



# **WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE**

**A Sovereign Tribal Nation**

**(Authorizing Seeking of Transfer of Publishing Rights to *Western Apache-English Dictionary* by Dorothy Bray to the Western Apache Tribes)**

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**WHEREAS,** The Constitution of the White Mountain Apache Tribe (“Tribe”) of the Fort Apache Indian Reservation provides, at Article IV, Section 1(a) that the Tribal Council (“Council”) shall exercise the power, “To represent the tribe and act in all matters that concern the welfare of the Tribe, and to make decisions not inconsistent with or contrary to this constitution”; and

**WHEREAS,** Ndée bi yati’i’ (the Apache Language) was given to the Apache people by the Creator in times immemorial as a sacred way to protect and thrive as a people on this earth; and

**WHEREAS,** Our language has still persists as the most fundamental medium for transmission of Ndée culture, tradition, and values; and

**WHEREAS,** As a result of over 150 years of concentrated efforts by the United States government to colonize Apache lands and assimilate our people, numbers of Apache language speakers are steadily and rapidly declining; and

**WHEREAS,** In an effort to slow the decline of our language, members of the Tribe collaborated with a Non-Apache linguist, Dorothy Bray, to compile the *Western Apache-English Dictionary: A Community Generated Bilingual Dictionary* (the “Dictionary”), which was published by Bilingual Press in 1998; and

**WHEREAS,** The Dictionary has now gone out of print and is unavailable, except at exorbitant prices; and

**WHEREAS,** Ndée bi yati’i’ is, and must always be, the intellectual property of the Apache people; and

**WHEREAS,** The Tribe wishes, at this time, to acquire the publishing rights to the Dictionary, in conjunction with other Western Apache tribes, the San Carlos Apache Tribe and the Camp Verde Yavapai-Apache Tribe, should they wish to assist in this effort.

**BE IT RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Tribe’s Office of the Attorney General is hereby authorized, in conjunction with the other aforementioned Apache tribes to seek to obtain the publishing rights to the *Western Apache-English Dictionary: A Community Generated Bilingual Dictionary*, so that this valuable resource can be owned jointly by the Apache people and made readily available to the members of our tribes.

**Resolution No. 07-2020-149**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event this Resolution directly conflicts with the Tribal Constitution, Tribal Ordinances, or any material facts concerning the issues presented are later found to be false, this Resolution shall be deemed null and void and have no legal effect.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that it hereby directs that in the event that this Resolution conflicts with a prior Resolution or Policy, this Resolution shall supersede and govern over the conflicting subject matter.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the Chairwoman, or in her absence, the Vice-Chairman, is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the intent of this Resolution.

The foregoing resolution was on JULY 1, 2020 duly adopted by a vote of ELEVEN for, ZERO against, and ZERO abstentions by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it under the enumerated powers listed in Article IV, Section 1 of the WMAT Constitution, so ratified on September 30, 1993, and federally recognized pursuant to Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).

 7/14/2020  
Gwendena Lee-Gatewood, Chairwoman      Date

 7-14-2020  
Doreen T. Numkena, Tribal Secretary      Date