

Introduced by: City Manager Herron  
Date February 25, 2003  
Action: Adopted  
Vote: *unanimous*

## *CITY OF BETHEL, ALASKA*

### **RESOLUTION #03-06**

#### **A RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE TRIBAL ENTITY RIGHTS FOR THE DISPOSITION OF CULTURAL ITEMS AND/OR ANCIENT HUMAN BURIALS, ASSOCIATED ITEMS, AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of Bethel is the governing body of Bethel, Alaska, and;

**WHEREAS**, Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation, hereinafter called the YKHC, in coordination with other parties, proposes to engage in construction of health clinic facilities in the community of Bethel to provide for the improved health and welfare of the residents of the community of Bethel, Alaska, and;

**WHEREAS**, the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act, hereinafter called NHPA, provide for cultural resource identification and protection through avoidance or mitigation to avoid unnecessary disturbance of reported or known human burials, and;

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire and intent of the City Council of Bethel to comply with all provisions of the NHPA, and;

**WHEREAS**, there is no known controversy anticipated between the proposed health clinic project and known or reported ancient human burial(s), associated item(s), or archaeological site(s), and

**WHEREAS**, the Orutsararmiut Native Council is the legally recognized local Native American group for conducting affairs regarding the Tribal relationships for the local Native Alaskans in Bethel, Alaska.

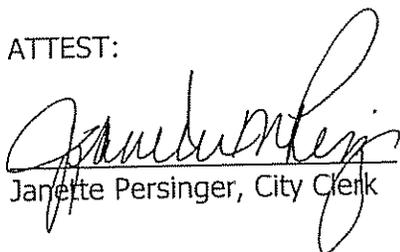
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of Bethel recognizes the rights of said Tribe to determine the appropriate treatment and disposition of any and all ancient human burials, funerary objects and archaeological artifacts which may be discovered, exposed, or excavated during ground disturbances associated with construction activities required for building or installing health facilities in Bethel, Alaska.

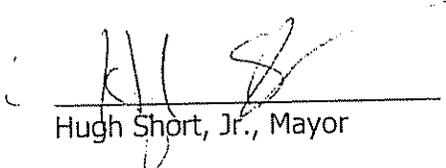
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that any contractor, employee or consultant engaged by the local governing body for the purposes of such construction shall be required, by written statement in the documents engaging their services, to refer any and all discovery of cultural resources (including ancient human remains) subject to the provisions of this resolution to the current duly authorized leaders or representatives making appropriate disposition of such objects.

**CERTIFICATION:**

I, the undersigned, hereby certify the Bethel City Council is composed of seven member, of whom seven, constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting duly and regularly called, noticed, convened and held this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003, and that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote 6 members, opposed by 0 members, and that the said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

ATTEST:

  
Janette Persinger, City Clerk

  
Hugh Short, Jr., Mayor