The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

A Resolution Requiring Proof of Tribal Enrollment for Artisans Who Claim Native Affiliations



Bill John Baker Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby Governor



Gary Batton Chief



James R. Floyd Principal Chief



Leonard M. Harjo Principal Chief

Resolution No. 16-11

WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (ITC) is an organization that unites the tribal governments of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations, representing over 500,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, museums and research institutions across the United States collect, preserve, study, and exhibit Native American cultures and objects of artistic, historical, literary, and anthropological interest of the Five Tribes; and,

WHEREAS, many individuals who claim a tribal affiliation with one or more of the Five Tribes appropriate, study, display, exhibit, and sell cultural knowledge, literary work and art and share an admiration for our rich culture and history but they are not enrolled citizens of any one or more of the Five Tribes; and, WHEREAS, federal and state laws have been enacted to prevent fraud and misrepresentation of Indian produced products that are designed to protect and preserve the authenticity of Native American history, culture, and art; and,

WHEREAS, federal and state laws have been enacted to prevent fraud and misrepresentation of Indian produced products that are designed to protect and preserve the authenticity of Native American history, culture, and art; and,

WHEREAS, it is important to protect the interests of the Five Tribes and our individual members in the artistic, historical, literary, and anthropological communities by preventing others from appropriating our unique tribal identity;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes respectfully requests that museums and research institutions promoting the history, art, language, and culture of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek), and Seminole Nations require proof of tribal citizenship of individuals who hold themselves out as affiliated with one or more of the Five Tribes as a condition of acceptance to any professional alliance with said museums or research institutions and prior to any public listing of tribal affiliation with any one or more of the Five Tribes.

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes meeting in Catoosa, Oklahoma on this 8 th day of April, 2016, by a vote of for against and abstentions.	
Bill Anoatubby, Governor The Chickasaw Nation Gary Batton, Chief Choctaw Nation of Øklahoma Bill John Baker, Principal Chief Cherokee Nation	James R. Floyd, Principal Chief Muscogee (Creek) Nation Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
Cherokee Nation	