

**ATNI Annual 2025 Convention**

**Suquamish, Washington**

**RESOLUTION # 2025 –** **DRFT-XX**

***Draft 1 Due to*** [***workroom@atnitribes.org***](mailto:workroom@atnitribes.org) ***by September 26, 2025***

***Final Draft passed by Committee due to*** [***workroom@atnitribes.org***](mailto:workroom@atnitribes.org) ***by 3:00 PM on October 15, 2025***

“ Resolution in Support of United Indians of All Tribes Foundation Fort Lawton Housing on Surplus Fort Lawton Land, Seattle Washington”

**PREAMBLE**

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS,** the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are the representatives and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

**WHEREAS,** the ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and Indian tribal governments in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

**WHEREAS,** creating opportunities for Indian Nations, preservation of tribal sovereignty and protection of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of ATNI; and

**WHEREAS,**  *Click or tap here to enter text. For additional clauses, click the [+] in corner of box.*; and

**WHEREAS,** *Click or tap here to enter text*; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** *Click or tap here to enter text*; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** *Click or tap here to enter text. For additional clauses, click the [+] in corner of box*; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** that this will be the policy of ATNI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolutions.

**Whereas,** the original name of Fort Lawton and Discovery Park since time immemorial since has been called in Lushootseed: PKa'dz Eltue "thrust far out" and were part of the ancestral lands of kinship bands of Duwamish, Suquamish, Muckleshoot, Tulalip Nations prior to the Point Elliot Treaty of 1885; and Whereas, in the 1960s and 1970s the United States deeded a large portion of Fort Lawton in the Magnolia neighborhood to the City of Seattle (City) leading to the creation of Discovery Park and the Daybreak Star Cultural Center in response to indigenous community interests; and

**Whereas,** Bernie Whitebear of the Colville Confederated Tribes and his fellow United Indians Of All Tribes Foundation (UIATF) advocates, successfully negotiated a 99 year-lease on 20 plus acres in November of 1971 of lands the United States Government had previously utilized as the historic Fort Lawton, with the options to successive 99 year-plus lease renewals in a legally-binding agreement; and

**Whereas,** Daybreak Star Cultural Center and the United Indians of All Tribes Foundation began building structures to support environmental security and sovereignty for Urban Indians on September 27, 1975; and

**Whereas,** in 1975, Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 (ISDEAA). 43 Title I of ISDEAA authorized federally recognized tribes freedom from federal decision making, providing self determination, governance, and revised boundaries for tribal sovereignty, which was reinforced by the TItle IV in 1994 for full funding and allocation of appropriations, to include housing; and Whereas, the United States Government retained for military purposes approximately 34 acres at the northeast corner of Discovery Park; and

**Whereas,** in the early 2000s as part of a realignment of assets, the U.S. Base Realignment and Closure Commission designated the City as the entity entitled to repurpose the site; and

**Whereas,** the City has prepared plans for development of the site to accommodate low income housing and additions of green space to Discovery Park, with completion of environmental review (FEIS) of a Fort Lawton Redevelopment Plan in 2019; and

**Whereas,** The current need is great for urban Native housing with Seattle home to some 16,700 and King County 57,000. The opportunity to develop housing at the former Fort Lawton is a unique and ideal location with the it centrally in the city and adjacent to Daybreak Start Indian Cultural Center. Seattle’s urban indigenous people are at high risk of homelessness and housing insecurity; and

**Whereas,** the Seattle City Council in June 2019 (Resolution 31887) confirmed “the City’s commitment to further fair housing” in support of the Fort Lawton Redevelopment Plan; and

**Whereas,** The plan is for 500 units and a mix of apartments, condominiums and row houses. The community would be made up of primarily Native American families, seniors and veterans over 55. This project will offer opportunities for families and workforce as well, opportunity for ownership to begin to build generational wealth; and

**Whereas,** United Indians of All Tribes Foundation has submitted and been received a letter of intent for 105(L) funding to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the Fort Lawton development project.

**Now therefore:** The ANTI enthusiastically supports the United Indians of All Tribes Foundation proceeding with the revised Fort Lawton Redevelopment Plan as quickly as possible; and urges the City to prioritize the project to provide housing for urban indigenous households; and The ATNI convey its strong support for this important project to the United Indians of All Tribes Foundation, Seattle City Council, the Mayor, and the involved Federal Agencies.

**NOTES FOR DRAFT:**

* Add additional ‘**WHEREAS**’ clauses by clicking the [+] at the bottom-right corner of the text box.
* Add additional ‘**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**’ clauses by clicking the [+] at the bottom-right corner of the text box.
* If you’re having trouble adding clauses individually, or if you’re copy-pasting from another document, use the OPTIONAL BOX for your whole resolution. You don’t need to include the preamble or first three ‘WHEREAS’s.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing Resolution was adopted at the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians 2025 Annual Convention held at the Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort in Suquamish, Washington on October 12-16, 2025, with a quorum present.

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Leonard Forsman, President [NAME], Secretary

Resolution Title [*CTRL+F9*]:

“TITLE”

**Author of Resolution**: Click or tap here to enter text. **Cell Phone**: Click or tap here to enter text.

**Author’s Email**: Click or tap here to enter text.

**Sponsor of Resolution\***: Click or tap here to enter text. **Cell Phone**: Click or tap here to enter text.

*ATNI Member in Good Standing*

**Sponsor’s Email:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Does this resolution have attachments to be included** (if yes, please attach) **Yes  No**

**Request to Forward this Resolution to NCAI?**  **Yes  No**

*Resolutions forwarded to NCAI must be sponsored by an NCAI Member in Good Standing. Resolution must be presented by the sponsor or designee in-person at the appropriate NCAI Convention.*

**Presenter at NCAI**: Click or tap here to enter text. **Cell Phone**: Click or tap here to enter text.  
*NCAI Member in Good Standing*

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**ATNI Committees** (please select at least one)

**Committee Chair**: Click or tap here to enter text. **Cell Phone**: Click or tap here to enter text.

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