



National
Congress of
American
Indians

2015 Annual Convention
Committee and
Subcommittee
Agendas



Economic, Finance, and Community Development Committee Agenda

Monday, October 19, 2015

4:15 pm – 6:00 pm

Royal Palm One & Two

Committee Chairs:

Loris Taylor, President & CEO, Native Public Media

Sami Jo Difuntorum, Chairwoman, National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC)

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Consideration of Proposed Resolutions
3. New Business:
 - a. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau - Cheryl Parker Rose, Assistant Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
 - b. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Small Business Program: Opportunities for Native American-owned Businesses- Josephine Piccone, Director, Division of Material Safety, State, Tribal and Rulemaking Programs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission
4. Organization Update:
 - a. Native Public Media- Loris Taylor, President and CEO
 - b. Native American Contractors Association - Mike Anderson, Executive Director
5. Adjourn



Economic, Finance, and Community Development Committee Agenda

Thursday, October 22, 2015

4:15 pm – 6:00 pm

Royal Palm One & Two

Committee Chairs:

Loris Taylor, President & CEO, Native Public Media

Sami Jo Difuntorum, Chairwoman, National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC)

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Resolution Report from Subcommittee:
 - a. Economic Development- Kristen Woolsten, Native American Contractors Association
 - b. Transportation- William Ware, Chair, President, Intertribal Transportation Association
 - c. Housing- Sami Jo Difuntorum , Chairperson, National American Indian Housing Council
 - d. Telecommunications- Loris Taylor, President & CEO, Native Public Media Inc.
- III. Legislative Update – Mike Andrews, Staff Director and Chief Counsel, Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
- IV. Other Business
- V. Adjourn



**Economic Development, Finance and Employment
Subcommittee Agenda**

Tuesday, October 20, 2015
4:15 pm - 6:00 pm

Meeting Room: Royal Palm Five

Subcommittee Chairs:

Sherry Rupert, President, Board of Directors, American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association
Kristina Woolston, Chair, Board of Directors, Native American Contractors Association

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Updates
 - Update: Action since Mid Year Conference on Resolution #MSP-15-026 “In Full Support to Create a Tribal Planning Division of the American Planning Association”: *Ian Record, NCAI Partnership for Tribal Governance Director*
3. Other Issues
 - Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience (NATIVE Act): *Sherry Rupert, Board of Directors, American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association*
4. Consideration of Resolutions
5. Adjourn



**Economic Development, Finance and Employment
Subcommittee Agenda**

Wednesday, October 21, 2015
4:15 pm - 6:00 pm

Meeting Room: Royal Palm Five

Subcommittee Chairs:

Sherry Rupert, President, Board of Directors, American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association
Kristina Woolston, Chair, Board of Directors, Native American Contractors Association

6. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
7. Updates
8. Other Issues
 - U.S. Department of Commerce Update: *Cisco Minthorn, Associate Director of Legislative Affairs and Senior Advisor on Native American Affairs, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce*
9. Consideration of Resolutions
10. Adjourn



Housing Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015
4:15 pm - 6:00 pm
Dover

Subcommittee Chair:

Sami Jo Difuntorum, Chairwoman, National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC)

1. Introductions – sign-up sheet
2. Welcome and Introduction
3. New Business
 - a. NAIHC Organizational Update- Sami Jo Difuntorum, NAIHC Chairperson
 - b. Congressional and Legislative Update - Gary Cooper, Chair, NAIHC Legislative Committee
 - c. NAIHC Resolutions - Sami Jo Difuntorum, NAIHC Chairperson
 - d. IHBG Economic Development - Daucey Brewington, Program Director, Native Procurement Technical Assistance Center
4. Consideration of Resolutions – Sami Jo Difuntorum , NAIHC Chairperson
5. Other Business
6. Adjourn



Housing Subcommittee Agenda

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

4:15pm- 6:00pm

Dover

Subcommittee Chair:

Sami Jo Difuntorum, Chairwoman, National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC)

1. Introductions – sign-up sheet
2. Welcome and Introduction
3. New Business
 - a. HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) - Chancy Kittson, Director, Blackfeet Housing Authority
4. Consideration of Resolutions – Sami Jo Difuntorum, NAIHC Chairwoman
5. Adjourn



Technology & Telecommunications Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015
Wednesday October 21, 2015
4:15 pm – 6:00 pm
Royal Palm Three

Subcommittee Co-Chairs:

Loris Taylor, President & CEO, Native Public Media
Matt Rantanen, Director of Technology, Southern California Tribal Chairman's Association

