

**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  
Cowlitz 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

**Resolution #07-03-08**

**Recommendation for Institutions of Higher Education and State  
Health Agencies to Conduct Cultural Competency Training to  
Healthcare Professionals**

**WHEREAS**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB) is a non-profit tribal organization that represents the forty-three federally recognized Indian tribes in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho on health related issues; and

**WHEREAS**, the NPAIHB is dedicated to assisting and promoting the health needs and concerns of Indian people; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the lack of awareness arising from nationality, ethnicity, and cultural differences can make it difficult for both, providers and patients to achieve the most appropriate health care for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) patients; and

**WHEREAS**, these differences affect health beliefs, practices, and behavior on the part of patients and providers, that ultimately affect the quality of health care that one receives and provides; and

**WHEREAS**, lack of cultural competence among healthcare professionals contributes to high rates of racial misclassification in health records, poor health outcomes, patient dissatisfaction, and culturally inappropriate care; and

**WHEREAS**, institutions of higher education in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington and state health departments provide advice and guidance in the development of cultural competent definitions and curriculum for health care professionals and students; and

**WHEREAS**, training in cultural competencies can significantly improve the delivery and quality of health care services delivered to AI/AN people.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NPAIHB urge institutions of higher education in the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, including the Northwest Indian College, and state health departments to require cultural competence training for health professionals, especially on topics related to the needs of AI/AN.

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**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that institutions of higher education in the States of Oregon, Idaho, and Washington work with community-based organizations that service minority groups (such as the NPAIHB) and State Health Departments to: (1) assist in the development and implementation of cultural competence course modules; (2) support placement of health profession students and prospective students in internships at health facilities expert in serving multi-cultural populations, including didactic cross-cultural health education components; and (3) support cultural competence training and development of cultural profiles and resource materials for health professionals, especially on topics related to American Indian and Alaska Natives.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board encourage institutions of higher education in the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington; specifically the Northwest Indian College, to include completion of “cultural competencies” as an assessment requirement for health professionals during certification, accreditation, and annual performance evaluations.

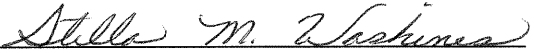
CERTIFICATION

NO. 07-03-08

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.

  
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Chairman

April 19, 2007  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary