

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF
THE THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES OF THE
FORT BERTHOLD RESERVATION**

- WHEREAS,** This Nation having accepted the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, and the authority under said Act; and
- WHEREAS,** The Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes generally authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to engage in activities on behalf of and in the interest of the welfare and benefit of the Tribes and of the enrolled members thereof; and
- WHEREAS,** According to statistics developed by the North Dakota Department of Human Services, statewide in North Dakota, there are more than 500 Native American children and more than 750 Native American adults who are seriously mentally ill that are receiving health care services, some of who are members of the Three Affiliated Tribes; and
- WHEREAS,** It generally understood that persons who are seriously mentally ill are not receiving the level of health care needed and health care for Native Americans who are mentally ill is not being provided in a culturally appropriate manner; and
- WHEREAS,** There has been little, if any, documentation of the level of care and cultural appropriateness of such care that is provided for Native Americans suffering from serious mental illness; and
- WHEREAS,** Eleanor Yurkovich, EdD, RN, a faculty member at the University of North Dakota in the College of Nursing, principal investigator, and Donna Grandbois Kosmatka, BSN, RN, a graduate research assistant, are qualified to and are conducting a research project entitled "Determining the presence of cultural responsiveness of mental health services to needs of American Indians experiencing Severe and Persistent Mental Illness (SPMI); and
- WHEREAS,** Their research project involves interviewing both providers of mental health care to Tribal members living on the reservation and the persons receiving such care who are experiencing SPMI, in order to: 1) Identify gaps, deficits and strengths in mental health services provided on the Reservation; 2) Develop a clear description and qualitative summary of the perceptions of patients and their health care needs; and 3) Assist in the development of health care programs that better meet the mental health care needs of Tribal members, by providing findings that can be used to develop and justify grants, access funding sources and to support program development to improve the quality of, and provide culturally appropriate, mental health care for Tribal members who are experiencing SPMI; and

WHEREAS, The findings of this study will benefit mental health care providers through feedback on what is working, to assist in determining how services could be improved, and to indicate how services could work better to be more culturally appropriate for Tribal members who are suffering SPMI and are in need of mental health services; and

WHEREAS, The study is being conducted according to protocols which ensure the privacy of all individuals contacted and interviewed; and

WHEREAS, The protocols have been approved by the University of North Dakota, the Indian Health Service's Aberdeen Area Institutional Review Board / Research and Publications Committee, and by the Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairman's Health Board, and are designed, among other things, to protect the confidentiality of all who might participate in the research, it being understood that participation is entirely voluntary; and

WHEREAS, The terms of the understanding between the principal researcher and the Three Affiliated Tribes about how the research will be conducted and the Tribe's role in the project are set forth in a Memorandum of Agreement between the parties as attached hereto, which gives permission to the principal researcher and her assistant, along with others as may be necessary, to conduct the research project on the Fort Berthold Reservation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Three Affiliated Tribes to sign the Memorandum of Agreement between the parties, with the understanding that strict confidentiality about the identity of those participating in the research project will be maintained and that the results of the research will be discussed with the Tribal Business Council before the results of the research will be published.

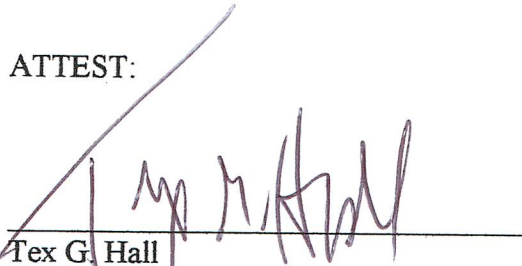
CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, hereby certify that the Tribal Business Council is composed of 7 members of whom 5 constitute a quorum, 7 were present at a Special Meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 4th day of May, 2000; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such Meeting by the affirmative vote of 5 members, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstained, 2 members not voting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated this 4th day of May, 2000.

Daylon Spotted Bear
Daylon Spotted Bear
Secretary, Tribal Business Council

ATTEST:



Tex G. Hall
Chairman, Tribal Business Council