

# Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

RESOLUTION NO: 4/20/21E

## PERTAINING TO: Ojibwemowin

WHEREAS: the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe, organized under a constitution adopted April 18, 1936, and approved June 1, 1936, pursuant to Sec. 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act, said Constitution having been amended by the Band on January 28, 1991, and said amendments approved by the Secretary on July 2, 1991, in accordance with the provisions of applicable federal law;

WHEREAS: Since time immemorial, the Tribe has traditionally utilized the Ojibwemowin in the fulfillment of its educational, subsistence, religious, cultural, medicinal and commercial needs; and

WHEREAS: the Tribe pursuant to its inherent sovereign authority and rights which were never relinquished, and consistent with the teachings confirmed through the oral traditions and customs of the Tribe, recognizes Ojibwemowin as a gift from the Creator; and

WHEREAS: The Tribe's culture and lifeway depends on the utilization of Ojibwemowin and the Tribe's desire to protect and enhance the language by ensuring its viability and sustainability for use by the seventh generation hence; and

WHEREAS: the number of first speakers of Ojibwemowin on the Red Cliff Reservation diminished every year, putting our language at critical risk in its existence; and

WHEREAS: the Tribe recognizes that with our elders walking on, Ojibwemowin is in jeopardy of being lost; and

WHEREAS: the Tribe desire to promote and propagate Ojibwemowin in a manner that preserves and revitalizes Ojibwemowin as an active language at Red Cliff;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: on behalf of the Red Cliff people, the Tribal Council hereby establishes and reaffirms 'Ojibwemowin' as the official language of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that to facilitate language learning and ensure consistency, the Tribal Council hereby adopts the double-vowel orthography system in spelling Ojibwemowin and hereby directs all agencies and institutions; accordingly, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Tribe will develop and coordinate efforts to revitalize Ojibwemowin as the language of politics, commerce, education, and community development in addition to its use as a ceremonial language.


**CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned Secretary of the Red Cliff Tribal Council, do hereby certify that the council is composed of nine members (9), of whom 8 were present at a meeting duly called, convened and held this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021, and that the foregoing resolution was adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of 7 members for, 0 against, and 0 members abstaining for the vote, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in anyway.

  
Laura J. Gordon, Secretary  
Red Cliff Tribal Council

AFFIRMED:

  
Member, Red Cliff Tribal Council

  
Member, Red Cliff Tribal Council

  
Member, Red Cliff Tribal Council

  
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