



2011 Annual Conference Tulalip, Washington

RESOLUTION #11 - 57

"SUPPORT TO CHANGE COLUMBUS DAY, (2ND MONDAY OF OCTOBER) TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY"

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 Indigenous people of the lands which would later be known as the Americas were not discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1492; and

WHEREAS, a true and accurate account of the residence and occupation of the Americas by Indigenous people since time immemorial, and long before Christopher Columbus sailed, is necessary to set the historical record straight and to respect the culture, language and traditional life ways of our Indigenous ancestors; and

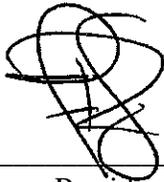
WHEREAS, having the citizens of the United States of America recognize and celebrate the heritage of indigenous peoples is necessary to respect their history and unite all peoples together; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby support the change of Columbus Day (2nd Monday of October) to a legal holiday to be known in the future as Indigenous Peoples' Day; and

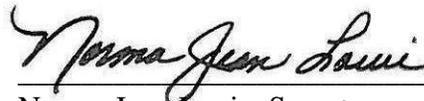
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Indigenous Peoples' Day shall be dedicated to the remembrance of the Indigenous peoples who have contributed greatly to the ATNI Tribes and the United States of America.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2011 Annual Conference of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Tulalip Resort Casino in Tulalip, Washington, September 19-22, 2011 with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary