**RESOLUTION # 19-02-03**

**FORMAL RECOGNITION OF TRIBAL YOUTH DELEGATE PROGRAM**

**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 Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board 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 (“member tribes”; 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**, developing leadership skills of our younger populations will provide the opportunity to improve health services and policy in a more inclusive and diverse manner; and

**WHEREAS**, opportunities for youth to learn about health careers, governance structures, and policy will long term positive effects for Indian communities; and

**WHEREAS**, engaging our youth in the development of approaches to wellness and solutions to their health issues is more likely to ensure their participation and have better outcomes.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board recognizes the Tribal Youth Delegate program as the official youth policy body for the Board and its member tribes; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board encourages our member tribes to recruit Tribal Youth Delegates to represent their communities to expand involvement of youth

in policy development and in setting priorities that address the issues important to their youth populations.