



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #SAC-22-040

TITLE: Commending Tribal Museums as the Purveyor of Appropriate Education About Diverse Native American Histories, Cultures and Lifeways, and Calling on the United States Congress and Executive Agencies to Support Tribal Capacity

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WHEREAS, we, the members of the National Congress of American 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 the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Association on American Indian Affairs' 100 year anniversary, AAIA has declared the first Saturday of December, starting on December 3, 2022, as Tribal Museums Day; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Museums and Cultural Centers are the wisdom keepers for our Tribal Nations and provide appropriate public education about Native histories, sovereignty, culture and lifeways; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Museums and Cultural Centers are poised to dispell untruths, myths and stereotypes about AI/AN Peoples; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Museums and Cultural Centers also bring tourism, entrepreneurship and economic development to American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN)lands, and support AI/AN artists, students, educators and others; and

WHEREAS, Tribal Museums and Cultural Centers are still struggling after the COVID-19 pandemic.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) commends Tribal Museums and Cultural Centers as the purveyors of appropriate education about diverse AI/AN histories, cultures and lifeways; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI recognizes Tribal Museums Day on the first Saturday of December, beginning December 3, 2022, to support public education, tourism, and economic development; and

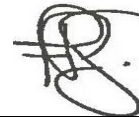
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI calls on Congress and federal agencies to provide more funding, capacity building and other resources to Tribal Museums and Cultural Centers to mitigate centuries of untruths and racism against Tribal Nations and their citizens caused by the U.S. in its policies of racism, assimilation and genocide; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NCAI will join the Association on American Indian Affairs, the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association, Americans for Indian Opportunity, other organizations, and Tribal Nations to do everything possible to uplift the important educational and cultural purposes of Tribal Museums and Cultural Centers for the betterment of our shared world and values; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2022 Annual Conference of the National Congress of American Indians, held in Sacramento, CA, October 30-November 4, 2022, with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President

ATTEST:



Stephen Roe Lewis, Recording Secretary