



2011 Winter Conference North Bend, Oregon

RESOLUTION #11 - 01

"REAFFIRMATION OF SUPPORT FOR THE INDIGENOUS WAYS OF KNOWING PROGRAM AT LEWIS & CLARK COLLEGE"

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 Lewis & Clark College of Portland, Oregon, has, through extensive discussions with tribal leaders, educators and students, clarified the urgent need to create learning environments that teach a close and contextualized understanding of tribal priorities; and

WHEREAS, Lewis & Clark College recognizes that it is essential to develop a highly educated citizenry, with the skills and abilities to protect Tribal Sovereignty, preserve traditions & culture and catalyze effective policy; and

WHEREAS, Lewis & Clark College has developed, in response to tribal priorities, the Indigenous Ways of Knowing Program (IWOK Program) which is intended to meet specific goals in support of the culturally related educational needs of students and Tribes; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis & Clark College IWOK Program has worked with the Northwest Tribes through ATNI participation and presentations and has consulted, in more detail with Northwest Tribes, Tribal Communities & Tribally missioned organizations through listening sessions, consultation visits, agreements and meetings over the past 5 years; and

WHEREAS, ATNI Resolution 06-65 acknowledged the ongoing activities of, and expressed support for, the IWOK Program in its inaugural year; and

WHEREAS, the resulting work accomplished has further informed the IWOK program's mission: to empower Tribal Communities by providing educational experiences through a multicontextual process rooted in Indigenous worldviews; and

WHEREAS, the IWOK program has also further developed four focus areas in which they will continue to partner with Tribes, Tribal Communities and tribally missioned organizations which include: Sovereignty, Culture & Arts, Community Health and Education; and

WHEREAS, projects that are the most effective at meeting the needs of Tribal communities are designed using the unique cultural and linguistic strengths of their own communities combined with research-based practice; and

WHEREAS, the Graduate School of Education and Counseling at Lewis & Clark College offers nationally renowned in-service programs that model professional standards, innovative curricula, and best practices for early childhood, elementary, middle, and high school teachers who wish to advance their study; and

WHEREAS, the IWOK Program exists within the Graduate School of Education and Counseling and offers over 12 credit hours of graduate courses within all of the professional programs that address discipline specific concerns with respect to Indian communities in both education and counseling, such as certifications and endorsements in English as a Second Language, Special Education, Reading Endorsement, and Educational Administration; and

WHEREAS, the IWOK Program seeks to extend available programming within continuing education and further certifications and endorsements for educators, counselors, and school leaders in Indian communities and schools, and seek public and private funding to further these programs; now

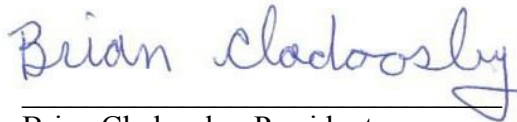
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI supports the continued work of Tribal Communities who partner with the IWOK program and their requests for both public and private funds that will enable them to meet their goals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI supports the continued work of the IWOK Program in their ongoing development of projects related to professional development for Indian Educators within the Northwest from both public and private sources; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI reaffirms their support of the IWOK Program, its mission and focus for future projects and urges Northwest Tribes to support Lewis & Clark, as it further progresses and seeks continued funding toward its mission in the four focus areas of Sovereignty, Culture and Arts, Community Health, and Education.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2011 Winter Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Mill Casino Hotel & RV Park, North Bend, Oregon on January 31 - February 3, 2011 with a quorum present.



Brian Cladoosby, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary