



Inter-Tribal Council Inc.

P.O. Box 1308 • Miami, Oklahoma 74355

918.542-4486 • Fax 918.540-2500

RESOLUTION NO.08162017-B

Supporting and Encouraging the designation of the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks and Serpent Mound in Ohio as World Heritage Sites.

WHEREAS, the nine Tribes comprising membership of the Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. is a Consortium of federally-recognized Indian Tribes residing in Northeast Oklahoma; And,

WHEREAS, the organization was formed to provide services for the area Tribes and communities in matters dealing with the environment, education, employment and training, health, welfare, and economic development; And,

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Interior has placed ten ancient American Indian sites of monumental earthworks on its Tentative List submitted to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for nomination to World Heritage status; And,

WHEREAS, two nominations are on the Tentative List: Serpent Mound and Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks, which address ten ancient Earthwork sites: Serpent Mound, Fort Ancient, Mount City Group, Hopewell Mound Group, Seip Earthworks, High Bank Earthworks, Hopeton Earthworks, Octagon Earthworks, Great Circle Earthworks, and Wright Earthworks; And,

WHEREAS, these sites were ceremonial and social centers, and characterized by large earthwork constructions that feature precise geometric shapes and standard units of measure. Together, these earthworks are the best-preserved examples of the more than 40 monumental earthworks constructed by the Ohio cultures in the Ohio Valley (1-1120 CE), which are distinct from other mound-building cultures in Eastern North America; And,

WHEREAS, their scale is imposing by any standard: the Great Pyramid of Cheops would have fit inside the Wright Earthworks; four structures the size of the Coliseum of Rome would fit in the Octagon; and the circle of monoliths at Stonehenge would fit into the small earthwork circle adjacent to the Octagon. The earth walls of the enclosures are among the largest earthworks in the world that are not fortifications or defensive structures; And,

WHEREAS, the presence of artifacts from far distant sources, especially of materials that were not widely traded 2,000 years ago, indicates that these sites were important ceremonial centers that interacted with communities in much of eastern North America; And,

“United We Stand”

Eastern Shawnee • Miami • Modoc • Ottawa • Peoria
Quapaw • Seneca-Cayuga • Shawnee • Wyandotte

WHEREAS, the estimated 600 earthworks complexes in the Ohio Valley were left undisturbed by the subsequent generations of Indian people and may have been used and protected by them until all Tribes were forced out of the area by 1850, when cities and farms were built on top of most of them, leaving only remnants of what had been built by the original inhabitants; And,

WHEREAS, there are only two other ancient indigenous places in North America that were built either as astronomical observatories or monumental architecture so recognized as World Heritage sites of universal significance and they are Cahokia and Chaco Canyon; And,

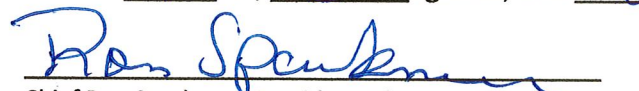
WHEREAS, the designation of the ten Ohio earthworks as World Heritage Sites would protect the earthworks from further development and destruction and be places to honor indigenous achievement; And,

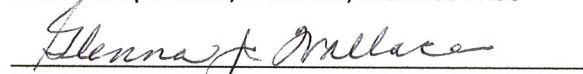
WHEREAS, all the member nations of the United Nations have the right and responsibility of nominating the most important sites for World Heritage designation and the Department of Interior has that responsibility for the United States.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. of N.E. Oklahoma does hereby support and encourage the designation of the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks and Serpent Mound as World Heritage Sites.

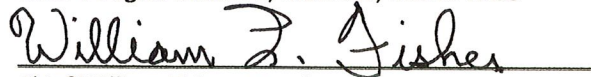
CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution of the Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. being presented at a meeting of the Board of Directors on August 16, 2017 at which a quorum was declared, was duly adopted by a vote of 9 for; 0 against; and 0 abstaining.


Chief Ron Sparkman, President; Shawnee Tribe

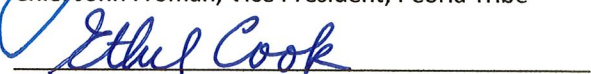

Chief Glenna J. Wallace, Secretary
Eastern Shawnee Tribe



Chief Douglas Lankford, Member; Miami Tribe

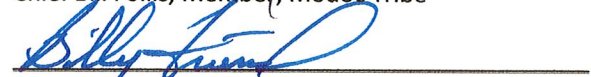

Chief William Fisher, Member
Seneca-Cayuga Tribe


Chairman John Berrey, Member; Quapaw Tribe


Chief John Froman, Vice President; Peoria Tribe


Chief Ethel Cook, Member; Ottawa Tribe


Chief Bill Follis, Member; Modoc Tribe


Chief Billy Friend, Member; Wyandotte Nation