



Lower Sioux Indian Community

P.O. Box 308 • 39527 Reservation Highway 1

Morton, MN 56270

Cansayapi Otunwe

LOWER SIOUX INDIAN COMMUNITY RESOLUTION NO. 16-116

APPROVING AND SUPPORTING THE LOWER SIOUX INDIAN COMMUNITY'S HONORING LITTLE CROW WITH HEALTHY AND INDIGENOUS FOODS INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, The Lower Sioux Indian Community is a duly organized and federally recognized Indian Tribe under 25 U.S.C. § 476, and is governed by the terms of a Constitution and Bylaws originally adopted by the Community Members on May 16, 1936, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on April 23, 1936; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Constitution and Bylaws, the Community Council is the governing body of the Lower Sioux Indian Community; and

WHEREAS, the Community Council has the authority, as enumerated in ARTICLE V – POWERS (a) to negotiate with the Federal, State, and local Governments on behalf of the Community...; (c) to approve or veto any sale, disposition, lease, or encumbrance of Community lands, interests in lands, or other Community assets...; (e) to make assignments of community land to members of the Community...; (f) to manage all economic affairs and enterprises of the Community...; (g) to appropriate for public purposes of the Lower Sioux Indian Community available funds within the exclusive control of the Community...; (i) to safeguard and promote the peace, safety, morals, and general welfare of the Community by regulating the conduct of trade and the use and disposition of property upon the reservation...; (j) to establish ordinances...providing for the maintenance of law and order upon the Reservation...; (m) to encourage and foster the arts, crafts, traditions, and culture of the Community...; (o) to protect and preserve the property...of the Community...; and

WHEREAS, disproportionately higher health disparities have been identified in American Indian/Alaska Native populations compared to all non-Indian populations,

including higher rates of obesity, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and metabolic syndromes; and

WHEREAS, American Indian/Alaska Native peoples have been found to have a higher prevalence of tobacco use, obesity, and physical inactivity, and lower prevalence estimates of fruit and vegetable consumption, and cancer screening; and

WHEREAS, American Indian/Native Alaska people in Minnesota experience similar higher health disparities, with 40% having been diabetic for less than ten years with an additional 30% having been diabetic for over ten years, according to data from the Bemidji Indian Health Service reported in 2015. This is compared to an 8.1% rate of diabetes for adults in Minnesota generally, according to 2014 data from the Minnesota Department of Health. Additionally, according to Bemidji IHS data, Minnesota American Indians/Native Alaskans have the lowest percentage (36%) of patients with an A1C results of 7.0 or less based on audited charts of diabetic patients; and

WHEREAS, 72.8% of American Indians/Native Alaskans in Minnesota are overweight (having a BMI between 25 to 29.9) or obese (having a BMI over 30.0); and

WHEREAS, the Lower Sioux Indian Community Health and Human Services Department conducted a community assessment and identified families choosing unhealthy food options because of the convenience they offer as being a primary challenge for improving health for Community Members. Specifically, the assessment found that there is a lack of visible healthy food options throughout community venues and events; lack of Communities policies that require inclusion of healthy food and beverage options at all community events; and a lack of convenient availability for healthy food and beverage options; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Sioux Indian Community Health and Human Services Advisory Committee has been working to increase community engagement to establish a sustainable Lower Sioux Indian Community food system that improves access to healthy food and beverage, connects the Community to Indigenous foods, and creates healthier families; and

WHEREAS, the Community Council recognizes that implementing systems change to increase the visibility of and access to healthier and Indigenous food and beverage choices, including Community policies that promote healthy, as well as Indigenous, food and drink choices for community vending machines, events, gatherings, meetings,

and the annual Wacipi, is important for modeling and supporting a healthy Lower Sioux Indian Community; and

WHEREAS, the Community Council recognizes that when a healthier food system is available to the Lower Sioux Indian Community, then families become healthier; and

WHEREAS, the Vision of the Lower Sioux Indian Community is a healthy, safe, and happy community – grounded and guided by Dakota culture, traditions, and language – where every person contributes to a diversified social and economic life. The people grow, adapt, and innovate together, through opportunities that span the generations and seek continuous success;

