CHAIRMAN **Joseph Brings Plenty** 

SECRETARY Ev Ann White Feather

TREASURER **Benita Clark** 

VICE-CHAIRMAN Lanny LaPlante



P.O. Box 590 Eagle Butte, South Dakota 57625 (605) 964-4155 Fax: (605) 964-4151

## TRIBAL MEMORANDUM

: March 13, 2007 DATE

TO

FROM

: Ev Ann White Feather, Tribal Secretary

- : Resolution No. 91-07-CR: The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe does SUBJECT hereby recognize and support the CRST Tourism Division and the Lakota Oyate's efforts to protect and preserve the language and culture of the Lakota Oyate from misappropriation and exploitation by individuals who seek to use the culture and language for personal and/or financial gain and the Chevenne River Sioux Tribe, on behalf of the entire Lakota Oyate, hereby declares, re-asserts, and expresses its intentions to protect and preserve the Lakota Oyate's ownership of Lakota culture, language, and ceremonies, songs and stories, the Lakota language; and all other tangible and intangible Lakota cultural property.

# (CORRECTED MEMORANDUM)

Transmitted herewith are an original and two (2) copies of Resolution No. 91-07-CR. which was duly adopted by the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Council during Regular Session on March 09, 2007.

EWF: kk CC. Chairman Treasurer Comptroller Administrative Officer Central Records Director CRST Game, Fish & Parks Department (Tourism Division). **CRST** Legal Department District Chairmen (6) File/2

### Steve Moran Ardys Cook

**DISTRICT 2** Ted Knife, Jr.

**DISTRICT 1** 

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

**DISTRICT 3** Maynard Dupris Edward Widow

> **DISTRICT 4** Kevin Keckler Merrie Miller Terrance Veo Sharon Lee

**DISTRICT 5 Robert Walters** Lanny LaPlante Corbin LeBeau, Sr. **Derek Bartlett** 

> DISTRICT 6 Mike Rousseau **Dixie LeCompte**

#### The blue represents the thunder clouds above the world where live the thunder birds who control the four winds. The rainbow is for the Cheyenne River Sioux people who are keepers of the Most Sacred Calf Pipe, a gift from the White Buffalo Calf Maiden. The eagle feathers at the edges of the rim of the world represent the spotted eagle who is the protector of all Lakota. The two pipes fused together are for unity. One pipe is for the Lakota, the other for all the other Indian Nations. The yellow hoops represent the Sacred Hoop, which shall not be broken. The Sacred Calf Pipe Bundle in red represents Wakan Tanka - The Great Mystery. All the colors of the Lakota are visible. The red, yellow, black and white represent the four major races. The blue is for heaven and the green for Mother Earth

