



# The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

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Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE:** July 1, 2025

**CONTACT:** Erik Rodriguez, Interim Public Relations Director  
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## **Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe adopts Resolution NO. 25-113**

**Mt. Pleasant, Michigan** – On Wednesday, June 18, 2025 members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Council adopted Resolution NO. 25-113. This resolution places an emphasis on a commitment to protecting the rights, safety, and well-being of all citizens and ensuring that all members of our Tribal Community – regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression – can live free from fear, exclusion and harm. Tribal Council declares and affirms their support of the full equality and dignity of all Tribal persons in the interest of human rights and the principle of non-discrimination for all our members wherever they reside.

The Anishinaabe culture has a long history of respect and inclusion for those in the community who may now be described as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, third and fourth gender or two spirit (LGBTQ+). All members of the Tribal Community are born free and equal in dignity and many LGBTQ+ citizens continue to face disproportionate rates of discrimination, violence, health disparities and social stigma which result in cumulative outcomes that affect every area of life.

The principles of sovereignty and self-determination dictate that the Tribal Council has full authority over issues that impact health, welfare, preservation of culture and the future for the Tribal Community. By supporting two-spirited individuals, it assists in the contribution of the overall well-being, success, and cultural richness of the Tribe. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe (SCIT) is committed to promoting the principle of non-discrimination and to support and strengthen individuals, families, communities and the SCIT nation.

SCIT is also committed to developing and promoting policies, programs, practices, and cultural teachings that uplift and protect the LGBTQ+ community members and ensure they are valued, visible and included. Education, intergenerational dialogue and celebration of diversity of our people are also encouraged as an essential part of healing, cultural strength and sovereignty.

Please contact Interim Public Relations Director, Erik Rodriguez at (989) 775-4059 or [erodriguez@sagchip.org](mailto:erodriguez@sagchip.org) for more information.

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# The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Of Michigan

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## RESOLUTION NO. 25-113

**WHEREAS:** The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan ("Tribe") is a federally recognized sovereign Indian Tribe organized under a Constitution and By-Laws ratified by the Tribe on November 4, 1986, pursuant to Pub. L. 99-346; and

**WHEREAS:** The governing body of the Tribe is the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council ("Tribal Council"); and

**WHEREAS:** This Resolution is adopted by Tribal Council pursuant to authority granted by Article VI, Section 1(i), (j), (n), and (o) of the Constitution of the Tribe; and

**WHEREAS:** The Anishinabe culture has a long history of respect and inclusion for those in the community who may now be described as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, third and fourth gender or two spirit; and

**WHEREAS:** All members of our Tribal Community are born free and equal in dignity; and

**WHEREAS:** Many lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, third and fourth gender and two spirit ancestors and citizens of our Tribe continue to face disproportionate rates of discrimination, violence, health disparities, and social stigma which result in cumulative outcomes that affect every area of life; and

**WHEREAS:** Our Tribe is committed to protecting the rights, safety, and well-being of all our citizens and ensuring that all members of our Tribal Community – regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression – can live free from fear, exclusion, and harm; and

**WHEREAS:** The principles of sovereignty and self-determination dictate that we have full authority over issues that impact the health, welfare, preservation of culture, and future for our Tribal Community; and

**WHEREAS:** Supporting two-spirited individuals contributes to the overall well-being, success, and cultural richness of our Tribe.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Tribal Council hereby declares and affirms its support of the full equality and dignity of all Tribal persons, including two spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender members of the Tribal Community, in the interest of furthering the cause

of human rights and the principle of non-discrimination for all our members wherever they reside.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Tribal Council commits to promote the principle of non-discrimination and to support and strengthen individuals, families, communities and our nation.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Tribal Council commits to develop and promote policies, programs, practices, and cultural teachings that uplift and protect our two spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community members, and ensure they are valued, visible, and included.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Tribal Council encourages education, intergenerational dialogue, and celebration of the diversity of our people as an essential part of healing, cultural strength, and sovereignty.

**AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall be the policy of the Tribe until such time as it is rescinded or superseded by further action of the Tribal Council.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council with a quorum being present during a Special Meeting on the 18th day of June, 2025, by a vote of 7 for, 0 against, and 0 abstaining.

  
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Tim J. Davis, Tribal Chief

  
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Jennifer L. Wassegijig, Council Secretary