

**DRAFT      3/24/18**

**ORDINANCE #\_\_\_\_\_**

**ORDINANCE FOR THE ADOPTION  
OF NEW MEMBERS**

**Tulalip Tribes of Washington**

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Directors of the Tulalip Tribes of Washington, an Indian Tribe reorganized pursuant to the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, as amended, and acting pursuant to Article II, Section 2, and Article VI, Section 1 (j) of the Constitution and Bylaws for the Tulalip Tribes:

A. A person may become eligible to be considered for adoption by and into the Tulalip Tribes only if such person first satisfies all of the following minimum requirements and conditions, and further subject to the discretion of the Tribal Board of Directors and General Council as further set forth herein:

- 1. That such one be of not less than one-quarter (1/4) Indian Blood;**
- 2. That such Indian Blood be from a tribe or band that was signatory to the Treaty of Point Elliott of January 22, 1855 (12 Stats. 928);**
- 3. Applicant must be a descendant of a person on the 1935 Tulalip Base Roll;**
- 4. That such one is not, and has never been, enrolled as a member of any other federally recognized Indian tribe; and is not at the time of application for adoption listed on any membership roll of any group seeking recognition as a federally recognized Indian tribe;**
- 5. That such one shall have maintained a permanent dwelling place within the boundaries of the Tulalip Indian reservation and actually lived therein for twenty-four (24) consecutive months at any time prior to making application for adoption;**
- 6. The applicant cannot be found guilty of any felony, or a misdemeanor involving controlled substances or dishonesty, in any Indian, State, or Federal Court within three (3) years prior to applying for adoption.**

B. Any person desiring to be adopted by and into the Tulalip Tribes shall make application for adoption submitted to the Enrollment Department. The adoption application shall require information necessary to determine whether the Applicant meets the minimum requirements under Section A of this Ordinance to be considered for adoption as a member of the Tulalip Tribes. The documentation required to apply for adoption include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a.) Original Certified Birth Certificate.
- b.) Copy of Social Security Card.
- c.) Certification of Indian Blood.
- d.) Residency Proof for twenty-four (24) consecutive months.
- e.) Letter stating why they want to be adopted.
- f.) DNA If lineage is from the Paternal Side of the only.

**C.** The applicant for adoption shall have the burden of proof to provide all reliable documentation necessary to establish that they meet the blood quantum and other minimum requirements to be considered for adoption.

**D.** On a semi-annual basis, or quarterly if necessary, the Enrollment Committee shall meet to review adoption applications. Review of adoption applications shall be separate from the review and processing of enrollment applications under TTC 5.05. Adoption applications shall be reviewed and considered by the Enrollment Committee only after the Enrollment Manager or designee makes an initial determination that the applicant meets the minimum qualifications to be considered for adoption. Applications shall be forwarded to the Enrollment Committee in the order that completed adoption applications meeting minimum requirements have been received by the Enrollment Manager or designee.

**E.** A unanimous vote of the full Enrollment Committee, including the Chair of the Committee, recommending adoption will be required to forward the adoption application to the Board of Directors. Adoption applications that fail to receive a unanimous vote cannot re-apply, unless they are able to find new documented evidence that could make them eligible. Applicant files that the Enrollment Manager has deemed as not meeting minimum qualifications for consideration of adoption will not be forwarded to the Enrollment Committee.

**F.** Adoption applications approved by the Enrollment Committee shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall meet not less than once annually and no later than ten (10) days prior to the Annual General Council meeting of the Tribe and vote whether to recommend any of the adoption applicants for approval. Applicants must receive a unanimous vote of the full Board

of Directors approving the recommendation for adoption in order for the adoption applicant's name to be brought forward to the next annual General Council meeting.

The Board has complete discretion to determine whether an applicant that has satisfied minimum requirements should be adopted into the Tribes. The Board may consider all relevant factors in exercising discretion to approve an applicant for adoption, including but not limited to, the extent of the applicant's connection to Tulalip families and the Tulalip community, and the character and background of the applicant. The action of the Board of Directors in unanimously voting to adopt said applicants shall only be effective if such persons are finally approved at the annual meeting of the General Council.

**G.** The Chairman of the Board of Directors, as provided in Article VI, Section 5 of the Constitution for the Tulalip Tribes, shall present to the General Council, at their annual meeting, a report and list of all applicants that the Board has unanimously approved for adoption as members of the Tulalip Tribes, if any. The General Council shall then vote on each applicant on whether to accept the applicant for adoption into the Tribes. Any applicant that does not receive a majority vote of the General Council accepting such adoption shall not be adopted as a member of the Tulalip Tribes.

**H.** The action of the General Council with regard to adoption applications shall be final and not subject to further review. All persons so finally adopted into the Tulalip Tribes following the completing of the above procedures, including but not limited to Section G. above, shall then and only then, and not before, succeed to all personal and property rights, duties and privileges of membership as a member duly enrolled and qualified under Article II, Section 1 (a) and 1 (b) of the Constitution of the Tulalip Tribes.