



2010 Annual Conference Spokane, Washington

RESOLUTION #10 - 62

“SUPPORT FOR VETERANS PHYSICIAN AT THE LOWER ELWHA KLALLAM HEALTH CARE FACILITY”

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, there is to be a Veteran Health Care Service provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs at the Lower Elwha Klallam Health Care Facility located in Port Angeles, Washington; and

WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Health Care System in Seattle, Washington and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribal Veterans (LEKV) entered into a partnership in 2005 establishing this Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Care Facility through an MOU; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Veterans Affairs reports there are 12,000-14,000 Veterans that live on the Olympic Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Veterans Affairs reports that there are 3,000-6,000 veterans enrolled into the Veterans Health Care System on the Olympic Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe is under contract with the Department of Veterans Affairs Washington to provide veterans health care services out of the Lower Elwha Klallam Health Care Facility to all veterans within the Olympic Peninsula; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Veteran Affairs has appropriated and approved funding for a Physician at the Lower Elwha Tribal Health Care Facility located in Port Angeles, Washington; now

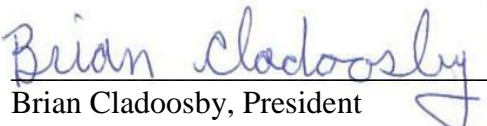
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby support the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Health Care Facility efforts to encourage the Department of Veterans Affairs to fill the Physician position at the Tribal Health Care Facility; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI encourages the Department of Veterans Affairs to hire and base a Physician to serve the veterans at the Lower Elwha Klallam Health Care facility in Port Angeles, Washington; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI strongly urges the VA to do outreach to all ATNI member tribes to bring these services to other tribal communities of ATNI.

CERTIFICATION

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


Brian Cladoosby, President


Norma Jean Louie, Secretary