

MINNESOTA

INDIAN AFFAIRS COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 06142018_01

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council Membership consists of representatives of the eleven federally-recognized Indian Tribes located within the State of Minnesota, members of the legislature, commissioners from the state departments, and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council is a liaison between the state and local units of government in the delivery of services to the American Indians in the State of Minnesota, and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Nations Education Committee (TNEC) was established by tribal directive; endorsed by the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Executive Committee and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council and is recognized by the State of Minnesota as the entity to be consulted in all matters pertaining to the education of Minnesota American Indian students and communities; and

WHEREAS, TNEC wishes to increase tribal members' and all Minnesota students' understanding of the governance structure, history, culture, language, and sovereign status of Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS, the eleven Tribal Nations located in Minnesota have identified a critical need to gather, develop, and distribute accurate, ready-to-use Minnesota Tribal history, curricula, and lessons for the state of Minnesota; and **WHEREAS**, Minnesota currently has 70 state-required academic standards and benchmarks with American Indian content and knowledge across all K-12 grades in: Arts, English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies; and

WHEREAS, the number of standards and benchmarks will continue to increase as current Minnesota statute requires that all standards review processes include contributions of Minnesota's Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota teachers do not have adequate access to materials and lessons to teach these standards, nor the proper professional development opportunities necessary to develop a deeper understanding of the importance of this learning; and;

WHEREAS, there have been multiple, independent curriculum materials developed over the last fifty years; these materials need to be authenticated, aligned with standards, and adapted for the current technological needs of today's educational environment; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Education is tasked with developing standards; but is prohibited by law from developing specific curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the scope of this project is beyond the resources of any one school district or Tribal Nation to accomplish, and potentially too small a market to attract a commercial publisher; and

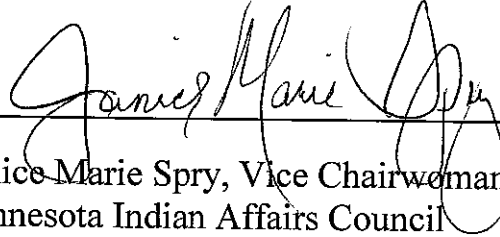
WHEREAS, numerous educational advocacy organizations, American Indian community-serving organizations, and non-profit entities have offered to partner in this curriculum development effort; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council endorses and supports the collaborative efforts led by TNEC, to seek necessary funding and implementation avenues to accomplish a multi-year, multi-partner curriculum and resource development project.

CERTIFICATION: We do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and acted upon by a vote of 7 For, 0 Against, 0 Silent at Regular Meeting of the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council, a quorum present, held on June 14, 2018, at Welch, Minnesota.



Robert L. Larsen, Chairman
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council



Janice Marie Spry, Vice Chairwoman
Minnesota Indian Affairs Council