



Minnesota Indian Affairs Council

RESOLUTION 07102015 _01

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council Membership consists of representatives of the eleven federally-recognized Indian Tribes located within the State of Minnesota, official members of the State Legislature and State Departments, and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council is a liaison between state and local units of government in the delivery of services to the American Indians in the State of Minnesota, and

WHEREAS, the University of Minnesota Duluth's Vision statement states: "We will serve the educational needs of indigenous peoples, as well as the economic growth, cultural preservation, and sovereignty of the American Indian nations of the region, the state and North America"; and

WHEREAS, since 2009, tribal leaders have been engaging in consultation at the invitation of UMD about the educational needs of our tribal workforce, resulting in the development of the Master in Tribal Administration and Governance (MTAG) launched in 2011, and which has graduated over 50 students, and the Bachelor's degree in Tribal Administration and Governance (TAG) which will be launched in fall of 2015;

WHEREAS, during the course of this on-going consultation, tribal leaders advised UMD that it should establish a Tribal Sovereignty Institute (TSI) toward the goal of advancing and enhancing tribal sovereignty through education and research and this TSI has been created with that stated goal; and

WHEREAS, the first initiative of the Tribal Sovereignty Institute was in response to Governor Mark Dayton's Executive Order 13-10, requiring that state employees who work with Tribal Nations receive training about collaborating with Indian tribes; and

WHEREAS, the TSI has, in collaboration with MIAC staff, provided training to date of more than 1000 state employees about American-Indian history, the unique status of tribes as sovereign Nations, and how to engage with tribal governments respectfully and advance the government-to-government relationship, and

WHEREAS, there are significant additional educational benefits that advance tribal sovereignty that could result from a continuation of the partnership between the MIAC tribes and the TSI, but which are conditional upon continued on-going, continuous, consistent and meaningful consultation with Indian tribes in Minnesota and other states.

WHEREAS, in numerous consultation meetings with tribal leaders, the TSI has been advised by Indian tribes and people that the Board of Directors of the Tribal Sovereignty Institute should be comprised of representatives from the eleven Native Nations of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, after three years of consultation with the American Indian Studies Department, it was also suggested that the Board of Directors should be advised by Committees of tribal elders, tribal youth, American Indian and Alaska Native students enrolled at the University of Minnesota and University of Minnesota AIS faculty members; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council hereby supports continuation of the partnership with the TSI and calls upon the TSI to create a governing Board comprised of representation from each of the 11 Minnesota tribal governments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board shall have the ability to review and be involved in all matters regarding the Tribal Sovereignty Institute; and to advise the University of Minnesota regarding the research, the curriculum development and the expenditures of the TSI; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council supports the establishment of an Interim Committee to draft organic documents which shall be comprised of MIAC staff; tribal government representatives; and the UMD-American Indian Studies Department; and the final the organic documents and strategic plan of the Tribal Sovereignty Institute will be approved by the TSI Board of Directors and reviewed by the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council; and

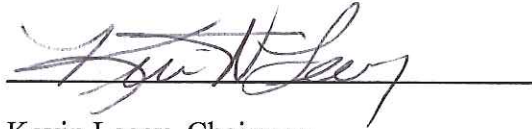
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council supports that the Administrative duties of the Board shall be carried out by the American Indian Studies Department of UMD and Tribal Sovereignty Institute will be headquartered in Duluth; however, the TSI will include and engage all campuses of the University of Minnesota system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council supports that the Administrative duties of the Board shall be carried out by the American Indian Studies Department of UMD and Tribal Sovereignty Institute will be headquartered in Duluth; however, the TSI will include and engage all campuses of the University of Minnesota system; and

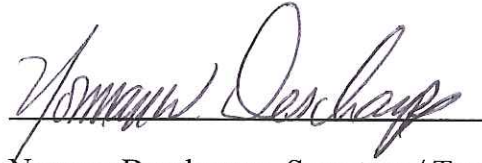
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council will continue to partner with the Tribal Sovereignty Institute, provided that the entity continues the

advance and enhance the sovereignty of Minnesota's Native Nations and continues to act as a partner to the eleven Native Nations of Minnesota.

CERTIFICATION: We do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and acted upon by a vote of 7 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent, at a Regular Meeting of the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, a quorum present, held on July 10, 2015 at Duluth, Minnesota.



Kevin Leecy, Chairman
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council



Norman Deschampe, Secretary / Treasurer
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council