



**Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
Tribal Council**

2608 Government Center Drive
Manistee, MI 49660
(231) 723-8288

Resolution #19-0424-104

*Proclaiming May 5 as a Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered
Native Women and Girls*

WHEREAS, the status of the *Gaá Čhíng 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 Tribe adopted amendments to the Constitution on July 11, 2016 which became effective upon approval by the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on August 24, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the legislative powers of the Tribe are vested in the Tribal Council according to Article IV, Section 1 of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council is authorized by Article IV, Section 7(a)(1) and (2) to exercise the inherent powers of the Tribe by establishing laws through the enactment of ordinances and adoption of resolutions to govern the conduct of Tribal Members and others within the Tribe's jurisdiction and to promote, protect and provide for the public health, peace, morals, education and general welfare of the Tribe and its members; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has determined that homicide is the third leading cause of death among American Indian and Alaska Native women between 10 and 24 years of age and the fifth leading cause of death for American Indian and Alaska Native women between 25 and 34 years of age; and

WHEREAS, in some tribal communities, American Indian women face murder rates that are more than 10 times the national average; and

WHEREAS, gender based violence has been used as a tool of genocide in this country since the time of European contact; and

WHEREAS, the United States Senate has designated May 5 as a national Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council recognizes that our own Tribal community is not immune from these horrific crimes and wishes to join with the United States Senate and with other tribes and organizations to raise awareness of this issue and the need to restore and assure safety for our women and girls.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians hereby designates May 5 as a Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that Tribal Council supports the efforts across all tribes to acknowledge this crisis and impact in our community on women and girls with the understanding that homicide is also the third leading cause of death among American Indian and Alaska Native men between the ages of 15 and 34. While raising awareness to this important issue, Tribal Council would also like to call attention to the extent of the crisis for the entire native community.

CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and adopted by the Tribal Council with 9 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAINING, and 0 ABSENT, at a Regular Session of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Council held on April 24, 2019, at the Little River Band's Government Center in Manistee, Michigan, with a quorum being present for such vote.



Sandra Lewis, Tribal Council Recorder



Joseph Riley II, Tribal Council Speaker

Attest:

Distribution: Council Records
Tribal Ogema
Legal Department