



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

## Resolutions Committee Recommendation

Resolution #: **REN-13-012**

Title: **Phoenixfire - The Place of the Rising Phoenix. "Healing the Soul Wounds of Indigenous Peoples" Biosphere of Mother Earth in Balance**

### Comments:

This Resolution requests NCAI's support for 'Phoenixfire', a biosphere to be located in north-central Montana for spiritual practices.

### Recommendations:

- Recommend tabling resolution for further consideration at NCAI's Annual Convention to receive input from a larger attendance of tribal delegates; and
- Also, refer Resolution to the Rocky Mountain Area Caucus for further consideration since numerous Montana tribes are referenced in the Resolution and also calling for lands set aside in north-central Montana for a biosphere.

Is this Resolution national in scope and emergency in nature (yes/no)?: no

Sponsor a member in good standing (yes/no)?: \_\_\_\_\_



# NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

## The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #REN-13-012

### TITLE:

**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, 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

[The subsequent “whereas” statements lay out the compelling reasons and short history of the issue that lead up to a concrete action request in the “Resolve” statements.]

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that... [the “Resolve” statement(s) should clearly explain the action you would like NCAI and other entities to take to protect tribal sovereignty, governmental status, self-determination, health and welfare, etc.]

**Vision and Mission Statement:** The overall vision of Phoenixfire is creating a place where “oneness with the universe” is reborn; to restore our natural harmony with the universe; to educate and explore the evolving fusion of ancient people’s wisdom with present day living and voice to the world, “We Are All Related.” “The vision started in the ‘90s in New York City, wisdom-keepers of different cultures, shared with me the original, sacred intent of America. People of all different colors were to come to the West and meld their wisdom with the Aboriginal People of this continent to become whole human beings balanced in spirit, soul, mind and body. We moved home to my roots at Fort Belknap Indian Reservation and found that Montana is where Phoenixfire will take flight. We ‘gather the flames’ of the sacred fire to spiral out to the four directions and re-spin the ‘Web of Life.’ Our voices are singing loud to the heartbeat of Mother Earth, echoing out our ancestor’s wisdom flowing through our DNA, to remember who we are and rise as the Phoenix. We open the new cycle as a human family, the ‘Tree of Life’ is restored and our gift is becoming the whole human beings we were meant to be. Love Is All There Is. Aho.” -Valdean Mountain El Assad

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Phoenixfire's mission is to serve as a voice for Mother Earth and all living beings by building a biosphere of Mother Earth in balance with eco-friendly domes and greenhouses, a United Nations of sacred wisdom, a spiritual retreat destination and a noosphere of paradigm shifts of consciousness called "The Place of the Rising Phoenix." The biosphere of Mother Earth in balance will be a pilot-site for the rest of Indian Country and the world.

### **History**

Phoenixfire originated from the Aaniiih (Gros Ventre), Nakoda, Dakota (Sioux) Nations of both Fort Belknap and Fort Peck Indian Reservations of Montana. Phoenixfire started in 1997, as a spiritual movement and has merged into a grassroots organization. Phoenixfire's foundation is based on grassroots community leadership, hosting and sponsoring "Phoenixfire Ceremony Gatherings, Women's Circle Societies throughout Montana i.e. Women's Gathering aka White Buffalo Woman Society, Isis, Star Sisters, Crystal Grandmothers. Phoenixfire's foundation stems from lineage of a long line of sacred bundles in A'ah'ni'nin, Nakoda and (Sioux) Nations. Valdean Mountain El Assad, nookoosi (Morning Star), and Nooci iiteenooni –wou' u-h iOee (White Buffalo Calf Woman) is Board Chairperson and has been considered an elder since her early 30's. Valdean's clan is "Upper Quarter" clan A'ah'ni'nin on her mother's side and "Medicine Bear" clan Nakoda on her father's side. Valdean's great, great, great grandfather "Old Man Brockie," was the last Indian man to shoot a buffalo in the wild before the last few remaining buffalo were captured and herded to Yellowstone Park.

