



Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

RESOLUTION #21-52
MAY 12, 2022

RESOLUTION

- Whereas,** The Pawnee Business Council (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; and
- Whereas,** the Council met in special session on May 12, 2022, at the Roam Chief Event Center, duly authorized, with a quorum present; and
- Whereas,** the Pawnee Business Council recognizes a current need to reform weaknesses in Federal Indian Law in order to strengthen the legal rights of the Pawnee Nation and its citizens, because stronger more reliable rights and increased Federal protection will better protect vital Tribal interests, the sovereignty of the Pawnee Nation, the well-being of its citizens, and the way of life of the Pawnee people; and
- Whereas,** modern international law can help reform and strengthen Federal Indian Law because it recognizes a wide array of stronger and more just individual and collective rights of Indigenous Peoples that are described and affirmed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), including inherent and inalienable Indigenous rights to: self-determination; Indigenous institutions; equality and nondiscrimination; life, integrity and security; culture; education; language; public media; participation in Federal government decision making based on free, prior and informed consent; economic and social rights; land, territories, and resources; and rights embodied in treaties and agreements; and
- Whereas,** the UNDRIP was adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in 2007, and has been endorsed by 150 countries, including the United States; and many of those Nations, such as Canada, are taking steps to incorporate the Indigenous rights, relationships, and responsibilities laid out in the UNDRIP into their domestic law and policies to rid the lingering ill effects of colonialism from their legal systems as is requested by the UNDRIP; and
- Whereas,** while the Pawnee government has no history of violating Indigenous rights, every government needs a strong moral compass to be a just nation. UNDRIP standards can help inform the making just laws and policies for a more perfect Nation in the post-colonial era; and
- Whereas,** to enjoy benefits provided by the UNDRIP and strengthen legal rights of the Pawnee Nation and its citizens, it is in the best interest of the Pawnee Nation to urge the Federal Government to implement the standards of the UNDRIP into the domestic laws and policies of the United States, and to endorse the UNDRIP with a human rights policy laid out in this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Pawnee Business Council does hereby enact the Pawnee Nation Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, effective on adoption of this Resolution.

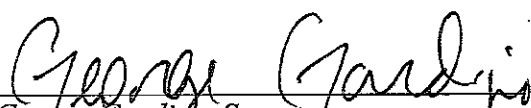
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, henceforth, it shall be the policy of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma to endorse and consult the UNDRIP standards as a moral compass that provides sound guidelines for making just laws and policies that protect the rights, wellbeing, and survival of the Pawnee Nation and its citizens.

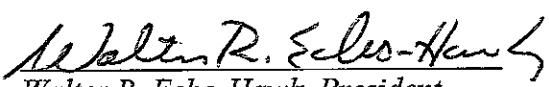
CERTIFICATION

I, George Gardipe, Secretary of the Pawnee Business Council, certify that a Special Meeting of the Pawnee Business Council was held on the 12th day of May 2022 and that the Pawnee Business Council is composed of eight members, of whom 8 were present, 0 absent, comprising a quorum, and the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by a vote of 4 for, 3 against, 0 abstaining, and 1 not voting.

Signed this 12th day of May 2022

ATTEST:


George Gardipe, Secretary
Pawnee Business Council


Walter R. Echo-Hawk, President
Pawnee Business Council