

## RESOLUTION 31-15

- WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Executive Committee is the duly elected governing body of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, comprised of six member reservations (Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, Leech Lake, Mille Lacs, and White Earth); and
- WHEREAS**, Article II of the Revised Constitution and Bylaws of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe prescribes the criteria for membership; and
- WHEREAS**, one of the requirements is that persons born after July 3, 1961, must possess at least one quarter (1/4) degree Minnesota Chippewa Indian blood; and
- WHEREAS**, the term "Minnesota Chippewa Indian blood" has been defined by the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Executive Committee to be blood derived from one or more of the six constituent Bands of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe; and
- WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Executive Committee finds that the current membership provision is too restrictive because it does not permit other Chippewa (Ojibwe) blood to be included when determining eligibility for membership; and
- WHEREAS**, many Minnesota Chippewa possess varying degrees of other Chippewa blood and that blood should not be excluded when determining eligibility for tribal membership; and
- WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Executive Committee believes that the adult members of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe should be able to cast a ballot on the question of whether other Chippewa blood should be counted towards membership; and
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Executive Committee does hereby support this resolution pursuant to Article XII to call an election to amend Article II, section 1, by adding a paragraph that provides:

(\* The Minnesota Chippewa Indian blood of persons enrolled on the effective date of this amendment shall be corrected on the membership rolls of the Tribe by including the verified First Nation Anishinabe blood possessed by the member.

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We do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly presented and acted upon by a vote of 9 For, 0 Against, 3 Silent (Erma Vizenor, Carolyn Beaulieu, Dennis Morrison), at a Regular Meeting of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Executive Committee, a quorum present, held on February 24, 2015 at St. Paul, Minnesota.

  
Norman W. Deschampe, President  
THE MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE

  
Melanie Benjamin, Secretary  
THE MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE