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AREA
INDIAN
HEALTH
BOARD**

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Umatilla Tribe
Upper Skagit Tribe
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Yakama Nation

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RESOLUTION #07-03-03

**Support for Health Promotion/Disease Prevention Initiative for
Healthier American Indian/Alaska Native Communities**

Whereas, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB), a tribal organization under P.L. 93-638 that represents forty-three Federally-recognized Indian tribes in Oregon, Washington and Idaho, 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 NPAIHB recognizes the importance of health promotion/disease prevention to reduce health disparities among the AI/AN population; and

Whereas, the NPAIHB recognizes that chronic disease such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, obesity and diabetes are among the most prevalent, costly and preventable diseases; and

Whereas, the prevalence of obesity in AI/AN populations has increased dramatically over the past 30 years and overweight in AI/AN preschool and school-age children is up to three times higher than the rate in the US population; and

Whereas, the prevalence of diabetes among AI/AN is more than twice that of the total US population; and

Whereas, heart disease is now the leading cause of death for AI/AN population; and

Whereas, cancer is the second leading cause of death among AI/AN over the age of 45; and

Whereas, injuries and violence account for 75% of all deaths among AI/AN ages 1-19; and unintentional injury and violence is the leading cause of death among AI/AN ages 1-44; and

Whereas, prolonged illness and disability from chronic disease such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancer results in extended pain and suffering, increased medical care cost and decreased quality of life for AI/AN; and

Whereas, the NPAIHB recognizes that adopting health behaviors such as eating nutritious foods (including traditional food), being physically active and avoiding alcohol and tobacco (non-ceremonial) can prevent or control chronic disease; and

Whereas, early screening and detection are essential to preventing long-term disability; and

Whereas, by calling attention to the importance of health promotion and disease prevention to prevent and delay chronic disease through community capacity building, community/systems changes, such as environmental and health policy changes, campaigns to support healthier behavior, traditional and cultural teachings, and community driven programs to eliminate health disparities; and

Whereas, the NPAIHB recognizes the importance of partnerships with other organizations to effectively address health disparities among AI/AN communities.

Now Therefore be it Resolved that the NPAIHB do hereby call upon the AI/AN communities to work together to create and develop solutions to the problems of obesity, overweight, unintentional injury, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer, substance abuse and other behavioral risk factors associated with chronic diseases by supporting effective culturally relevant health promotion and disease prevention services and programs for AI/AN at the community, school and worksite in order to improve the health of AI/AN people.

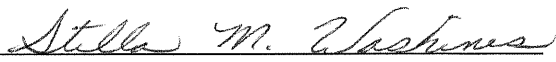
CERTIFICATION

NO. 07-03-03

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being present and voting; 24 for, 0 against, 0 abstain on April 19, 2007.


Chairman

April 19, 2007
Date


Secretary