



Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

RESOLUTION #23-27
APRIL 4, 2023

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING THE PAWNEE NATION OF OKLAHOMA TO SEEK RETURN OF THE PERSONAL BELONGS OF WHITE FOX FROM SWEDEN

- Whereas,** the Pawnee Business Council is the supreme governing body of the Pawnee Nation and is authorized to conduct business on behalf of the Pawnee Nation in accordance with Article IV, Sections 1 and 2 of the Pawnee Nation Constitution and By-Laws.
- Whereas,** the Pawnee Business Council met in a Regular session on April 4, 2023, on Pawnee Nation Microsoft TEAMS, duly authorized, with a quorum present.
- Whereas,** White Fox, a Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma ancestor, while visiting Sweden in 1875 took ill and passed away. Instead of turning over his body and possessions to his Pawnee brothers--Red Fox and White Eagle—the local authorities retained custody and subsequently committed acts of barbarity by skinning White Fox and putting his skin and possessions on public display at a local museum.
- Whereas,** since 1994, the Pawnee Nation has sought repatriation of White Fox's belongings from Swedish institutions with custody of those items.
- Whereas,** the Nation intends to seek repatriation of the belongings on behalf of all Pawnee citizens for permanent curation in the Museum of the Pawnee Nation; and it seeks support of White Fox descendants for this claim.
- Whereas,** if disagreement exists among claimants, including White Fox's descendants, museums often retain custody over disputed items until claimants resolve their differences—and in that event, the Swedish institution might keep the belongings indefinitely.
- Whereas,** to demonstrate consent of White Fox's descendants for the above mentioned claim, the Pawnee Nation should give notice to the descendants; and if there is no resolvable objection within a reasonable time, the President may deem a consensus of White Fox's descendants that his belongings should be repatriated to the Pawnee Nation for permanent curation in the Museum of the Pawnee Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED the Pawnee Business Council hereby authorizes the President to give White Fox's descendants thirty (30) days' notice to object to the Pawnee Nation repatriation claim for White Fox's belongings held by the Swedish institution--which is believed to be the National Museum of World Culture, a government agency under the Swedish Ministry of Culture.

FURTHER BE IT IS RESOLVED if no descendant of White Fox objects to said claim in writing to the President within thirty (30) days of the approval of this Resolution, the President may deem there is consensus among them to repatriate his belongings to the Pawnee Nation for permanent curation at the Museum of the Pawnee Nation; and the President shall proceed accordingly with said claim on behalf of all Pawnee citizens.

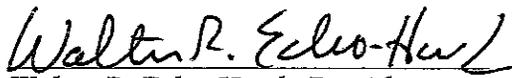
CERTIFICATION

I, George Gardipe, Secretary of the Pawnee Business Council, certify that a Special Meeting of the Pawnee Business Council was held on the 4th day of April 2023 and that the Pawnee Business Council is composed of eight members, of whom 7 were present, 1 absent, comprising a quorum, and the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by a vote of 6 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining, and 1 not voting.

Signed this 4th day of April 2023

ATTEST:


George Gardipe, Secretary
Pawnee Business Council


Walter R. Echo-Hawk, President
Pawnee Business Council