



Cherokee Council House
Cherokee, North Carolina

RESOLUTION NO. _____ (2025)

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 and approved the research request made by graduate student, Rachel Lam, an enrolled Cherokee Nation citizen pursuing a Masters of History through Western Carolina University's History Department and Cherokee Studies Program, to conduct a research project titled "Cherokee Constructs of Mental Health and Wellness", and;

WHEREAS, the purpose of this project aims to collect Cherokee centric mental health perspectives by conducting interviews with first/second language speakers and culture keepers about Cherokee specific constructs of mental health and wellness, and;

WHEREAS, There is a mental health crisis in Indian Country as Native communities are experiencing disproportionately high rates of suicide, substance abuse, mental health disorders, and traumatic events which impact mental health according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2013), and;

WHEREAS, The results from this interview based project will be useful in the future intervention-based projects and development-centered projects and;

WHEREAS, the researcher acknowledges that all the information obtained from this project will be forwarded to the EBCI Cultural IRB for review prior to publication in any form, and;

WHEREAS, Ms. Lam understands that the data collected is exclusively the Eastern Band's and will not use this information in any manner without authorization 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 Rachel Lam is hereby granted permission to conduct the above-named research project as described in her 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.

Submitted by:
Angelina Jumper, Cultural Resources Supervisor, CIRB Chair