

# Oneida Nation

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## **BC Resolution # 04-28-21-D Proclamation of May 5<sup>th</sup> as a Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW)**

- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Nation is a federally recognized Indian government and a treaty tribe recognized by the laws of the United States of America; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida General Tribal Council is the governing body of the Oneida Nation; and
- WHEREAS,** the Oneida Business Committee has been delegated the authority of Article IV, Section 1, of the Oneida Tribal Constitution by the Oneida General Tribal Council; and
- WHEREAS,** according to a 2016 report from the National Institute of Justice 84% of American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime, more than half of whom experienced sexual violence; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2016, the National Crime Information Center reported nearly 6,000 cases of missing American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls, but the U.S. Department of Justice was tracking only about 100 cases; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2017, homicide was the fourth leading cause of death among American Indian and Alaska Native women between 1 and 19 years of age and the fifth leading cause of death for American Indian and Alaska Native women between 20 and 44 years of age; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2019 the Senate of the United States, designated May 5th as a National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2020 the Savanna's Act, Public Law #116-165, directs the Department of Justice to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols to address missing or murdered Native Americans; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2020 Attorney General Josh Kaul announced the membership of Wisconsin's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Task Force, charged with helping to fight the abduction, homicide, violence and trafficking of Indigenous women in Wisconsin; and
- WHEREAS,** in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Justice and Wisconsin's Indigenous communities, the task force plans to focus on examining the factors that contribute to missing and murdered Indigenous women and the response from social service organizations, understanding the roles federal, state and tribal jurisdictions play, and improving and implementing robust data collection and reporting methods; and

**WHEREAS,** Department of Interior Secretary Deb Haaland created the Missing and Murdered Unit within the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services to collect and analyze data, and to collaborate with different law enforcement agencies and governmental agencies; and

**WHEREAS,** we commemorate the lives of missing and murdered American Native and Alaska Native women and girls whose cases are documented and undocumented in public records and the media; and demonstrate solidarity with the families of the victims in light of those tragedies;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Oneida Business Committee does hereby commemorate the lives of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and proclaim May 5th as a "Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women" on which we mourn and call attention to the many missing and murdered Native people, as well as those who have experienced violence and assault and resolve to act to prevent further victimization.

#### CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Oneida Business Committee, hereby certify that the Oneida Business Committee is composed of 9 members of whom 5 members constitute a quorum; 9 members were present at a meeting duly called, noticed and held on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021; that the forgoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by a vote of 8 members for, 0 members against, and 0 members not voting\*; and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Liggins, Secretary  
Oneida Business Committee

\*According to the By-Laws, Article I, Section 1, the Chair votes "only in the case of a tie."