



## **2014 Annual Convention Mission, Oregon**

### **RESOLUTION #14 - 45**

#### **“HASKELL INDIAN NATIONS UNIVERSITY FEASIBILITY STUDY”**

##### **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 Education Committee of ATNI has considered a report submitted by Professor Alan Parker, a Citizen of the Chippewa Cree Tribal Nation and Faculty to the Maori Indigenous University regarding the recommendations of leaders of the Maori University regarding the feasibility of establishing at Haskell Indian Nations University, an International Indigenous Nations Graduate University; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of Haskell Indian Nations University has favorably considered this proposal as their most recent annual meeting in Lawrence, Kansas and has communicated their support to the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Nez Perce Tribal leaders have also favorably considered this report and have requested Congressman, Mike Simpson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dist. Idaho, to request authorization for a feasibility study on this proposal to be undertaken in FY 2015 by Haskell and for such authorization to be included in the Committee Report of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee on Interior and related agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, Haskell Indian Nations University has served tribal students from the Pacific Northwest for many years as a school operated with federal support and direction from the Bureau of Indian Education to serve tribal students who are located on remote Indian reservations; and

**WHEREAS**, Haskell was elevated to "University" status in 1993 after existing since 1887 as Haskell Indian Institute, a Bureau of Indian Affairs Boarding School; and

**WHEREAS**, Haskell now serves over 1,000 tribal students and is a member of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) of tribal colleges; and

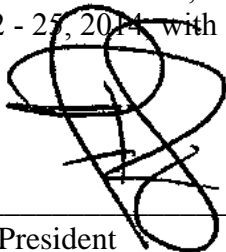
**WHEREAS**, AIHEC will serve as the primary source of tribal students who wish to pursue higher level graduate studies with the Maori and other students from Indigenous Nations across the Pacific Rim as well as the Sami People of Norway and Sweden; and

**WHEREAS**, the ATNI Education Committee has considered the report of Professor Parker and has concluded that this proposal for Haskell to undertake a feasibility as requested by the Maori is worthy of consideration and wishes to propose that the tribal delegates of the ATNI fully support this worthy endeavor; now

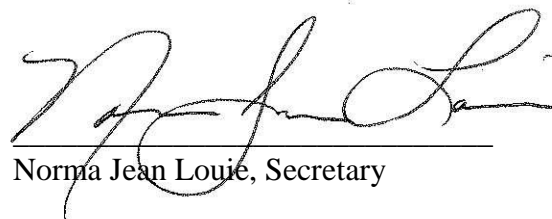
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI does hereby support the Maori proposal to establish an International Indigenous Nations Graduate University at Haskell Indian Nations University.

### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2014 Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at the Wildhorse Resort Hotel & Casino, Mission, Oregon on September 22 - 25, 2014 with a quorum present.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Fawn Sharp, President



\_\_\_\_\_  
Norma Jean Louie, Secretary