The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES



Bill John Baker Principal Chief



Bill Anoatubby Governor



Gary Batton Chief



James R. Floyd Principal Chief



Leonard M. Harjo Principal Chief

A Resolution Supporting the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma in Having its Former Reservation Lands So Recognized by the United States

Resolution No. 16-19

- 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 more than 650,000 Indian people throughout the United States; and
- WHEREAS, the Inter-Tribal Council is the nationally recognized voice of the Five Civilized Tribes; and
- WHEREAS, the member Nations of the ITC each have a recognized jurisdictional area within the State of Oklahoma as well as former reservation areas within and without Oklahoma; and
- WHEREAS, a tribal land base is a vital aspect of the exercise of tribal sovereignty, is essential to the growth of tribal economies and the health, welfare, and security of Indian people, and is an integral part of the culture and heritage of Indian people; and
- WHEREAS, despite its vast historic land holdings, currently less than 500 acres of land are held in trust for the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma; and
- WHEREAS, lands claimed by the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma as its former reservation lands were, at various points in history, set aside by treaty for the exclusive use of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma and are not subject to such claims by any other ITC member Nation nor any other Indian Nation; and
- WHEREAS, the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma does presently and has historically provided services to its members residing within its jurisdictional area and within its former reservation lands; and
- WHEREAS, the ITC strongly supports the treaty rights of all Indian Nations and further recognizes the inherent right of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma to claim its former reservation lands and the importance of said lands being recognized by the United States as Seminole Nation of Oklahoma former reservation lands.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes supports the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma in having its former reservation lands officially recognized by the United States as Seminole Nation of Oklahoma former reservation lands.

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 Norman, Oklahoma on this 8th day of July, 2016, by a vote of all for o against and abstentions.

Bill Anoatubby, Governor The Chickasaw Nation

Gary Batton, Chief Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

Bill John Baker, Principal Chief

Cherokee Nation

James R. Floyd, Principal Chief Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Leonard M. Harjo, Principal Chief

Seminole Nation of Oklahoma