



**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES OF THE
FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION**

A Resolution Entitled, “Approval of Dr. Loretta Heuer and Dr. Dawn Denny to Conduct a Nominal Group Technique to Study the Health Issues in the Community.”

WHEREAS, The Mandan Hidatsa Arikara Nation, also known as the Three Affiliated Tribes (“MHA Nation” or “Tribes”), having accepted the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, the authority under said Act, and having adopted a Constitution and By-laws (the Constitution) under said Act; and

WHEREAS, Article III of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes provides that the Tribal Business Council is the governing body of the Tribes; and

WHEREAS, The Three Affiliated Tribes’ Constitution authorizes and empowers the Three Affiliated Tribes’ Tribal Business Council to engage in activity on behalf of and in the interest of the welfare and benefit of the Tribes and of the enrolled members thereof; and

WHEREAS, The National Institute of Health (“NIH”) granted the University of North Dakota the “Translational Science Engaging North Dakota” (“TRANSCEND”) grant. The objective of this grant is to expand clinical and translational research focused on problems in North Dakota. The TRANSCEND grant consists of four scientific cores: Professional Development; Health Research (pilot studies); Administrative Core; and Community Engagement & Outreach (CEOs); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gary Swartz, PI, University of North Dakota collaborated with Loretta Heuer, PhD, RN, Professor, North Dakota State University School of Nursing and Dawn Denny, PhD, RN., Associate Professor, UND College of Nursing and Professional Disciplines to lead Community Engagement and Outreach Core (“CEOC”). The specific aims of the CEOC are: 1. To engage a Community Advisory Board to identify and prioritize the health issues and concerns of TRANSCEND’s communities and populations; 2. To assist investigators in developing increased culturally appropriate research within rural and underserved communities through bidirectional outreach and training; and 3. To use effective communication strategies to engage and connect communities, community clinics, investigators, and the leadership and staff of TRANSCEND for their mutual benefit; and

WHEREAS, The proposed nominal group research study will be completed by Loretta Heuer, and Dawn Denny. Twelve nominal groups will be conducted across the state of North Dakota to assess community health priorities, from the lay person’s perspective. All groups will be asked the same question, “What do you see as the



most significant health issues or challenges in your community right now?" Nominal group techniques will be used because high-quality ideas are generated from the participants and the "Round Robin" approach allows them to contribute and gain consensus by prioritizing of ideas; and

WHEREAS, Ten to twelve people over the age of 18 years will be recruited from Three Affiliated Tribes to participate in-person nominal groups; and

WHEREAS, The participants will be served lunch or dinner and receive a \$50.00 gift certificate for approximately 2 hours of participation in the nominal group and the Tribal Business Council will receive a report specific to the population living on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation (or "Reservation") to use for strategic planning and/or grant writing; and

WHEREAS, The researchers will collaborate with Robert Roaming Wolf, Sr., Director, MHA Veterans Affairs to schedule the nominal group meeting and associated activities; and

WHEREAS, Loretta Heuer, Dawn Denny, and Robert Roaming Wolf, Sr. in accordance with NIH grant award requirements, wish to use the data for presentations and to write papers for publication in reputable, recognized journals, to disseminate the results, and will abide by any Tribal directives regarding anonymity and confidentiality of Three Affiliated Tribes and research participants; and

WHEREAS, Any information collected from this research study will be owned by Three Affiliated Tribes, analyzed by Loretta Heuer and Dawn Denny, and research staff. The data for this proposed research study will be stored at North Dakota State University School of Nursing until analyzed and published. Then the data will be returned to MHA Veterans Affairs to be maintained or destroyed as the Tribes see fit; and

WHEREAS, The copies of any published articles will be disseminated by MHA Veterans Affairs to Three Affiliated Tribes Agencies to increase the body of knowledge specific to the Reservation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Business Council of the MHA Nation hereby authorizes the above-referenced researchers Loretta Heuer and Dawn Denny, and Robert Roaming Wolf, Sr. and the Tribes to engage and participate in the above-described nominal group research study, under the TRANSCEND grant, within the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation and authorizes the use of all collected information and data analysis in aggregate format for the purpose of presenting and writing and submitting papers to reputable, recognized journal publications which would increase the body of research for American Indian populations; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that specific information collected within the bounds of the Reservation belongs to the MHA Nation and may not be released in any form to individuals, agencies, or organizations without additional Tribal authorization; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Chairman is hereby authorized to execute such documents and take such further actions as are necessary to carry out the terms and intent of this Resolution.


CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation hereby certify that the Tribal Business Council is composed of seven (7) members of whom five (5) constitute a quorum, 7 were present at a Regular Meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened and held on the 7th day of May, 2026, that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of 5 members, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstained, 2 members not voting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Chairman [] Voting. [X] Not Voting.

Dated this 7th day of May, 2026.

ATTEST:



Tribal Secretary, Fred W. Fox
Tribal Business Council
Three Affiliated Tribes



Chairman, Mark N. Fox
Tribal Business Council
Three Affiliated Tribes