Resolution # 09-0218-32

Approval to Submit a FY2009 Grant Application to the Administration for Native Americans under the Native Language Preservation and Maintenance Program to Conduct a one-year Native Language Assessment Among Tribal Members

WHEREAS, the status of the Gadí Chíng Ziibi Daáwaa Aníshinaábek (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians) as a sovereign and Treaty-making power is confirmed in numerous treaties, from agreements with the initial colonial powers on this land, to various treaties with the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (Tribe) is descended from, and is the political successor to, the Grand River Ottawa Bands, signatories of the 1836 Treaty of Washington (7 Stat. 491) with the United States, as reaffirmed by federal law in P.L. 103-324, enacted in 1994; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted a new Constitution, pursuant to a vote of the membership on May 27, 1998, which Constitution became effective upon its approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on July 10, 1998; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe adopted amendments to the Constitution on April 26, 2004, which became effective upon approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on May 13, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized under Article IV, Section 7(a) to provide for the public health, peace, morals, education and general welfare of the Little River Band and its members; and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians is dedicated to improving the overall and multidimensional well-being of its membership; and

WHEREAS, the use of our language “Anishinaabemowin” was tenuous when it was last examined (in 1999-2000, through an ANA initiative), there is now a clear need to update this information as well as evaluate our language-related activities in order to determine the best way to preserve, maintain, promote, teach and share the language (and culture); and

WHEREAS, the Community Well-Being and Support Survey results indicate the membership is concerned about the status and usage of our language as well as a strong interest in learning the language; and
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WHEREAS, tribal representatives from the Historic Preservation and Grants Department have reviewed the Administration for Native Americans "Native Language Preservation and Maintenance" and recommend the pursuit of this important opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians recognizes that preserving our "language" is central to preserving our "culture".

NOW THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians by this resolution approves the submission of a grant application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration for Native Americans (ANA) under the Native Language Preservation and Maintenance Program in order to help promote language and cultural preservation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby commits to an in-kind match in an amount to comply with the 20% matching requirements of ANA's Native Language Preservation and Maintenance Program.

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with 5 FOR, 1 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINING, and 3 ABSENT, at a Regular Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on February 18, 2009, at the Little River Band’s Dome Room in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.

Loretta Beccaria, Council Recorder

Kimberly Alexander, Council Speaker

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