

SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBE

RESOLUTION NO. 02-<u>36</u> Of the SQUAXIN ISLAND TRIBAL COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council is the Governing Body of the Squaxin Island Tribe, its members, its lands, its enterprises, and its agencies by authority of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Squaxin Island Tribe, as approved and adopted by the General Body and the Secretary of the Interior on July 8, 1965; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe is a federally-recognized Indian Tribe possessing reserved powers, including the powers of self-government; and

WHEREAS, under the Constitution, Bylaws and inherent sovereignty of the Tribe, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council is charged with the duty of protecting the health, security, education and general welfare of tribal members, and with protecting and managing the lands and treaty resources and rights of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Squaxin Island Tribal Council has been entrusted with the creation of ordinances and resolutions in order to fulfill their duty of protecting the health, security, education and general welfare of tribal members, and of protecting and managing the lands and treaty resources of the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council has previously determined to interpret Article II, Sec. 1(e) of the Squaxin Island Constitution and Bylaws which makes eligible for enrollment "All persons of 1/8 degree or more Indian blood born to any member of the Squaxin Island Tribe, after the date of approval of this constitution and bylaws", to include all persons 1/8 degree or more Indian blood adopted under the age of 18 by any member of the Squaxin Island Tribe (Resolution No. 96-18); and

WHEREAS, the Tribal Council finds that prior to <u>12/31/1980</u> it was the custom and tradition of the Squaxin Island Tribe to recognize adoption, with or without a court decree, where a child came to permanently reside with and be raised as the child of an adult other than his or her biological parent;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Squaxin Island Tribal Council hereby wishes to clarify that it interprets Article II, Sec. 1(e) of the Squaxin Island Constitution and Bylaws which makes eligible for enrollment "All persons of 1/8 degree or more Indian blood born to any member of the Squaxin Island Tribe, after the date of approval of this constitution and bylaws", to include all persons 1/8 degree or more Indian blood adopted under the age of 18 by any member of the Squaxin Island Tribe, either by court decree or under the custom and tradition of the Squaxin Island Tribe, where prior to 12/31/1980 that child came to permanently reside with and be raised as the child of an adult member of the Squaxin Island Tribe other than his or her biological parent;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Squaxin Island Tribal Council shall review the facts and circumstances in any adoption by custom or tradition that occurred prior to 12/31/1980, and shall, in its sole discretion determine whether the applicant for enrollment has provided sufficient evidence of the adoption. Evidence that may help establish that the relationship was one of adoptive parent and child and not merely one of guardian and minor shall include school records, tax records, health records, affidavits, and other similar evidence, but none of these evidentiary items shall be absolutely required. The Tribal Council, upon review of the evidence presented, shall determine whether there was an adoption by custom or tradition; and

NOW THERFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a child adopted by a Squaxin Island Tribal Member, whether by court decree or by custom and tradition, shall not take on the blood quantum of his or her adoptive parent, but shall retain the combined blood quantum of his or her biological parents.

CERTIFICATION

The Squaxin Island Tribal Council does hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted at the regular meeting of the Squaxin Island Tribal Council, held on this 9th day of May, 2002 at which time a quorum was present and was passed by a vote of ______ for and ______ against with ______ abstentions.

David Lopeman, Chairman

Attested by:

Pete Kruger, Sr., Secretary