



National Congress of American Indians | 1516 P St NW, Washington, DC 20005 | (202) 466-7767 | www.ncai.org

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #LV-24-075

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Mark Macarro
Pechanga Band of Indians

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
Brian Weeden
Mashpee Wampanoag

RECORDING SECRETARY
Nickolaus D. Lewis
Lummi Nation

TREASURER
David Woerz
Chickasaw Nation

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

ALASKA
Brian Ridley
Native Village of Eagle

EASTERN OKLAHOMA
Joe Deere
Cherokee Nation

GREAT PLAINS
Ryman LeBeau
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe

MIDWEST
Leonard Fineday
*Minnesota Chippewa Tribe
Leech Lake Band*

NORTHEAST
Lance Gumbs
Shinnecock Indian Nation

NORTHWEST
Leonard Forsman
Suquamish Tribe

PACIFIC
Leo Sisco
*Santa Rosa Rancheria
Tachi Yokut Nation*

ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Jennifer Finley
Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

SOUTHEAST
Reggie Tupponce
Upper Mattaponi Indian Tribe

SOUTHERN PLAINS
Reggie Wassana
*Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of
Oklahoma*

SOUTHWEST
Raymond Aguilar
Pueblo of Santo Domingo

WESTERN
Randi Lone Eagle
Summit Lake Paiute Tribe

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Larry Wright, Jr.
Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

Title: Supporting Lake County Tribes by recommending the name change from Kelseyville to Konocti to the Local Government and the Board of Geographical Names

WHEREAS, we, the members of the National Congress of American Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, the town of Kelseyville in Lake County, California, is named after Andrew Kelsey who along with Charles Stone, conducted egregious abuses including murder, starvation, slavery and rape of thousands of Pomo people in the 1840s – 1850s, leading to the massacre of many Pomo in the Bloody Island Massacre and further west; commanded by Cpt. Lyon and Lt. Davidson by the U.S. Army 1st Dragoons Company; and

WHEREAS “Kelseyville,” was named by proud settlers who honored Andrew Kelsey, as the first pioneer to settle in Lake County, and is an unequivocally constant reminder to the local indigenous people of the unashamed acts of genocide committed against the Pomo tribes; and

WHEREAS, the local Tribal Nation governments and tribal members, including the Koi Nation, Elem Indian Colony, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians, Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians, Big Valley Rancheria, Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians, and Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake have also commented to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to change the name of Kelseyville to Konocti; and



National Congress of American Indians | 1516 P St NW, Washington, DC 20005 | (202) 466-7767 | www.ncai.org

WHEREAS, the Lake County Board of Supervisors held a special meeting on July 31, 2024, where the Lake, Sonoma, and Mendocino County Pomo Tribal Nations expressed their strong support for the name change and requested that the Lake County Board of Supervisors conduct a letter recommending the name change from Kelseyville to Konocti; and

WHEREAS, a Special meeting on July 31, 2024, held by the Lake County Board of Supervisors resulted in a vote to conduct a county wide advisory vote; which has been deemed Measure U for the November 2024 general election, ‘yes’ being change the name, ‘no’ meaning keep the name; where the Chairman of the Big Valley Rancheria submitted the support statement and rebuttal to the opposition; as the voice of the Lake County Tribal Nations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) hereby expresses its unequivocal support to change the name of Kelseyville to Konocti to honor the Pomo people, and begin healing; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, because this need is timely and pending at present, the National Congress of American Indians, urges Lake County residents to vote YES on Measure U in November 2024, urges the Lake County Board of Supervisors to send a letter of recommendation to the Board of Geographical Names, and also urges the Board of Geographical Names as the ultimate decision making body, to change the name of Kelseyville to Konocti; as it is a highly compelling derogatory name to the local and national Indigenous Peoples of the United States.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2024 Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians, held October 27-November 1, 2024, in Las Vegas, NV, with a quorum present.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Macarro', written over a horizontal line.

Mark Macarro, President

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leonard Fineday', written over a horizontal line.

Leonard Fineday, Acting Recording Secretary