WHEREAS, Community member access to affordable, health-promoting foods is important for fulfilling the vision of the Lower Sioux Indian Community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lower Sioux Community Council supports the development of a policy to establish standards for food and beverages vending machines in the Community’s recreation center and Government Center that will support availability of health promoting and indigenous foods. These standards should apply to at least 75% of the food and beverages in the machines, and should use nutrition standards based on the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s “Smart Snacks” standards found at 81 Fed. Register 50132 et seq. (published July 29, 2016), and implementing sections 203 and 208 of U.S. Public Law 111–296, the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, as may be amended from time to time.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this policy should also address the following issues:

- a. Whenever possible, indigenous and local food producers, suppliers, vendors, and products should be given preference in stocking and supply decisions.
- b. All foods and beverages must contain 0 grams of trans fat per package, as labelled. Whenever possible, foods that do not contain any hydrogenated or partially hydrogenated oils; trans fats; or trans fatty acids should be provided.
- c. Calorie labeling and other nutritional information shall be provided for all food and beverage products, in the same manner and format required by 21 U.S.C.A. § 343 (q)(5)(H)(viii) and related implementing regulations, as may be amended from time to time.
- d. Food and beverage items that meet the nutrition standards should be placed so as to be prominently and easily visible, and in the prime selling positions.
- e. Food and beverage items that meet the nutrition standards should be available at prices equal to or less than the prices for similar products that are available and that do not meet the nutrition standards.

- f. At least once every five years, the Lower Sioux Indian Community Health and Human Services Department should review the food and beverage standards and recommend updates to the Council as needed.
- g. Contracts and requests for bid that are initiated or renewed after the policy goes into effect should be required to expressly incorporate the food and beverage standards and criteria described in this Resolution.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lower Sioux Community Council supports the development of a policy to encourage vendors at the Community's annual Wacipi to voluntarily provide health-promoting and indigenous foods. This policy should allow a 50% discount on the food vendor application fee for vendors who agree that all of the food and beverages that they provide will meet evidence-based and appropriate nutrition and indigenous dietary standards, which are to be developed by the Lower Sioux Indian Community Health and Human Services Department with input from the Health and Human Services Advisory Committee and the Powwow Committee.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lower Sioux Community Council hereby directs the Lower Sioux Indian Community Health and Human Services Advisory Committee to prepare a strategic plan for increasing the availability of health promoting and indigenous foods across the Lower Sioux Indian Community Reservation, to be presented to the Council within six months of the signing of this Resolution.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the strategic plan should include recommendations for specific actions that the Council could take to:

- a. Establish health promoting and indigenous food and beverage standards for food and beverages served or provided at meetings, forums, and other events sponsored by the Community or occurring on Community property or facilities;
- b. Support and increase the availability of health promoting and Indigenous foods provided by the Community's Associate Dining Room (ADR) food service program;
- c. Increase the availability of and encourage the purchase of health promoting food and beverages in stores and other community food outlets located within the Community's jurisdiction through the implementation of pricing, placement, and promotional practices or policies, such as educational signs, use of shelf tags or posters, product display and placement, taxes, and warning labels;
- d. Address any other challenges that exist within the Lower Sioux Indian Community Reservation to access to health promoting and indigenous foods and beverages.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the guidance and direction of the Lower Sioux Community Council that Community staff, employees, and agents involved with

the ADR food service and the Community's food outlets should work with representatives of the Lower Sioux Indian Community Health and Human Services Department and the Health and Human Services Advisory Committee to identify policy, systems and environmental change opportunities to increase and promote health promoting and indigenous foods and beverages in these settings.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that Lower Sioux Indian Community Health and Human Services Department, with input from the Health and Human Services Advisory Committee, is hereby directed to develop evidence-based and culturally appropriate standards for defining what foods are health promoting and indigenous to inform the implementation of strategic plan to promote healthy and indigenous foods and beverages across the Community, as described above.

CERTIFICATION

We certify that Resolution No. 16 – 116 was duly adopted by the Community Council of the Lower Sioux Indian Community at a meeting held on the 20 day of September, 2016, a quorum being present by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.

Robert L. Larsen, President



Brian Pendleton, Vice President



Earl Pendleton, Treasurer



Gary Prescott, Secretary



Justice Wabasha, Assistant Secretary Treasurer