

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CROW TRIBAL COUNCIL OF THE CROW TRIBE OF INDIANS  
RESCINDING RESOLUTION 99-23 PERTAINING TO THE CROW TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP  
ENROLLMENT AND ADOPTING THE FOLLOWING ENROLLMENT ORDINANCE.**

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribe of Indians, based upon its inherent sovereignty and based upon the Fort Laramie Treaties of 1851 and 1868 has the power and authority to make its own laws and be governed by them; and

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribe of Indians has the exclusive authority to determine its own memberships and benefits of that membership; and

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribe of Indians desires to protect the trust land base of the Crow Reservation by allowing descendants of enrolled Crow Tribal members the right to inherit land in trust status; and

WHEREAS, the Crow Tribal Council was provided notice at the April 1999 Crow Tribal Council Meeting of the Crow Tribal Enrollment Committee's intention to revise the existing Crow Tribal Enrollment Ordinance and pertaining resolutions to clarify the Crow Tribal Enrollment process; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Crow Tribal Council hereby Rescinds the existing Crow Tribal Ordinance of 1953 and Resolutions 77-04 and 99-23 and adopts the following Enrollment Ordinance to be effective from the enactment of this resolution and may not be applied retroactively.

**ENROLLMENT ORDINANCE OF THE  
CROW TRIBE OF INDIANS**

**SECTION I.** The Membership of the Crow Tribe of Indians shall be determined as follows:

- A. All Crow Indians whose names are on the annuity role as approved by the Secretary of the Interior on September 10, 1953, and who are living on the date of the approval of this Ordinance; and
- B. All descendants of such Crow Indians referred to in paragraph A above.

**SECTION II.** Benefits of Crow Tribal Enrollment shall be as follows;

- A. All presently enrolled members of the Crow Tribe and new members who have  $\frac{1}{4}$  or more Crow Indian blood shall receive all benefits of enrollment including per capita distribution; and
- B. All enrolled Crow Tribal Members who are less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  Crow Indian blood shall receive only the benefit of inheriting allotted reservation lands in trust status and shall not have voting rights.
- C. All applicants for enrollment who are approved by the Enrollment Committee of the Crow Tribe shall not receive retroactive benefits.

**SECTION III.** Process and Procedures

A. Application Process

- 1. a certified birth certificate recorded in the county where the child was born listing the biological parents of the child,
- 2. marriage license of parents or paternity statement,
- 3. certificate of Indian blood (CIB) for the parent who is not enrolled in the Crow Tribe of Indians, if applicable,

- B. The Enrollment Committee is hereby authorized to develop forms as necessary for members of the Crow Tribe to request corrections regarding the enrollee's name, blood degree and date of birth.
- C. Applicants for Crow Tribal membership may apply at any time.
- D. Parents, guardians or the next of kin may apply for applicants who are minor children or who are mentally incompetent as determined by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- E. The Enrollment Committee shall render a written decision on enrollment applications within 180 days. Rejected applicants may appeal as follows:
  - 1. Applicants shall have a right to appeal the Enrollment Committee's decision by submitting a written notice of appeal and statement of reasons to the Enrollment Committee within 30 days of receipt of the Committee's decision.
  - 2. The Enrollment Committee shall conduct a hearing of the appeal within 90 days of receipt of the appeal after sending notices to all parties relevant to the appeal action.
  - 3. The Enrollment Committee shall issue a final Committee decision 30 days after conducting an appeal hearing.
  - 4. Upon receipt of the final Committee decision, the applicant may appeal to the next upcoming Tribal Council by submitting a resolution requesting an appeal of the Committee's decision to the Tribal Executive Committee for placement on the Tribal Council agenda. If the applicant fails to appeal at the next upcoming Tribal Council after a final Committee decision, he waives his right of further appeal.
  - 5. If the Tribal Council grants the rejected applicant's appeal, the Tribal Council shall direct the Enrollment Committee to accept the enrollment application if such application satisfies enrollment criteria.

#### SECTION IV. Adoption

No persons may be enrolled as Crow Tribal members through the process of adoption. Members must qualify for membership based upon biological lineage and Crow blood quantum.

#### SECTION V. Paternity

Applicants must provide a certified birth certificate with the biological father's signature if Crow Tribal enrollment depends upon the blood quantum of the father. If no such birth certificate is available, the applicant must provide an order of paternity from a court of competent jurisdiction.

#### SECTION VI. Committee Members

- A. Each reservation district shall elect a representative to the Enrollment Committee who shall serve a two year term. Candidates for the Enrollment Committee shall file in accordance with the process set by the Secretary of the Crow Tribe of Indians.
- B. The Enrollment Committee shall have authority to approve or reject applications for enrollment. Appeals granted by the Tribal Council shall be remanded to the Enrollment Committee for acceptance if the applicant meets enrollment criteria.
- C. The Enrollment Committee shall conduct monthly meetings. Officers of the Committee shall be a Chairman and a Secretary who shall serve one year terms and who will be elected by Committee members in January of each year.

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#### SECTION VII. Relinquishment of Enrollment

- A. The Crow Tribal Enrollment Committee is hereby authorized to accept requests for relinquishment of Crow Tribal Enrollment and legally remove Crow Tribal members from the Crow Tribal rolls.
- B. The Enrollment Committee is authorized to develop a procedure for Relinquishment of Crow Tribal Enrollment which includes a form requesting relinquishment and any other necessary documents.
- C. A minor child cannot be removed from the Crow Tribal rolls unless a request for relinquishment is submitted in accordance with the developed process by his/her Crow parent.
- D. Minor children who are removed from the Crow Tribal rolls may reapply upon reaching majority.
- E. Adults who relinquish Crow Tribal membership cannot reapply for Crow Tribal membership. However, the minor or adult children of any person relinquishing Crow Tribal enrollment are not foreclosed from application.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED By the Crow Tribal Council on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of July 1999, by unanimous votes for adoption and -0- votes against passage and adoption.

*Dennis B. Williams, Sr.*