TITLE: Supporting Nunavut Alaska Provisional Government

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 and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 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

WHEREAS, we have been working hard to unite our 56 Tribal Governments in western Alaska for over 40 years; and

WHEREAS, the tribes examined the four options of strengthening current AVCP; establish a Regional Tribal Government, developing a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd class borough or do nothing; and

WHEREAS, 44 Tribal Governments rejected two options, the creation of state chartered 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Class Boroughs, or do nothing; and

WHEREAS, the two options were left for consideration, strengthening AVCP or establish a Constitutional Government for the YK Region; and

WHEREAS, after further study and consideration, the Tribes of YK Delta decided on the formation of a Constitutional government over the state chartered 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable; and

WHEREAS, the Federally Recognized Tribes called for a Constitutional Convention in a meeting of the Tribes in April 2017 to be held August 1-3, 2017 at Bethel, Alaska; and

WHEREAS, at the August 2017 Meeting the Tribes signed a Treaty among themselves as a step towards the realization of Nunavut Alaska Provisional Government.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) fully supports the actions of Tribal governments to ratify the Treaty signed on August 3, 2017, at Bethel, Alaska; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.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 2017 Annual Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee, WI, Oct 15, 2017 - Oct 20, 2017, with a quorum present.

Jefferson Keel, President

ATTEST:

Juana Majel Dixon, Recording Secretary