### **The Need**

We as a human family are living in precarious times and Mother Earth is going through huge shifts, purifications and an influx of extreme weather patterns. Phoenixfire will be a catalyst to remedy the "unawareness of the masses of humanity" who have lost their connection with Mother Earth's sacred feminine and the natural harmony with the universe, by educating, researching and exploring ancient sacred ways of living, dwellings and structures and methodically building rainbow bridges of commonalities between different Indigenous tribes, nations and cultures throughout the world. Phoenixfire will elate an evolutionary change in modern individualistic mindset to the now more accepted scientific and ancient sacred wisdom that we are interconnected. Phoenixfire is finding a voice and a movement by working cooperatively with wisdomkeepers of diverse nations and then translating that voice and movement by; journeying out to the four directions on each continent to honor Mother Earth and the universe; and organizing the creation of "The Place of the Rising Phoenix." This site will be gifted in tribute and honor for the purpose of "Healing the Soul Wound of All Indigenous Peoples," by having lands allocated for a Biosphere of Mother Earth in Balance, a United Nations of Indigenous People's Sacred Wisdom and a Spiritual Retreat Destination. This site will invoke reconnecting all people with Mother Earth's sacred feminine and the natural harmony with the universe to participate in creating our own solutions for individual, family, social and universal harmony for generations to come. As the Hopi say, "We Are the Ones We've Been Waiting For."

## Outcome

Phoenixfire is asking for support and endorsement by the National Congress of American Indian to meet with the President of the United States and his or her Administration regarding a site being gifted in tribute, honor and universal declaration for the purpose of “Healing the Soul Wound of All Indigenous Peoples,” by having lands allocated for a Biosphere of Mother Earth in Balance, a United Nations of Indigenous People’s Sacred Wisdom and a Spiritual Retreat Destination called, “The Place of the Rising Phoenix,” located in north-central Montana. All people of all tribes, all nations and cultures will come to “The Place of the Rising Phoenix for reconnection with Indigenous Peoples, Mother Earth’s sacred feminine and the natural harmony with the universe and honor Indigenous People’s cosmology that “We are all related” and part of the whole of humanity, Mother Earth and the universe. Aho.

“The first peace, which is the most important, is that which comes within the souls of people when they realize their relationship, their **oneness** with the universe, and all it’s powers and when they realize that at the center of the universe dwells the great spirit, and that this center is really everywhere, it is within each of us.”...“I was seeing in a sacred manner the shape of all things in the Spirit, and the Shape of all Shapes as they must live together like one being and I saw that the sacred hoop of my people was one of many hoops that made one circle, wide as daylight and as starlight, and in the center grew one mighty flowering tree to shelter all the children of one mother and one father. And I saw that it was holy.” -**Black Elk**

“Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children.”  
-**Sitting Bull**

“A very great vision is needed and the man who has it must follow it as the eagle seeks the deepest blue of the sky.” -**Crazy Horse**

“All men were made by the same Great Spirit.” -**Chief Joseph**

We are the ones we have been waiting for. -**The Hopi**

“Every part of this earth is sacred to my people. Every shining pine needle, every sandy shore, every mist in the dark woods, every clearing and humming insect is holy in the memory and experience of my people. The sap which courses through the trees carries the memories of the red man.” -**Chief Seattle**

“The Whirling Rainbow is the promise of peace among all Nations and all people. The Rainbow Race stresses equality and opposes the idea of a superior race that would control or conquer other races....brings peace through the understanding that all races are one. The unity of all colors, all creeds working together for the good of the whole, is the idea that is embodied....When all pathways to wholeness are respected by all cultures, the prophecy of the Whirling Rainbow will be completed.” -**Manataka American Indian Council**

“with a visible breath I am walking; I am walking toward a buffalo nation, and my voice is loud. with a visible breath I am walking; I am walking toward this sacred object.”  
-**White Buffalo Calf Woman**

**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 by the General Assembly at the 2012 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Sacramento Convention Center from October 21-26, 2012 in Sacramento, California, with a quorum present.

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President

**ATTEST:**

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Recording Secretary