



**Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe**  
483 Great Neck Rd So. Mashpee, MA 02649  
Phone (508) 477-0208 \* Fax (508) 477-1218

## **Tribal Council Resolution 2023-RES-108**

### **APPROVAL AND AUTHORIZATION SUPPORTING CHAIRMAN BRIAN M. WEEDEN NOMINATION OF NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS (NCAI) EXECUTIVE BOARD 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**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, and is empowered, under Article VI, §2.A. of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Constitution to promote and protect the health and general welfare of the members of the Tribe; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council is empowered under Article VI, § 2.D. of the Constitution to negotiate and enter into contracts and agreements with Federal, State and Local governments; *and*,

**WHEREAS**, the National Congress of American Indians, founded in 1944, is the oldest, largest, and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization serving the broad interest of Tribal governments and communities; *and*

**WHEREAS**, NCAI’s purpose is to serve as a forum for unified policy development among tribal governments in order to: (1) protect and advance tribal governance and treaty rights; (2) promote the economic development and health and welfare in Indian and Alaskan Native communities; and (3) educated the public toward a better understanding of Indian and Alaskan Native tribes; *and*

**WHEREAS**, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe has maintained relations and membership with NCAI for over four decades;

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council has notice from the *National Congress of American Indians* of elections for Executive Board seats; *and*

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council acknowledges that Tribal Council Chairman Brian Weeden has been nominated as National Congress of American Indians Executive Board 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; *and*

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council desires to declare its support for such a nomination and for Chairman Weeden to serve, if duly elected, as National Congress of American Indians Executive Board 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; *and*

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Council desires to approve and authorize Chairman Weeden to take all steps necessary to submit his candidacy for the National Congress of American Indians Executive Board 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and to uphold NCAI's constitution and purpose; *and*

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Tribal Council hereby authorizes and supports Chairman Brian M. Weeden's candidacy for the National Congress of American Indians Executive Board 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President to uphold NCAI's constitution and purpose.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, this resolution shall serve as official notice of support for Chairman Brian M. Weeden candidacy for NCAI Executive Board 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and authorization to serve in this capacity, if duly elected.

Effective immediately and until revoked or modified by the Tribal Council, pursuant to the authority vested in the Tribal Council pursuant to Article VI, Sections 2.A. and D. of the Constitution of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

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

**CERTIFICATION**

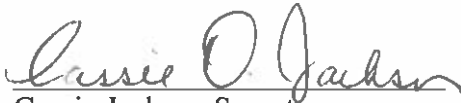
We, the undersigned Chairperson and Secretary of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council do hereby certify that the above resolution was duly adopted on November 15, 2023 by the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council which is composed of 13 members of whom 8, constituting a quorum, voted by consensus to approve the foregoing Resolution adopted by the affirmative vote of 7 members, with 0 opposing, and with 6 not voting.

DATED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.



Brian Weeden, Chairman  
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council

ATTEST:



Cassie Jackson Secretary  
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council



# ~ Elect Chairman Weeden ~

## NCAI 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

### Chairman Brian M. Weeden

Brian Moskwetah Weeden “Bear Heart” is a proud member of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and comes from the Eel Clan. Brian Weeden is the youngest elected Chairman in the Tribes history and also currently serves as Vice Chairman for the Town of Mashpee’s School Committee, Co- Chairman of the Massachusetts Special Commission on the State Flag and Seal, President of the Wôpanâak Language Reclamation Project (WLRP) Board of Directors and President of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe’s Gaming Authority. Outside of his leadership roles he also is a traditional drummer, dancer and historian traveling the pow wow circuit representing the Northeastern Tribes.

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2021 UNITY Alumni of the Year Award  
2021 NCAIED 40 under 40 Award  
2016 NCAI Youth Leadership Award  
Former National UNITY Council Co-President/Trustee  
Former NCAI Youth Commission Co-Vice President

#### NCAI PRIORITIES

Advancing Tribal Economic Development  
Land Conservancy & Water Protection  
Tribal Sovereignty  
Promoting Tribal Opportunity Access  
Cultural Awareness & Language Revitalization  
Tribal Repatriation  
Youth & Elder Protection

“A vote for Chairman Weeden is a **vote for our commUNITY!**”

It is with great pleasure that I nominate my brother Brian Weeden "Bear Heart" Mashpee Wampanoag as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice president.

Over the years I've had the honor of connecting with many powerful, kind and supportive people in Indian Country...and of course here with all of you this week. I'd be remiss if I didn't acknowledge that each and every candidates here today, (even those who curse our membership) you are all champions in my book.

Raised in a Wampanoag household we were taught early on the values of pride, empathy, integrity, and hard work...but most of all were taught respect and loyalty. Loyalty to our family first and of course loyalty to those who stand in our corner. Mashpee Wampanoag is just one of the wonderful Tribes that we call family.

Since Brian was elected the youngest ever Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Chairman I've has the pleasure of getting to know Brian at a more deeper level.

After my first real conversation with him...and just a way about him...I thought right away. Wow, this young man has an old soul. I admired him immediately and he has stood in my corner ever since.

Sure, Brian is young, but he is wise beyond his years. He is articulate, passionate, and loyal. He cares deeply for his elders, and invests greatly in his youth and their empowerment. He has the knowledge, the energy and the might to fulfill this role.

In closing as we continue on our path to our federal recognition I know Brian has my back, so today I've got his.