HFCPS) that would accommodate regional outpatient specialty care facilities proposed in the Portland Area Facilities Master Plan, which will serve multiple independent and autonomous tribes and organizations dispersed throughout distinct regions in the Portland Area; and

WHEREAS, this pilot study was consistent with achieving the objectives of developing the three specialty care referral centers in the Portland Area Health Services and Facilities Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the pilot study has demonstrated that regional referral specialty care centers are a viable option to meet the health care needs of Northwest Tribes and further recommends a "Demonstration Project(s)" to further test the viability of regional specialty referral centers for improved access to secondary care for AI/ANs and gather necessary, and presently unavailable, data to further inform planning metrics/thresholds for the future benefit of regional secondary care for all IHS Areas; and

WHEREAS, the Demonstration Project(s) are to be developed at a location(s) to be determined through deliberations of those Tribes involved and its findings will ultimately inform the development of appropriate and supportable adaptations to the existing HFCPS for more effective scoring of such facility projects; and

WHEREAS; such a facility will be developed with resources that are outside the IHS Portland Area Office budget, and will bring new resources that will provide on a direct care basis additional services beyond those currently available at existing Tribal and Federal sites in the Portland Area, and will allow for specialty care to be provided beyond Contract Health Service "Priority One"; and

WHEREAS; governance will be with the consent of the governed (participating Tribes); and


WHEREAS; no resources or services currently provided at existing local sites will be reduced or in any way adversely affected; and

WHEREAS; the range and scope of services provided, the physical size, the staffing, the location, and other pertinent aspects of a proposed facility will be determined based on the needs of the participating Tribes and communities; now


THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI endorses the PAFAC's recommendation to fund a "Demonstration Project(s)"—up to a total of three projects in the Portland Area—to include the planning, design, construction, and staffing of a regional referral center that will provide secondary care referral services to Portland Area Tribes.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2010 Annual Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Northern Quest Resort and Casino in Spokane, Washington, September 20-23, 2010 with a quorum present.



Brian Cladoosby, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary