

NativeView, Inc. Charter

1.0 Findings of Fact & Resolution

1.1 We, the undersigned Indian institutions of higher education, in an attempt to better serve our communities, find the following facts:

1.1.1 That, as indigenous institutions of higher education, we have a solemn responsibility to educate the indigenous peoples within the United States as the caretaker and protector of Mother Earth, while revitalizing and restoring the cultural, spiritual, and territorial integrity of our respective Nations;

1.1.2 That our respective cultural-ways and the sacred relationship between the indigenous peoples within the United States and Mother Earth has been and continues to be diminished by the dominant society, thus making higher education all the more essential for Native people;

1.1.3 That our respective indigenous nations within the United States must work proactively to prevent any reduction of our homelands;

1.1.4 That we, as indigenous institutions of higher education, also have the duty to support the inherent sovereignty of our respective indigenous people within the United States by creating a higher education framework to balance our traditional Indigenous knowledge systems and Western knowledge systems;

1.1.5 That there is an inextricable relationship between being imbued with our sovereign authority and the right of indigenous people within the United States to peacefully live and exist within our homelands;

1.1.6 That there exists a need for indigenous people within the United States for maps of our homelands, land information, and geo-cultural information;

1.1.7 That modern technology and western science can be merged with indigenous knowledge to assist indigenous people within the United States to protect their relationship with Mother Earth, especially in the areas of agriculture, resource management, and economic development.

1.1.8 That such technologies may assist indigenous people within the United States to properly care for and account for their traditional lands;
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1.2 Resolution: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1.2.1 That we create the organization entitled “NativeView”, which is a consortium of indigenous institutions of higher education dedicated to using geo-spatial technology to enhance the traditional relationship indigenous people within the United States have with

Mother Earth and to assist in the protection of our sovereignty.

1.2.2 We create “NativeView” with the intention of spreading the benefits and education of geo-spatial technology to indigenous people within the United States and indigenous institutions of higher education.

2.0 Mission Statement

NativeView is a consortium of indigenous institutions of higher education that advocates the traditional culture of indigenous people and our relationship with Mother Earth. NativeView recognizes traditional culture of indigenous people, which has, been handed down from our ancestors to our generation along with the responsibility to hand these roles safely to future generations. NativeView supports our culture and the relationship indigenous people have for their homelands promoting and advancing geo-spatial technologies, data, and resources for indigenous institutions of higher education and indigenous people within the United States.

3.0 Goals

3.1 Overall

- *Build a digital network among NativeView members that can be used to share geo-spatial information and data.

- *Create a partnership between Tribal Colleges and the USGS, for the purposes of sharing geo-spatial technology, education, and training.

- *Provide geo-spatial technology education and training to all Indian Nations.

- *Promote the study of Earth Sciences, especially in regards to geology, hydrology, biology, and geography.

- *Utilize western science to aid in the study of Indigenous Knowledge, ethno-science, and inter-generational knowledge.

- *Create a program and/or system that indigenous people can use to map their sacred and cultural sites.

- *Develop applications for using geo-spatial information to support and develop indigenous agriculture, resource management, and economic development.

- *Develop applications that will allow indigenous people to study their natural resources, such as water quality and quantity, biology, geology, landscape mapping, irrigation, dam safety, natural resource management, fire prevention, and prevention and analysis of other natural disasters.

- *Make geo-spatial information more accessible to the environmental protection agencies of indigenous people within the United States.

3.2 Short-term

- *Seek the enlistment of other indigenous institutions of higher education.

- *Secure the interest and support of AIHEC.

- *Secure the involvement of the USGS.

- *Secure different types of funding.

4.0 Membership

4.1 Organizations: An organization may become a part of NativeView if they possess the following:
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- *Must support the sovereignty of indigenous homelands.
- *Must be, or working with, an indigenous institution of higher education.
- *Must advocate the protection of indigenous homelands.
- *Must obtain the approval and consensus of NativeView members for admittance.

4.2 Founding Members

- *Sinte Gleska University
- *Oglala Lakota College
- *D-Q University at Sycuan
- *Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute
- *La Courte Oreilles College
- *Lower Brule Tribal College
- *Little Priest Tribal College
- *United Tribes Technical College
- *United States Geological Survey

5.0 Organization and Procedures

5.1 Membership

5.1.1 General: Membership in NativeView shall include one representative from each of the member institutions or organizations.

5.1.2 Representatives: Member institutions shall designate one voting Representative, and one Alternate (who will act on behalf of said institution when the Representative is unable to attend).

5.1.3 Votes: Each NativeView member shall have one vote.

5.2 Chair

5.2.1 Nomination: NativeView members shall nominate the Chair.

5.2.2 Term: The Chair will serve a one-year term, and the Chair may serve an additional term(s) upon an annual election(s).

5.2.3 Duties and Responsibilities:

5.2.3.1 Appointment of Secretary: The Chair shall appoint a recording secretary from among the membership, who shall be responsible for drafting official minutes of NativeView meetings.

5.2.3.2 Meetings: The Chair shall prepare an agenda, arrange the time, place and facilities for, and preside over, meetings.

5.3 Subcommittees

5.3.1 Establishment and Termination: Subcommittees may be established as ad-hoc working groups and shall be terminated by consensus of the NativeView membership, or by direction of the Chair.

5.3.2 Subcommittee Chairs: Subcommittee chairs shall be elected by a simple majority of the voting membership present at a scheduled meeting, or appointed by the Chair.

5.3.3 Report to Membership: Subcommittee chair shall report to the NativeView membership.
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5.4 Charter Revisions

5.4.1 Charter Revisions: Charter revisions shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the membership.

5.4.2 One-month Comment: All Charter revisions shall require a one-month comment period, prior to voting.

5.5 Meetings

5.5.1 Calling of Meetings: NativeView meetings may be called at the discretion of the Chair or Secretary.

5.5.2 Public: NativeView meetings are open to the public, unless either the Chair or a majority-vote of the membership calls for a special closed session.

5.5.3 Electronic: NativeView will establish a digital network in order to create a forum with all members to have distance meetings, via phone or web, at least every quarter.

5.5.4 In Person: NativeView will plan to have an annual in-person meeting with all of its members.

5.6 Miscellaneous Procedural Issues

5.6.1 Conflict of Interest: NativeView member shall excuse themselves from participation in issues that are, or could be, a conflict of interest.

5.6.2 Opinions: Opinions, policy recommendations, guidance, and similar committee decisions shall be promulgated in writing upon simple majority approval of the members.
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Signatures:

Sinte Gleska University

By:_____

Oglala Lakota College

By:_____

D-Q University at Sycuan

By:_____

United States Geological Survey

By:_____

Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute

By:_____

La Courte Oreilles College

By:_____

Lower Brule Tribal College

By:_____

Little Priest Tribal College

By:_____

United Tribes Technical College

By:_____