



2017 Winter Convention Grand Mound, WA

RESOLUTION #17 - 01

“SUPPORT FOR THE COLVILLE TRIBES AND NEZ PERCE LONGHOUSE COMMITTEE’S EFFORTS TO RAISE FUNDS TO REBUILD THE CHIEF JOSEPH NEZ PERCE LONGHOUSE ON THE COLVILLE RESERVATION”

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 Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indian Reservation is a federally recognized, sovereign nation of which the Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce is a constituent member; and

WHEREAS, the Colville Tribes suffered a tragic loss on the early morning of December 26, 2012 when the Chief Joseph Nez Perce Longhouse (NPLH) was consumed by fire, negatively affecting the members of the traditional longhouse community and the Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce; and

WHEREAS, this building was and continues to be vitally important to our community, used for celebration, mourning, memorials, first-food ceremonies, Indian New Year, teachings, prayers, community activities, training, meetings, cultural and language preservation for Colville youth, adults, and elders of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Colville Tribes have developed a partnership with The Nez Perce Longhouse Committee (NPLH), an established non-profit corporation lawfully incorporated under the laws of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation to gain the necessary funding to rebuild the Longhouse; and

WHEREAS, the NPLH committee risks losing the estimated insurance replacement cost funds if they do not have a construction contract in place by July 1, 2017; and

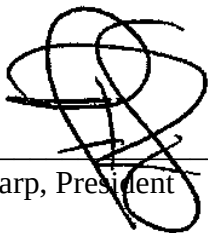
WHEREAS, the NPLH committee requires approximately \$2,656,129.06 in donations to rebuild this vitally important Longhouse; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ATNI does hereby support the Colville Tribes' and Nez Perce Longhouse Committee's efforts to raise and solicit funds from foundations and funding institutions for the rebuilding of the Chief Joseph Nez Perce Longhouse on the Colville Reservation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI will provide official letters of support for these efforts to appropriate foundations and funding institutions and take other steps as appropriate and necessary to assist the Colville Tribes and the NPLH in reaching their goal of the reconstruction of this culturally and historically significant building, for the benefit of the Chief Joseph Band and all members of the Colville Tribes.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2017 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Great Wolf Lodge, Grand Mound, Washington, on January 23 – 26, 2017, with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President

Norma Jean Louie, Secretary