



International Indian Treaty Council

Working for the Rights and Recognition of Indigenous Peoples

Consejo Internacional de Tratados Indios

Trabajando por el reconocimiento y los derechos de los Pueblos Indígenas

International Indian Treaty Council 50th Anniversary Conference Standing Rock, Oceti Sakowin Treaty Territory, June 21-24, 2024

CONFERENCE RESOLUTION ON LANDS, TERRITORIES, RESOURCES AND THE RIGHTS AFFIRMED IN TREATIES

Affiliates of the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC), representing over 300 Indigenous Peoples and Nations from North, Central and South America, the Arctic, the Pacific, and the Caribbean, participated in IITC's 50th Anniversary Conference in IITC's birthplace, the Standing Rock Nation, Oceti Sakowin Treaty Territory. We came together to defend with one voice our inherent rights as affirmed in the Treaties we concluded with the colonizing settler governments. We reaffirmed and endorsed IITC's founding document adopted in June 1974, "The "Declaration of Continuing Independence" which recognized the binding, inviolate international relationship affirmed by these Nation-to-Nation Treaties.

Further, we adopted by consensus the following resolution to defend the inherent rights and ways of life of Indigenous Peoples and support the continuity of life for our future generations:

- 1) IITC reconfirms and endorses all previous International Indian Treaty Council Conference resolutions calling for honoring and implementing Treaties concluded by Indigenous Nations with colonial States.
- 2) IITC recalls its 3rd Guiding Principle which states that *"the IITC respects and seeks the participation of both men and women in all aspects and levels of the organization"*.
- 3) IITC confirms the mandates, instructions and purposes agreed to at its founding conference in Wapala South Dakota 50 years ago.
- 4) IITC challenges the colonial institutions, governing structures and processes imposed upon Indigenous Nations by the US, Canada and other colonial States, and encourages Indigenous Nations to restore their original governmental structures based on their own laws, practices and clan systems, and in accordance with their inherent right to self-determination
- 5) IITC supports the Treaties of peace, friendship, trade and commerce concluded by the Hawaiian Nation with various States.
- 6) IITC recognizes the Treaties concluded by Indigenous Nations with State parties for peace, friendship, land and resource rights, trade and commerce and calls for full implementation by State Parties in accordance with UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Article 37.

- 7) IITC affirms the importance of continued Nation-to-Nation Treaty making among Indigenous Nations of the world, including for mutual recognition, peace and friendship, trade and commerce, and the protection and restoration of salmon, buffalo, caribou and other culturally important species. IITC also affirms and recognizes the Treaties concluded between sovereign Indigenous Nations in the past.
- 8) IITC confirms the ongoing legal standing of the Treaties and other land recognition agreements (aka "land grants") concluded by Spain with the Indigenous Nations in the southwest United States, Mexico, Guatemala, the Caribbean and other locations, and agrees to store copies of these documents in the Jackie Warledo Resource Center at the IITC office in Tucson, Arizona for current, future and on-going research and advocacy to collectively address the status of the lands and rights in question.
- 9) IITC recognizes that there is no "letter of possession" ever held by the king and queen of Spain and other colonial powers and demands that the Papal Bulls be rescinded in all their manifestations.
- 10) IITC will proceed to take Treaty Rights cases to the governments of Spain and other colonial powers which concluded Treaties with Indigenous Nations for redress and resolution.
- 11) IITC will continue to call for implementation by the United States of Public Law 100-606 of the 100th United States Congress, November 04, 1988, 102 Stat. 3045, titled "An Act to implement the International Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide"
- 12) IITC demands an immediate halt to the many forms and manifestations of genocide that Indigenous Peoples continue to be subjected to, including forced sterilization programs carried out in Boriken (Puerto Rico), the US , Canada, Latin America and other regions, as well as the epidemic of drug use such as fentanyl that continues to be imported into our lands and has a devastating impacts, especially on our youth.
- 13) IITC will explore the possibility of redress for Treaty violations in the Permanent Court of Arbitration, and will investigate the possibility of co-coordinating the organization of another Russell Tribunal.
- 14) IITC recognizes that children are the most important part of maintaining culture, language, identity, development and education to ensure that our Treaties survive as living, binding instruments into the future. IITC will support the development of Treaty Rights educational programs for all ages of children.
- 15) IITC will support efforts by Indigenous Peoples to preserve and transmit the knowledge of their elders/knowledge keepers about their culture, economy, politics, language, and beliefs prior to colonization as well as the true spirit and intent of their Treaties.
- 16) IITC will emphasize the importance of the Treaty right to Health and healthcare including mental and spiritual health.
- 17) IITC will support the demand by Alaska Native Nations that the United States rescind and repeal the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

- 18) IITC recognizes the continuing need to build capacity of new leadership within the IITC and its affiliates, and will therefore continue to provide mentorship and “shadowing” opportunities for new delegates at UN meetings and sessions
- 19) IITC supports the political, cultural and spiritual decolonization of our Nations and of ourselves as individuals. We will commit to these processes with our own children and grandchildren by including them in these conferences and other such activities.
- 20) IITC will encourage Nations within our affiliates to engage in the process of obtaining Permanent Observer Status and will continue to engage the current Enhanced Participation process at the UN in keeping with the commitments agreed in the Alta Outcome Document and the Nation-to-Nation Treaty relationship.
- 21) IITC supports the activities that will be held in Kuna Yala in 2025 celebrating the 100 years of the Kuna Revolution of 1925, in which they achieved recognition of their National autonomy from Panama through the Treaty signed on March 04, 1925.
- 22) IITC will support a request to the New Zealand Government to extend an official invitation to the Special Rapporteur to conduct a constitutional review of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirene: the Declaration of Independence of the United Tribes of New Zealand (1835).
- 23) IITC will facilitate and promote a panel of international indigenous guest speakers at the Waitangi Forum Tent as apart of the Waitangi Day celebrations.
- 24) The IITC endorse Aotearoa as host of one of the next IITC conferences.

Adopted by Consensus June 24, 2024