

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
4

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ (2026)

WHEREAS, the Tribe’s Cultural Institutional Review Board (CIRB) has been assigned the task of reviewing culturally relevant research requests made to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and;

WHEREAS, the CIRB has reviewed the research request made by Tyler Heneghan of Rutgers University, in partnership with the Museum of the Cherokee People, to conduct a research project titled “Activating Absence: transforming museum voids through interventions, institutional self-reflection, and contemporary Native art”, and;

WHEREAS, the purpose of this dissertation research is to examine how museum exhibitions can support institutional self-reflection, Indigenous self-representation, and collaboration with Native communities and artists, using the Museum of the Cherokee People as a case study, and;

WHEREAS, the project will include interviews, visitor surveys, public gallery observation, and archival review to document museum transformation, visitor engagement, and Cherokee-centered interpretation, and;

WHEREAS, the results of this project may assist future exhibition planning, institutional archives, visitor experience improvements, and broader discussions of Cherokee-controlled museum practice, and;

WHEREAS, the researcher acknowledges that all completed work, including the dissertation and any future publications, will be submitted to the EBCI Cultural IRB and the Museum of the Cherokee People for review prior to publication or public dissemination, and;

WHEREAS, the researcher understands that all information collected through this project shall be used only as outlined in the approved application and that any future use outside the approved scope shall require prior approval by the EBCI CIRB,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in Council assembled at which quorum is present that Tyler Heneghan is hereby granted permission to conduct the above-named research project as described in his CIRB proposal and will follow through with all reporting as required by Tribal CIRB,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the EBCI Cultural Resources shall carry out the intent of this resolution and that this resolution become effective upon ratification of the Principal Chief.

35 Submitted by:  
36 Angelina Jumper  
37 Cultural Resources Supervisor, CIRB Chair  
38