



Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

TRIBAL COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2024-RES-003

Support North Atlantic Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Network Partner Organization

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 Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, with its principal location at 483 Great Neck Rd. South, Mashpee, MA 02649, has a long-standing commitment to the preservation of our cultural heritage, environmental stewardship, and the advancement of our community's educational and scientific endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe recognizes the significant opportunities presented through partnership with the North Atlantic CESU Network in terms of access to a broad spectrum of professional disciplines, collaborative research, and resource management initiatives; and

WHEREAS, the integration of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and Traditional Cultural Knowledge (TCK) into regional environmental and cultural management practices is a fundamental objective of the Tribe, aligning with our ancestral values and contemporary goals; and



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WHEREAS, the pursuit of co-management and co-stewardship initiatives is essential for the sustainable management of natural resources and cultural heritage, reflecting the Tribe's rights and responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Department of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, led by the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) and Tribal Councilman, David Weeden (email: David.Weeden@mwtribe-nsn.gov, phone: (508) 477-0208 ext. 102), has expressed the desire and readiness to engage as the primary point of contact for this partnership;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council hereby formally supports the request to become a partnering organization of the North Atlantic CESU Network, endorsing the collaboration as a strategic step towards achieving our goals in cultural preservation, environmental sustainability, and educational advancement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council authorizes THPO David Weeden to represent the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe in all matters pertaining to the partnership with the North Atlantic CESU Network, ensuring that our participation aligns with our community's values, needs, and aspirations.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution affirms the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe's commitment to leveraging this partnership for the benefit of our community, enhancing our capabilities in resource management, cultural preservation, and fostering academic and professional development opportunities for our members.

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 during the entire Grant period 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



Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

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 11, constituting a quorum, were resent at a meeting thereof, duly and regularly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 10th day of January 2024 and that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the affirmative vote of 10, members, with 0, opposing, and with 0, not voting.

DATED this 10th day of January 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Weeden".

~~Brian Weeden, Chairman~~
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cassie Jackson".

Cassie Jackson, Secretary
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe



Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe
483 Great Neck Rd. South
Mashpee, MA 02649

Tribal Historic Preservation Department

January 11, 2024

Dr. Elin Torell
Director, Coastal Institute
University of Rhode Island
Narragansett Bay Campus
Narragansett, RI 02882
Phone: (401) 874-6103
Email: elintorell@uri.edu

Subject: Request for Consideration to Join the North Atlantic CESU Network

Dear Dr. Torell,

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Tribal Historic Preservation Department Director, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), and Tribal Councilman of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe. On behalf of our Tribe, I am formally requesting consideration for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe to become a partnering organization in the North Atlantic Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU) Network.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, with a deep historical presence in the region, is committed to the stewardship and sustainable management of natural and cultural resources. Our extensive engagement in environmental and cultural initiatives aligns with the core objectives of the North Atlantic CESU Network. We have long been involved in co-management of regional environmental projects, including the Mashpee National Wildlife Refuge and the Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. Additionally, our proactive stance in environmental justice and policy development, particularly in the realm of water quality and sustainable resource management, speaks to our dedication and expertise in these critical areas.

We understand that partnership with the North Atlantic CESU Network offers a unique platform for collaboration, resource sharing, and interdisciplinary research, all of which are crucial to addressing the complex environmental and cultural challenges facing our region today. Our participation in this esteemed network would not only benefit our Tribe through access to a wider array of professional disciplines and resources but also contribute significantly to the network through the incorporation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and Traditional Cultural Knowledge (TCK) into regional management practices.

Through this partnership, we are eager to work towards comprehensive co-management and co-stewardship initiatives, leveraging the network's vast expertise to foster sustainable and inclusive approaches to resource management and environmental protection.

Enclosed, please find a formal Tribal Council Resolution supporting this request. We look forward to the opportunity to discuss this potential partnership further and are open to any requirements or procedures necessary for our consideration.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our request. We are enthusiastic about the prospect of contributing to and benefiting from the valuable work facilitated by the North Atlantic CESU Network.

Sincerely,

Have a blessed day,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Weeden", is written over a horizontal line.

Mashpee Wampanoag THPO/Councilman