RESOLUTION NO. 08-103

WHEREAS: The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, ("Tribe"), is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized under a Constitution and By-Laws ratified by the Tribe on November 4, 1988, pursuant to Public Law 88-381; and

WHEREAS: The Tribe values our Anishinaabe culture and heritage and recognizes the significance of our Anishinaabe ancestors; and

WHEREAS: The Tribe acknowledges that our Anishinaabe language is a gift from the Creator and therefore is sacred, given only to "our Anishinaabe people"; and

WHEREAS: The Tribe believes that our Anishinaabe ancestors spoke a distinct dialect that is unique only to the people of our area and therefore must be perpetuated, protected, and saved because it is a national treasure of our heritage; and

WHEREAS: In furtherance of the Tribe’s goal to perpetuate, protect, and save each unique language, the Tribe chose to establish a strategic plan for the Tribe that included the Seven Grandfathers teachings to address cultural preservation and language revitalization; and

WHEREAS: The Tribe values our children and our culture and it is our duty to ensure that our language will flourish in all areas and programs offered to the Tribal community, and succeeding generations; and

WHEREAS: The Tribe understands our Anishinaabe language safeguards the wisdom of our ancestors and defines how we as Anishinabek view the world, and

WHEREAS: The Tribe’s culture is defined by our language and through the use of our language we are helping to protect our sovereign rights and assert our own Tribal sovereignty; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan continues to support and pursue its goal to address and further cultural preservation and language revitalization.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan supports and encourages the language efforts of the Ojibwe Language Revitalization Committee and sanctions its action to plan and implement language services for the Tribal community that foster fluency and fluent speakers.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council with a quorum being present during a Special Meeting on the 4th day of June, 2003 by a vote of 7 for, 0 against, and 0 abstaining.


Eveline Caste, Jr., Tribal Chief

Joanette LaGrou, Tribal Council Secretary