



2015 EXECUTIVE BOARD

July 22, 2015

RESOLUTION #15 - 38

“AFFILIATED TRIBES OF NORTHWEST INDIANS (ATNI) – CLIMATE CHANGE INTERNSHIPS & YOUTH ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE.”

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, at the 2011 Annual ATNI Conference in Tulalip, Washington the ATNI approved Resolution #11-77; on Traditional Knowledge and Climate Change which called upon the U.S. government to provide adequate and proportional funding for Tribal climate change adaptation and mitigation; and

WHEREAS, climate change is a threat to American Indian culture, resources, and wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, American Indians are entrusted by our ancestors with traditional ecological knowledge that has been an accumulation of centuries of knowledge, practice, and belief, evolving by adaptive processes and handed down through generations by cultural transmission; and

WHEREAS; American Indians are the first impacted by global climate change for the rest of humanity; and today climate change is drastically affecting indigenous peoples' hunting, fishing, gathering, economic infrastructure, reservation locations, usual and accustomed areas and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, primary impacts on American Indians are prolonged droughts or excessive rainfall causing floods, extreme weather shifts brought on by warming, diminishing and disappearing sources of fresh water, changes in habitat for wildlife, and marine resources, that impact cultural and treaty reserved rights, federal/tribal agreement rights, threatens the sustainability for our communities and impacts on first food sources; and

WHEREAS, Native rights are place-based rights, based on historical, legally recognized and longtime occupation of Indigenous territories; Indigenous nations are in a unique vulnerable position in regards to climate change and their land base provides few opportunities to relocate, expand or cope with changing climate and treaty rights and reserved rights are fixed to specific parcels of land, so that it is unclear what tribal rights to resources might shift away from their reserved lands; and

WHEREAS, the current Administration has taken strides that support Tribal measures to cope with climate change, including, but not limited to, the November 5, 2009, Executive Memo directing agency heads to submit a detailed plan of actions that agencies will take to implement the policies; Executive Order 13175 - Consultation and Coordination With Indian Tribal Governments; and Department of Interior Secretarial Order 3289 - Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resource; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Climate Change Programs for FY2015 and has identified programs includes the follow funding categories:

Category 1. Management Internships. Employment opportunities working with Tribal and BIA trust resource managers, tribal programs, or tribal organizations to support integration of climate mitigation or adaptation planning into programs for the benefit of tribes or tribal resources.

Category 2. Research Internships. Employment opportunities working with Tribal and BIA programs or colleges to advance research to identify climate vulnerabilities, inform or perform data analysis, or address ocean and coastal management challenges.

Category 3. Youth Engagement. Employment opportunities working with Tribes, tribal colleges, or tribal organizations to support existing primary or secondary school age engagement in science, technology, engineering or traditional ecological knowledge

education or engagement with a significant integrated component on climate adaptation, mitigation, or ocean and coastal management challenges for tribes and tribal values; and

WHEREAS, ATNI wants to build the capacity of our future generations to effectively address climate change impacts and in collaboration with the BIA Northwest Region Office - Portland and the Institute for Tribal Government (ITG) at Portland State University propose to employ and mentor three management interns, three research interns, and ten high school youth from ATNI member Tribes as part of a youth education and community outreach video project; and

WHEREAS, the ATNI Executive Board has responsibility to carry out the duties and directives of the Executive Council and to act for the Executive Council during the interval between meetings. The Executive Board shall carry out this responsibility through the adoption of goals, policies and guidelines of the organization. In addition, the Executive Board has the responsibility to provide organizational and operational support for the programs, facilities, member relations, and public relations; now

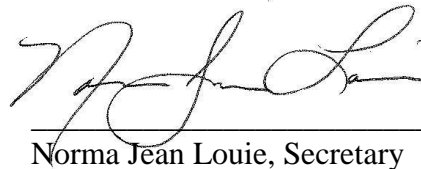
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Executive Board does hereby support the Climate Change Internships and Youth Engagement Initiative for BIA FY 2016 Funding.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the ATNI Executive Board on July 22, 2015, with a quorum approving.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary