

**CITY OF WASILLA
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 06-32**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WASILLA CITY COUNCIL APPROVING WASILLA NICHIL SUKDU
AS THE OFFICIAL NAME OF THE IDITAPARK AMPHITHEATER.**

WHEREAS, the City of Wasilla has added an amphitheater to the Iditapark; and

WHEREAS, the Wasilla Parks and Recreation Commission and the Wasilla Planning Commission have adopted resolutions recommending that the City adopt the name *Nichil Sukdu* which reflects the rich history of early settlement of this area by Athabascan people; and

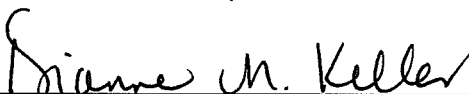
WHEREAS, the Knik Tribal Council has recommended the name *Nichil Sukdu* (pronounced knee-chill chick-do) for the amphitheater as when the Athabascan word *nichil* meaning a gathering spot and *sukdu*, a story or legendary story, are joined together they become "the place where great stories are told" according to elders of the Knik Tribal Council; and

WHEREAS, the City's goal for the amphitheater is that it become a place for all community residents and visitors to hear great stories and great music.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wasilla City Council concurs with the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Planning Commission that the name of the amphitheater honor and commemorate the original Knik and Athabascan settlers in the area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Wasilla City Council that the official name of the Iditapark Amphitheater is the Wasilla *Nichil Sukdu*.

ADOPTED by the Wasilla City Council on June 12, 2006.



DIANNE M. KELLER, Mayor

ATTEST:



KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC
City Clerk

[SEAL]



**CITY OF WASILLA
LEGISLATION STAFF REPORT**

RE: Resolution 06-32 approving Wasilla Nichil Sukdu as the official name of the Iditarod Park Amphitheater.

Agenda of: June 12, 2006

Date: May 26, 2006

Originator: Community and Economic Development

Route to:	Department	Signature/Date
	Police Youth Court, Dispatch, Code Compliance	
X	Culture and Recreational Services Library, Museum, Sports Complex	<i>[Signature]</i> 5/30/06
X	Public Works & Recreation Facility Maintenance	<i>[Signature]</i> 6/1/06
X	Finance, Risk Management & MIS Purchasing	<i>[Signature]</i> 5/30/06
X	Deputy Administrator Planning, Economic development, Human Resources	<i>[Signature]</i> 5-26-06
X	City Clerk	<i>[Signature]</i>

REVIEWED BY MAYOR DIANNE M. KELLER: _____

[Signature: Dianne M. Keller]

FISCAL IMPACT: yes or no

Funds Available yes no

Account name/number:

Attachments: Draft Council Resolution 06-32
Planning Commission Resolution 06-14
Parks and Recreation Resolution 06-02

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The Iditarod Park Amphitheater is beginning its second season as an active space for open air entertainment. At the request of the City Administration, the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Planning Commission have completed the public hearing process for consideration of an Athabascan name for the amphitheater.

The Dena'ina, who were Athabascans, settled in this area over 1,500 years ago. The numerous lakes and streams in this area provided ample fishing for them, and the area became a popular wintering ground for many small semi-permanent villages. Trails connected these villages to hunting grounds in the Susitna Valley and the Talkeetna Mountains, and to the Ahtna villages north of the Matanuska River. The townsite of Wasilla is named after a respected local Dena'ina chief and shaman who died in 1907.

The Knik Tribal Council was asked to provide assistance in selecting a name for the Iditarod Park Amphitheater. The elders of the Knik Tribal Council responded to this request for assistance by suggesting the amphitheater be called the Wasilla *Nichil Sukdu* because when you put the Athabascan words *nichil*, meaning gathering spot, and *sukdu*, meaning story or legendary story, together, they become “the place where great stories are told.” [*Nichil Sukdu* is pronounced knee-chill chick-doo.]

RECOMMENDATION:

The Wasilla Parks and Recreation Commission adopted Resolution 06-02 recommending that the Iditarod Park Amphitheater be named Wasilla *Nichil Sukdu* on May 10, 2006. On May 23, 2006, the Wasilla Planning Commission also recommended the name Wasilla *Nichil Sukdu* in Resolution 06-14.