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Consideration of Resolutions
3. Announcements:
 - a. Reminder to join us for a Reception to recognize former FCC Chief of the Office of Native Affairs and Policy, Geoffrey Blackwell (in room Royal Palm Four)
4. Presentations/Issue Updates:
 - a. Matthew Rantanen, as a Member of the Federal Communications Commission's Native Nations Broadband Task Force (and other members in attendance)
 - b. Update from representatives of the National Tribal Telecommunications Association (if present)
 - c. Kevin McGinnis, Board Member, First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)
5. Discussion of other issues
6. Closing



Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

4:15 pm - 6:00 pm

Stratford

Subcommittee Chair:

William Ware, Chair, President, Intertribal Transportation Association

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions: William Ware, NCAI Transportation Subcommittee Chair
3. Tribal Transportation Unity Caucus & Transportation Legislative Update - Nathaniel H. Amdur-Clark, Policy Advisor, Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Endreson & Perry, LLP
4. Tribal Transportation Program - Brian Allen, Tribal Transportation Program Field Team Manager, Federal Highway Administration
5. Consideration of Proposed Resolutions: William Ware, NCAI Transportation Subcommittee Chair
6. Other Businesses
7. Adjourn



Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee Agenda

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

4:15pm- 6:00pm

Stratford

Subcommittee Chair:

William Ware, Chair, President, Intertribal Transportation Association

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions: William Ware, NCAI Transportation Subcommittee Chair
3. Organization Update of the Intertribal Transportation Association- William Ware, President, Intertribal Transportation Association
4. Update on Tribal Transportation Program Coordinating Committee- TBA
5. Consideration of Proposed Resolutions: William Ware, NCAI Transportation Subcommittee Chair
6. Other Businesses
7. Adjourn



Human Resources Committee

Monday, October 19, 2015

4:15 pm – 6:00 pm

Pacific Salon Two

Committee Chairs:

Melvin Monette, President, National Indian Education Association

Lester Secatero, Board Chair, National Indian Health Board

1. Opening Prayer
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Organizational Updates
 - i) National Indian Child Welfare Association Update
 - (a) David Simmons, Director of Government Affairs & Advocacy
 - ii) National Indian Health Board Update
 - (a) Stacy Bohlen, Executive Director
 - iii) National Indian Education Association Update
 - (a) Ahniwake Rose, Executive Director
4. Presentations and Discussions
 - i) First Kids First – Update and Newsletter
5. Closing



Education Subcommittee

Tuesday, October 20, 2015
Wednesday, October 21, 2015
4:15 pm – 6:00 pm
Royal Palm One

Subcommittee Chair:
Melvin Monette, President, National Indian Education Association

1. Opening Prayer
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Consideration of Resolutions
4. Legislative and Administrative Updates
 - a. Legislative Update
 - i. Ahniwake Rose, Executive Director - National Indian Education Association
 - b. Higher Education Act Reauthorization
 - i. Carrie Billie, President - American Indian Higher Education Consortium
 - c. The White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education
 - i. William Mendoza, Executive Director
 - d. Bureau of Indian Education
 - i. Monty Roessel, Director
5. Other Business/Discussion
6. Closing Prayer
7. Adjourn



Elders/Disabilities Joint Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015
Wednesday, October 21, 2015
4:15 pm - 6:00 pm
Terrace Salon Two

Elders Subcommittee Co-Chairs:

Eddie Tullis, Chairman, National Indian Council on Aging
James Delacruz, Vice Chairman, National Indian Council on Aging

Disabilities Subcommittee Chair:

Joseph Ray, Executive Director, Native American Independent Living

1. Opening Prayer
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Consideration of New Resolutions
4. Elders:
 - a. Update on 2015 White House Conference on Aging
 - b. Legislative Update "Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2015," – S. 192
 - c. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau – Consumer Protection for Elders
 - d. Department of Justice – Elder Abuse Grants
 - i. Eugenia Tyner-Dawson, Department of Justice
5. Disabilities:
 - a. Noah Blue Elk Hotchkiss, 2015 SPORTS N' SPOKES Junior Athlete of the Year
 - b. Reeves Foundation
 - c. Consortia of Administrators for Native American Rehabilitation (CANAR)
 - i. Cinda Hughes, Legislative Affairs Coordinator
6. Adjourn



Health Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

4:15 pm - 6:00 pm

Royal Palm Four

Subcommittee Chair:

Lester Secatero, Chairperson, National Indian Health Board (NIHB)

