



**Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe**  
483 Great Neck Rd So. Mashpee, MA 02649  
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## **Tribal Council Resolution 2023-RES-090**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND APPROVAL OF ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE ISSUANCE OF NOTICE OF MORATORIUM OF NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 21, 2023**

- WHEREAS,** the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (“Tribe”) is a federally-recognized Indian tribe with a duly-enacted Constitution; and
- WHEREAS,** the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council (“Tribal Council”), the governing body of the Tribe, deems it essential under Article VI, § 2.A. of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Constitution (“Constitution”) to promote and protect the political integrity, economic security and general welfare of the Tribe and members of the Tribe; and
- WHEREAS,** Article VI, § 2.C to establish procedures and ordinances for the conduct of all tribal government business operations, except where elsewhere precluded in the Constitution; and
- WHEREAS,** Article III, §8 of the Constitution provides that Tribal Council shall enforce Article III of the Constitution, which pertains to Tribal membership, by ordinance; and
- WHEREAS,** on August 22, 2023, after a duly conducted hearing, the Enrollment Committee unanimously voted to implement a moratorium for all new tribal citizen applications effective September 21, 2023 with reasonable notice to be provided to Tribal membership (the “Moratorium”); and
- WHEREAS,** the Enrollment Committee Moratorium notice is attached hereto as *Exhibit A* and provides that a “moratorium is a delay or suspension of an activity” and lists the

following exceptions for which the Enrollment Committee and/or Enrollment Department will be able to provide and accept new applications for enrollment:

1. *Children under the age of 2, or*
2. *Any person under the age of 18 whose Tribal parent(s) is an active-duty member in any U.S. Armed Forces or Merchant Marines, the applicant shall submit, at a minimum, a copy of an official order to deploy, or*
3. *Any person who was or are in the Foster Care system or had been adopted and have never been connected or communicated with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe by means of knowledge of lineal descendant family or Tribal activities available to them, or*
4. *Any person that filed a Complaint in Tribal Court on behalf of a minor child that was based on the denial of enrollment and was resolved with either a Dismissal or a Stipulation of Dismissal based on the 2017 amendments to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Enrollment Ordinance.*

**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council acknowledges that the Enrollment Committee has taken such action in accordance with Section 6 of 2017-ORD-006, *Restated and Amended Enrollment Ordinance*, wherein the “Committee or the Tribal Council may impose a moratorium on the distribution, acceptance or processing of applications. Such moratorium shall have the effect of closing the membership roll of the Tribe. The Committee or Tribal Council may temporarily open the roll for a limited purpose” and

**WHEREAS,** the Tribal Council desires to acknowledge and approve the Moratorium of New Membership Applications in accordance with the Enrollment Committee notice attached hereto as Exhibit A and effective September 21, 2023.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Tribal Council hereby acknowledges and approves of the Moratorium of New Membership Applications in accordance with the Enrollment Committee notice attached hereto as Exhibit A and effective September 21, 2023.

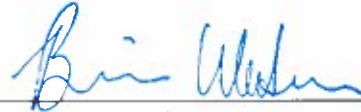
**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** that the Tribal Council hereby authorizes the Tribal Council Chairman, or in his absence, other Tribal Council Officer, the requisite authority and power for and on behalf of the Tribe to take such further action necessary to implement this Moratorium and the purposes of this Resolution.

All resolutions or parts of resolutions inconsistent with this resolution are repealed. This resolution is effective immediately and shall continue pursuant to the authority vested in the Tribal Council pursuant to Article VI, §§ 2.A. and D. of the Constitution.

**CERTIFICATION**

We, the undersigned Chairperson and Secretary of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council, do hereby certify that the Tribal Council is composed of 13 members of whom 12, constituting a quorum, were present at a regular meeting thereof, duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023 and that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the affirmative vote of 11 members, with 0 opposing, and with 1 not voting.

DATED this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023.



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Brian Weeden, Chairman  
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

ATTEST:



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Cassie Jackson, Secretary  
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

**EXHIBIT A**

*ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE NOTICE – MORATORIUM ON NEW MEMBERSHIP  
APPLICATIONS*