

RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE OGLALA SIOUX TRIBE
(An Unincorporated Tribe)

RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OGLALA SIOUX TRIBE APPROVING THE LAKOTA LANGUAGE CONSORTIUM, ENCOURAGING SCHOOLS ON THE PINE RIDGE INDIAN RESERVATION TO PARTICIPATE, AND REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO SUPPORT LAKOTA LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION.

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee, under Article I, Section 5 of the Tribal By-Laws, states, "... this Committee shall act on behalf of the Council at such times as the Council is not in session and shall have charge of all routine matters ...", and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee of the Oglala Sioux Tribe of South Dakota has established the Lakota Language as the Official Language of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, Resolution No. 90-06XB and 90-14, and

WHEREAS, the Oglala Nation Educational Consortium (ONEC) officially endorsed the Lakota Language Consortium on March 10, 2002, with nine (9) schools voting unanimously to support the project, and

WHEREAS, a successful program to reverse the decline of the Lakota Language has not yet been realized, and

WHEREAS, the Lakota Language, will soon pass out of daily use, and will likely become extinct without a cooperative and determined Revitalization Project, and

WHEREAS, a Coordinated and Systematic Revitalization Project is the only realistic possibility for reviving the language, and

WHEREAS, the Lakota Language Consortium represents a concerted and long-term effort among Educational Institutions serving Lakota Students on and off the reservation to revitalize the language, and

WHEREAS, the Lakota Language Consortium will develop Systematic and Sequenced Curriculum materials, Immersion Programs, dictionaries, Lakota-based Media, and Teacher Training Programs, and

WHEREAS, the Lakota Language Consortium will utilize proven and successful language revitalization strategies to bring back, into daily use, the Lakota Language, and

WHEREAS, Indiana University has the linguistic and technical expertise, organizational abilities, and experience to coordinate a large-scale Language Revitalization Project, together, with the Lakota Language Consortium, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, by and through its' President, the Honorable John Yellow Bird Steele, supports the goals, strategies, and measures of the Lakota Language Consortium, to reverse the problem of Lakota Language loss, and to return the language to its former levels of use, both, spoken and written, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee of the Oglala Sioux Tribe encourages and recommends school boards, administrators, and teachers, in all schools on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, to join the Lakota Language Consortium and support the revival of the Language, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee of the Oglala Sioux Tribe does hereby encourage and request the United States Congress to uphold the goals of the Lakota Language Consortium, and to help support and promote the revitalization of the Lakota Language now and for future generations.

C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-I-O-N

I, as the undersigned Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, hereby certify that this Resolution was adopted by the vote of: 3 for; 0 against; 0 abstain; and 0 not voting; during a REGULAR SESSION held on the 1st day of AUGUST, 2002.

Donna M. Salomon

DONNA M. SALOMON
Secretary
Oglala Sioux Tribe

A-T-T-E-S-T:

John W. Steele
JOHN W. STEELE
President
Oglala Sioux Tribe