1. Welcome
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Introductions
2. NIHB Update
 - a. Employer Mandate – Where are we now?
3. Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) Tribal Behavioral Health Agenda
4. Cadillac Tax
5. Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) – Dr. Brian Thompson
6. Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs Presentation
7. Other Issues
8. Consideration of Resolutions
9. Adjourn



Indian Child & Family Welfare Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

4:15 pm - 6:00 pm

Pacific Salon Four & Five

Subcommittee Chair:

Gil Vigil, President, National Indian Child Welfare Association

1. Welcome, Invocation, Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Consideration of Resolutions
4. Updates
 - a. TANF Workgroup Updates
 - b. Wyden Child Welfare Reform Proposal (S. 1964)
 - c. ICWA Defense Project
 - i. Case Updates
 1. Virginia Litigation: [National Council for Adoption v. Jewell](#)
 2. Minnesota Litigation: [Doe v. Jesson](#)
 3. Arizona Litigation: [Carter et al. v. Washburn](#)
 4. Oklahoma Litigation: [Doe v. Pruitt](#)
 - ii. What you can do to help!
 - d. Federal ICWA regulations, data collection, and other compliance related efforts
 - e. First Kids 1st – Revised policy portfolio
5. Other Issues
6. Adjourn



Indian Child & Family Welfare Subcommittee Agenda

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

4:15pm - 6:00pm

Pacific Salon Four & Five

Subcommittee Chair:

Gil Vigil, President, National Indian Child Welfare Association

1. Welcome, Invocation, Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Consideration of Resolutions
4. Updates
 - a. BIA Tribal Access Program (TAP): [Purpose Code X Program](#)
 - b. TAC/STAC Issue Update
 - c. Child Welfare and Children's Mental Health Budget Update
 - d. TANF Workgroup Updates
5. Other Issues
6. Adjourn



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2015 NCAI Annual Convention
San Diego, CA

Land & Natural Resources Committee Agenda

Monday, October 19, 2015

4:15 pm – 6:00 pm

Pacific Salon Four & Five

Committee Chair:

Chief Kirk Francis, Penobscot Nation

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Dissemination of Resolutions to Subcommittees for Review
3. Update from the Northwest Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission
4. Other Updates from Partner Organizations
5. Issue Specific Updates
6. Adjourn



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Land & Natural Resources Committee Agenda

Thursday, October 22, 2015

4:15pm – 6:00pm

Pacific Salon Four & Five

Committee Chair:

Chief Kirk Francis, Penobscot Nation

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Updates
3. Other Issues
4. Consideration of Resolutions
5. Adjourn



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San Diego, CA

Energy and Mineral Policy Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015
Wednesday, October 21, 2015
4:15 pm - 6:00 pm
Towne

Subcommittee Chair:
David Harrison

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Subcommittee Review of Resolutions
3. Partner Organization Updates
4. Other Issue Specific Updates
5. Adjourn



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Environmental Protection and Land Use Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015
Wednesday, October 21, 2015
4:15 pm - 6:00 pm
Esquire

Subcommittee Chair:
Chief Kirk Francis, Penobscot Nation

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Subcommittee Review of Resolutions
3. Partner Organization Updates
4. Other Issue Specific Updates
5. Adjourn



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San Diego, CA

Trust Lands, Natural Resources, and Agriculture Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015
Wednesday, October 21, 2015
4:15 pm - 6:00 pm
Pacific Salon Two

Subcommittee Chair:
Zach Ducheneaux, Intertribal Agriculture Council

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Subcommittee Review of Resolutions
3. USDA Update
 - a. Leslie Wheelock, Director, USDA Office of Tribal Relations—Washington, DC
4. Partner Organization Updates
5. Other Issue Specific Updates
6. Adjourn



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Subcommittee Agenda

Wednesday, October 21, 2015
4:15 pm - 6:00 pm

Subcommittee Chair:

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Updates
3. Other Issues
4. Consideration of Resolutions
5. Adjourn



Litigation and Governance Committee Agenda

Monday, October 19, 2015

4:15 pm – 6:00 pm

Pacific Salon Three

Committee Chair: John Echohawk

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Tribal Supreme Court Project:
 - Dollar General v. Mississippi Choctaw*
 - Nebraska v. Parker*
 - U.S. v Bryant*
 - Menominee Tribe v. U.S.*
 - Other cases
3. Q&A and Discussion on the Interior Improvement Act
4. Addressing *Carcieri* through Administrative Action
5. Other Issues
6. Consideration of Resolutions
7. Adjourn



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Litigation and Governance Committee Agenda

Thursday, October 22, 2015

4:15pm – 6:00pm

Pacific Salon Three

Committee Chair: John Echohawk

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Updates
3. Other Issues
4. Consideration of Resolutions
5. Adjourn



