



## Montana & Wyoming Tribal Leaders Council

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Resolution Number: 28Jan2014-04

### **RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS TO SEEK NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**WHEREAS**, the Montana Wyoming Tribal Leaders Council (TLC) has been created for the express purpose of providing its member Tribes with a unified voice and a collective organization to address issues of concern to the Tribes and Indian people; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the Tribal Leaders Council consists of duly elected Tribal Chairs, Presidents and Council Members who are fully authorized to represent their respective Tribes; and

**WHEREAS**, as a manifestation of their solemn duty, the Tribal governments actively engage in policy formation on any matters that affect the Tribes and reservations; and

**WHEREAS**, several of the Tribes of the Tribal Leaders Council are respected and longstanding members of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and these Tribes were part of the leadership that originally founded NCAI, and

**WHEREAS**, the current NCAI Executive Director, who was appointed in 2001, has served the NCAI under five Presidents; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a growing and unnecessary division between member Tribes in the Rocky Mountain Area/Region of the NCAI and the Executive Director, and the extent of that divide has resulted in a sense of being alienated or ignored and, disenfranchised; and

**WHEREAS**, we believe that the NCAI Executive Director has strayed from executing NCAI's core mission and instead has consistently devalued the wishes and recommendations of the Tribal Governments from the Rocky Mountain Area/Region; and

**WHEREAS**, the NCAI Executive Director's actions have damaged the working relationship between herself and Tribes of the Rocky Mountain Area/Region as well as other NCAI tribal members who are vital to NCAI as an organization; and

**WHEREAS**, in the days to come, NCAI must remain united to fight external threats to the sovereignty of Indian tribes and must be focused on executing a united strategy and not on divisions which separate members and the Executive Director; and

**WHEREAS**, the NCAI Constitution Article IV, Section B empower the NCAI Executive Committee with “authority to provide for the employment of the Executive Director”, a power that includes termination of such employment; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the responsibility of the NCAI Executive Committee to retain proficiency in the position of Executive Director, and to ensure that the leadership provided by the Executive Committee engenders consensus building and unification of effort which is essential for the fulfillment of NCAI’s mission, and

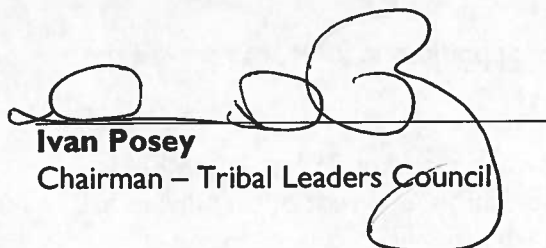
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Tribal Leaders Council hereby respectfully issues a vote of No Confidence regarding the Executive Director of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and directs the Tribal Leaders Council staff to expediently inform the NCAI Executive Committee of such vote; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Tribal Leaders Council respectfully requests that the NCAI Executive Committee immediately undertake the appropriate steps to replace the NCAI Executive Director; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be the policy of the Tribal Leaders Council unless and until withdrawn by subsequent resolution.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

We, the undersigned, as the Chair and the Secretary of the Tribal Leaders Council, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly presented and approved unanimously at an official Board Meeting of the Montana Wyoming Tribal Leaders Council, which was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 2014 in Billings, Montana with 9 member Tribes present to constitute a full Quorum.

  
**Ivan Posey**  
Chairman – Tribal Leaders Council

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Secretary - Tribal Leaders Council