



Oneidas bringing several hundred bags of corn to Washington's starving army at Valley Forge, after the colonists had consistently refused to aid them.

# **Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin**

## **BUSINESS COMMITTEE**



UGWA DEMOLUM YATEHE  
Because of the help of  
this Oneida Chief in  
cementing a friendship  
between the six nations  
and the colony of  
Pennsylvania, a new  
nation, the United States  
was made possible.

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### **RESOLUTION # 04-08-09-D**

#### *White Bison Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness*

- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin is a federally recognized Indian government and a treaty tribe recognized by the laws of the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida General Tribal Council is the governing body of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee has been delegated the authority of Article IV of the Oneida Tribal Constitution by the Oneida General Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS,** the Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness is a 6,800-mile cross-country journey to more than twenty (20) present and former Indian school sites in May and June 2009; and
- WHEREAS,** the vision of the Journey is to promote awareness of and healing from the historical trauma increasingly believed to perpetuate the alarming levels of substance abuse, suicides and domestic violence plaguing Native American communities today; and
- WHEREAS,** a primary cause of historical trauma among Native people was the widespread abuse of Native American children at the twenty-five (25) Bureau of Indian Affairs boarding schools and 460 government-funded boarding and day schools run by churches between 1879 and 1940 in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** one of these early schools was located in our community; and
- WHEREAS,** the non-profit organization sponsoring the Journey, White Bison Inc., has proposed that our community be one of the stops on the Journey route; and
- WHEREAS,** White Bison has invited our community to participate in this national initiative by holding a one-day event to include educational activities, facilitated talking circles and traditional Indian ceremonies to promote awareness and support healing from the historical trauma originating from the boarding and day school experience; and

**WHEREAS,** the vision of the Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness is not to take away from the positive experiences that Native people might have had at the schools, or to diminish the role that BIA-funded schools play today, but to acknowledge those aspects of the Indian school experience that left a curse on Native communities, and to provide a collective time and space for Native people of all tribes to join together in healing from this tragic chapter in our history; and


**WHEREAS,** the Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness comes on the heels of national apologies by the prime ministers of Canada and Australia in 2008 for the widespread abuse of aboriginal children at schools modeled after those created in the United States to assimilate Native American children; and

**WHEREAS,** the National Congress of American Indians has endorsed the Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness via Resolution # PHX-08-001 at its 2008 Annual Session in Phoenix, Arizona; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin does hereby support the coordination of a local event in the community in conjunction with the Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness when it is scheduled to go through the Oneida community in 2009.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum. 9 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2009; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 8 members for; 0 members against; and 0 members not voting; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

  
Patricia Hoeft, Tribal Secretary  
Oneida Business Committee

\*According to the By-Laws, Article I, Section 1, the Chair votes "only in the case of a tie."