



Resolution No.:11-04-02  
"NW Tribal Cancer Survivorship Study (AIMS)"

**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 Shoshone Tribe  
Port Gamble S' Klallam Tribe  
Puyallup Tribe  
Quileute Tribe  
Quinault 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 (hereinafter "NPAIHB" or the "Board") was established in 1972 to assist Tribal governments to improve the health status and quality of life of Indian people; and

**WHEREAS**, the NPAIHB is a "tribal organization" as defined by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (P.L. 93-638 seq. et al) that represents forty-three federally recognized tribes in the states of Idaho, Oregon, and Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the definitions of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act at 25 USCS § 450b, a tribal organization is recognized as a governing body of any Indian tribe and includes any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the NPAIHB 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**, cancer is the second leading cause of death among American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) and due to access barriers and socio-economic obstacles are at risk for not receiving adequate cancer treatments, services, and completing cancer therapy, and

**WHEREAS**, studies show that AI/AN people diagnosed with cancer experience poorer cancer related survival rates compared to non Native people; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that many AI/AN people diagnosed with cancer do not receive adequate cancer treatment services and recommended types of western medical treatment in comparison to non Indians due to access to care, socio-economic and other related factors; and

**WHEREAS**, cancer care is often provided through the use of contracted specialty care providers purchased by the Indian Health Service and Tribal Contract Health Service program, which is chronically underfunded and may not have adequate funding to cover the cost of cancer treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, THE NW Tribal Epi Center- Northwest Tribal Comprehensive Cancer Project (NTCCP) in collaboration with the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and funding provided by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), has developed a project to interview

2121 SW Broadway Drive  
Suite 300  
Portland, OR 97201  
(503) 228-4185  
(503) 228-8182 FAX  
www.NPAIHB.org

cancer survivors and caregivers for identifying the barriers to access to care and cancer treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, the interviews will focus on healthcare coverage, cancer experience, provider-patient communication, cultural insensitivity or perceived racism and discrimination; and

**WHEREAS**, the NW Tribal Epi Center – NTCCP will work with the NW Tribal Cancer Coalition members to recruit for cancer survivor and caregiver interviews in the NW; and

**WHEREAS**, the NTCCP and Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center collaborative will provide resources to evaluate usage of cancer treatment for AI/AN cancer patients diagnosed with lung, breast, colorectal, cervical, and ovarian cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, the AIMS cancer survivor and caregiver interviews will identify barriers to the completion of recommended treatments that cannot be ascertained from health claims and cancer registry records.

**WHEREAS**, this project will identify the gaps in care and barriers to access that many AI/AN patients experience.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NPAIHB endorses and supports an effort by staff of the NTCCP and *EpiCenter*, under the guidance of the Executive Director, to submit an application to implement the: The Cancer AIMS Study (Cancer among American Indians; A Multi-State Study)

**CERTIFICATION**

NO. 11-04-02

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted at the regular session of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. A quorum being established; 25 for, 0 against, 0 abstain on July 19, 2011.

  
Chairman

7-19-11  
Date

  
Secretary