### Resolution No. 91-07-CR

- WHEREAS, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of South Dakota is an unincorporated Tribe of Indians, Having accepted the provisions of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 stat. 984); and
- WHEREAS, the Tribe, in order to establish its tribal organization, to develop its common resources; and to promote the general welfare of its people, has ordained and established a Constitution and By-laws; and
- WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Tribe that there have been numerous and ever-increasing instances of the Lakota Oyate's culture, language, and ceremonies being misappropriated and exploited by non-Lakota for their own personal and/or financial gain, and these activities have severely eroded the integrity of the Lakota Oyate and its culture; and
- WHEREAS, because of these activities it is time to declare, protect and re-assert ownership of our Lakota culture, language, and ceremonies by creating enforceable Tribal laws in order to protect and preserve what is ours; and
- WHEREAS, the Lakota Oyate's most well known article of cultural significance is the Sacred Calf Pipe (bundle), which was given to the Lakota People by the White Buffalo Calf Woman. The Sacred Calf Pipe is a spiritual bundle still kept in our possession; a sacred article of the Lakota People that has not been forcibly taken like many other ceremonial articles of our past; and
- WHEREAS, the Sacred Calf Pipe keeper is Mr. Arvol Looking Horse, who is the chosen 19<sup>th</sup> Generation Keeper of the Sacred Calf Pipe; and
- WHEREAS, there are many other pipe keepers among the Lakota Oyate; and
- WHEREAS, the Sacred Calf Pipe story has been handed down orally through the generations and is well known to all members of the Lakota Oyate; however due to the provenance requirements of non-Lakota society, the story of the Sacred Calf Pipe must now be committed to writing to show proof to the non-Lakota world. When the Sacred Pipe was brought, there were 12 Naca or Chiefs that represented the 12 tipi poles and the 13<sup>th</sup> pole is the backbone: the women of the nation. At that time there was the original language that came under the 12 Naca which are the Lakota/Dakota/Nakota Oyate; this should be fully recognized as the original teaching/foundation of the Buffalo Nation; and
- WHEREAS, there are many sites that are significant and/or sacred to the Lakota Oyate that must be identified, preserved, and protected from misappropriation and exploitation by those who seek to misuse them for personal or financial gain. These sites includes many cemeteries and burial sites, as well as such other sites as: Thunder Butte, Grey Horn Butte (Devil's Tower), Twin Butte, Rattlesnake Butte (by Wakpala), Medicine Rock (Patch Skin Butte), Bear Butte, the Sacred Black Hills and the Pipestone Quarry in Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS, there are many significant and/or sacred Lakota ceremonies, songs and stories that must be identified, preserved, and protected from misappropriation and exploitation by those who seek personal or financial gain from their use; and
- WHEREAS, the Lakota Oyate must document, protect, and preserve our Lakota Language from misappropriation and exploitation by those who seek personal or financial gain from its use and must educate that beyond our Lakota Nation – there are other tribal nations that have similar Siouan Language; and
- WHEREAS, the Lakota Oyate must protect and preserve our other cultural property whether in the form of language, ceremonies, stories, songs, physical sites, sacred or ceremonial items, artwork, utilitarian goods, or any other tangible or intangible items pertaining to our culture; and

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- WHEREAS, there are only certain individuals who have the knowledge, wisdom, integrity, and goodheartedness necessary to understand the complex and deep-rooted spiritual and cultural aspects of the Lakota Oyate; these individuals are known as the First Nation Spiritual Leaders, and in addition to having the requisite knowledge, wisdom, integrity and good-heartedness, they are also full-blooded Lakota who speak the language fluently; and
- WHEREAS, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe recognizes the need to declare, re-assert, protect, and preserve the Lakota Oyate's ownership of Lakota culture, language, and ceremonies, including our most Sacred Calf Pipe and its keeper, all other pipe carriers, sacred sites; ceremonies, songs and stories, the Lakota language; and all other tangible and intangible Lakota cultural property; and
- WHEREAS, the CRST Game, Fish & Parks Department (Tourism Division) has been authorized to plan and develop tourism-related activities for the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation for educational purposes and economic development purposes, but the CRST Tourism Division recognizes that its tourism activities must also protect and preserve Lakota culture and language; now
- **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe does hereby recognize and support the CRST Tourism Division and the Lakota Oyate's efforts to protect and preserve the language and culture of the Lakota Oyate from misappropriation and exploitation by individuals who seek to use the culture and language for personal and/or financial gain; and
- **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, on behalf of the entire Lakota Oyate, hereby declares, re-asserts, and expresses its intentions to protect and preserve the Lakota Oyate's ownership of Lakota culture, language, and ceremonies, including our most Sacred Calf Pipe and its keeper, all other pipe carriers, sacred sites; ceremonies, songs and stories, the Lakota language; and all other tangible and intangible Lakota cultural property.

## CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, certify that the Tribal Council is composed of fifteen (15) members of whom 12, constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting duly and regularly called, noticed, convened and held this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2007, Regular Session; and that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted as such meeting by an affirmative vote of 11 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain and 3 absent.

Ev Ann White Feather, Secretary Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe