



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

## THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

### RESOLUTION #SD-02-106

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### **Title: Native Americans in Business, Economics and Commerce (NABEC)**

**WHEREAS**, we, the members of the National Congress of American Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people and their way of life, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

**WHEREAS**, current efforts, associations, and programs for Native students, entrepreneurs and businesses are fragmented and/or narrow in focus, either geographically, or in terms of their mission statements and/or goals; and

**WHEREAS**, good programs that do exist often go unnoticed, there is no true national coordination and comprehensive student support is very limited; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need to increase the number of Native Americans in the fields of business, finance and related disciplines as our tribal nations seek to strengthen our sovereignty by developing our own resources, managing our own businesses and therefore building our own economies; and

**WHEREAS**, Native Americans in Business, Economics and Commerce (NABEC), a national, not-for-profit organization which nurtures Native American economic opportunities, community building and leadership development through the blending of business acumen with traditional Native values. NABEC is being presented to address the need to assist Native American: Students pursuing Business & related degrees, Professionals in Business & related fields, as well as Entrepreneurs, Business Enterprises, Native Communities and Economic Development Professionals, to achieve the following goals and objectives:

- Increase the success rate of Native American students in business, economic, commercial, and commercially related fields
- Increase the number, variety, and availability of economic opportunities for Native American individuals, businesses, and communities
- Increase the overall level of basic financial literacy in our native communities
- Increase the success rate of Native American business ventures
- Increase the business and financial acumen of Native peoples
- Increase Native American participation in the global economy
- Pursue enhancement of continuing educational and development programs in business and related fields
- Support Native American Entrepreneurial endeavors
- Blend traditional teachings and values with business and financial training
- Nurture community building across Native North America
- Promote the development of Native leaders in educational, business and civic capacities; and

**WHEREAS**, NABEC proposes these specific programs and resources to achieve these stated goals:

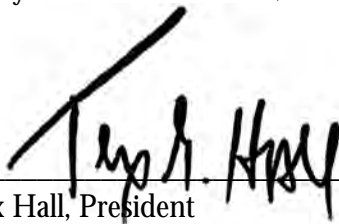
- Membership Directory – for networking and advertising
- Professional Society and Student Chapter Network (Grad & UG)
- Internet-based Job and Student Internship Banks
- Internet-based RFP exchange for bids and proposals
- Scholarship Fund
- “7th Generation Seed Grant” Fund
- Annual College Business Plan Competition (Grad & UG)
- Web-Site links to a variety of resources and support programs
- Quarterly NABEC Newsletter - tips, features, current events, etc.
- National NABEC Conference
- “Business of the Year” and other Awards and Recognition
- Enhanced Continuing Education and Training opportunities.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the NCAI does hereby advocate and support the development and growth of NABEC and its programs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

**CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2002 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Town and Country Convention Center, in San Diego, California on November 10-15, 2002 with a quorum present.

  
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Tex Hall, President

**ATTEST:**

  
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Juana Majel, Recording Secretary

Adopted by the General Assembly during the 2002 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Town and Country Convention Center, in San Diego, California on November 10-15, 2002.