



RESOLUTION# 06-03-05

NPAIHB Opposition to closing the Walla Walla Veterans Administration Hospital

**NORTHWEST
PORTLAND
AREA
INDIAN
HEALTH
BOARD**

- Burns-Paiute Tribe
- Chehalis Tribe
- Coeur d'Alene Tribe
- Colville Tribe
- Coos, Suislaw & Lower Umpqua Tribe
- Coquille Tribe
- Cow Creek Tribe
- Grand Ronde Tribe
- Hoh Tribe
- Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- Kalispel Tribe
- Klamath Tribe
- Kootenai Tribe
- Lower Elwha Tribe
- Lummi Tribe
- Makah Tribe
- Muckleshoot Tribe
- Nez Perce Tribe
- Nisqually Tribe
- Nooksack Tribe
- NW Band of Shoshoni Tribe
- Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
- Puyallup Tribe
- Quileute Tribe
- Quinalt Tribe
- Samish Indian Nation
- Sauk-Suiattle Tribe
- Shoalwater Bay Tribe
- Shoshone-Bannock Tribe
- Siletz Tribe
- Skokomish Tribe
- Snoqualmie Tribe
- Spokane Tribe
- Squaxin Island Tribe
- Stillaguamish Tribe
- Suquamish Tribe
- Swinomish Tribe
- Tulalip Tribe
- Umatilla Tribe
- Upper Skagit Tribe
- Warm Springs Tribe
- Yakama Nation

WHEREAS, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) is a tribal organization under P.L. 93-638 that represents forty-three Federally-recognized Indian tribes in Oregon, Washington and Idaho on health related issues; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people; and

WHEREAS, the primary goal of the NPAIHB is to improve the health and quality of life of its member tribes; and

WHEREAS, the VA and IHS have recently signed a memorandum of understanding to encourage cooperation and resource sharing between the two agencies with the goal to deliver health care services and enhance the health of American Indian and Alaska Native veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla Veteran's Administration Hospital has a very good record of working with Northwest Tribes and Tribal Veterans Groups to increase services to Indian Veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla VA Hospital has developed culturally relevant programs that do not exist in other Northwest VA hospitals; and

WHEREAS, the Veterans' Administration has proposed closing several VA hospitals; including the Walla Walla, Washington VA Hospital; and

WHEREAS, the Walla Walla VA facility will be instrumental in implementing activities under the IHS-VA Memorandum of Understanding and is an important source of health services for American Indian veterans.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NPAIHB opposes the closing of the Walla, Walla, Washington Veteran's Administration Hospital.

CERTIFICATION

NO. 06-03-05

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being established; 34 for, Ø against, Ø abstain on April 20th, 2006.

Linda Hill
Chairman

April 21st, 2006
Date

Stella M. Washines
Secretary