

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, Article VI, Section 5 (d) of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes specifically authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to negotiate with instrumentalities and agencies of the State of North Dakota on behalf of the Tribes; and
- WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 5(j) of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes specifically authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to cultivate and preserve the native arts, crafts, culture, ceremonies, and traditions of the Tribes; and
- WHEREAS, The State Historical Board has in its possession, through the State Historical Society of North Dakota the human skeletal remains, and associated burial artifacts, of excess of 250 individuals of American Indian descent; and
- WHEREAS, Some of these human skeletal remains have been identified as Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Tribes; and
- WHEREAS, The North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission, by resolution dated March 18, 1982, supports the return of all identifiable tribal remains to their respective tribes for reinterment; and
- WHEREAS, Many, if not most, of these human remains have not been identified as belonging to any specific tribe; and
- WHEREAS, A public hearing is scheduled for June 2, 1987, at the New Town Civic Center, in order to receive the testimony of the Tribal people as to how the State Historical Board should proceed with respect to those remains now in the possession of the State Historical Society of North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, The Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes expresses its continued, and unequivocal, commitment to the return of all tribal human remains and associated burial artifacts to the joint custody of the official representatives of the four Indian reservations in North Dakota for appropriate reinterment; and

WHEREAS, The Tribal Business Council expresses its continued, and unequivocal, opposition to any further testing, study, examination, or other analysis of these remains by the State Historical Society of North Dakota or by any other anthropological or archaeological entity, and due to the direct ancestral relationship identified between said human skeletal remains and the native peoples of this continent; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That:

1. The State Historical Board should immediately return all identified tribal human remains to their rightful tribe for reinterment; and

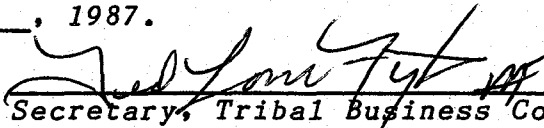
2. The State Historical Board should immediately return all unidentified tribal human remains to the joint custody of the official representatives of the four Indian reservations in North Dakota for reinterment; and

3. The Legal Department is directed, to prepare a litigation analysis for the return of any, and all, remains, for appropriate reinterment.

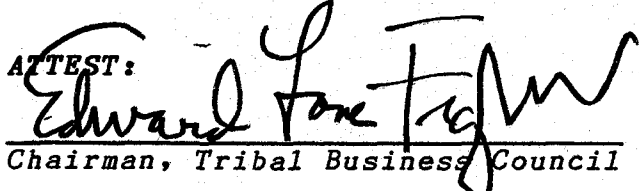
C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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, 5 were present at a Special Meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 1st day of June, 1987; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such Meeting by the affirmative vote of 5 members, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstained, 0 members not voting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated the 1st day of June, 1987.


Secretary, Tribal Business Council

ATTEST:


Chairman, Tribal Business Council