Human, Religious, and Cultural Concerns Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015
Wednesday October 21, 2015
4:15 – 6:00 pm
Sunset

Subcommittee Co-Chairs:

Suzan Shown Harjo, President, The Morning Star Institute
Juana Majel-Dixon, Member Pauma Traditional Legislative Council

1. Invocation
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Consideration of Resolutions and Related Issues Updates
4. Issues Updates with No Accompanying Resolutions
 - a. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation: Proposal for a National Tribal Historic Preservation Strategy
 - i. ACHP Chairman Milford Wayne Donaldson
 - ii. ACHP Member, Chairman Leonard Forsman, Suquamish Tribe
 - b. Final Decision in Jim Thorpe Case and Its Impact on Repatriation Law
 - c. Fire, Floods and Protection of Ancestors and Sacred Places
 - d. National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers: Tribal Cultural Protection Disaster Preparedness Project
 - i. Katherine Brody, Consultant, NATHPO
5. Other Business
6. Closing



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Taxation Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

4:15pm - 6:00pm

Sunrise

Subcommittee Chair:

Arlan Melendez, Chairman, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

1. Welcome, Invocation, Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Consideration of Resolutions
4. Updates
5. Other Issues
6. Adjourn



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Jurisdiction and Tribal Government Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

4:15 pm - 6:00 pm

Royal Palm Two

Subcommittee Chair: John Echohawk

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Solicitor's Office of Department of Interior, Jody Cummings and Eric Shepherd
3. National Native Bar Association Important Study of Native American Attorneys
4. Other Issues
5. Consideration of Resolutions
6. Adjourn



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Jurisdiction and Tribal Government Subcommittee Agenda

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

4:15pm - 6:00pm

Royal Palm Two

Subcommittee Chair: John Echohawk

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Updates
3. Other Issues
4. Consideration of Resolutions
5. Adjourn



Tribal Gaming Subcommittee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015
4:15 pm – 6:00 pm
Pacific Salon Six & Seven

Subcommittee Chair:
Ernie Stevens, Jr., Chairman, National Indian Gaming Association

1. Invocation
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Consideration of Gaming Resolutions Submitted
4. National Indian Gaming Commission Updates
5. Legislative Updates
 - a. Internet Gaming
 - b. Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act
6. Litigation Update
7. Closing



Tribal Gaming Subcommittee Agenda

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

4:15 – 6:00 p.m.

Pacific Salon Six & Seven

Subcommittee Chair:

Ernie Stevens, Jr., Chairman, National Indian Gaming Association

1. Invocation
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Consideration of Gaming Resolutions Submitted
4. Political Advocacy Panel
5. Upcoming NIGA Events
 - a. Mid-Year Conference: November 2-4, 2015
 - b. Legislative Summit: January 19-20, 2016
 - c. Tradeshow: March 13-16, 2016
6. Closing



Veterans Committee Agenda

Monday, October 19, 2015

4:15 pm – 6:00 pm

Royal Palm Three

Committee Co-Chairs:

Daniel King, Oneida Nation & Larry Townsend, Lumbee Tribe

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Updates
 - a. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB): Overview of CFPB's Office of Service member Affairs
 - b. Veterans Administration (VA) Benefits Session (including Memorial Benefits)
 - i. Patrick Prieb, Director VA San Diego Regional Office
 - ii. Douglas Ledbetter, Director, Ft. Rosecrans/Miramar National Cemeteries
 - iii. Martha Villareal-Younger, Deputy Secretary for Minority Affairs, California State Department of Veterans Affairs
 - iv. Stephanie Birdwell, Director, VA Office of Tribal Government Relations
3. Other Issues
4. Consideration of Resolutions
5. Adjourn



Veterans Committee Agenda

Tuesday, October 20, 2015

4:15pm – 6:00pm

Royal Palm Three

Committee Co-Chairs:

Daniel King, Oneida Nation & Larry Townsend, Lumbee Tribe

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Updates
 - a. National Museum of the American Indian Veterans Memorial
 - i. Kevin Gover, Director, Smithsonian Institution National Museum of the American Indian
 - b. U.S. Selective Service
 - i. Lawrence Romo , Director; Updates on TVSO regs; Codification of ALJ as Veteran Administration Board of Appeals; Veterans Tribal Treatment Courts: Carol Scott, Staff Attorney, Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program
 - c. San Diego Centers for PTSD Research
 - d. VA Healthcare
 - i. Jeff Gering, Director VA San Diego Healthcare System
 - ii. Dr. Charlie McGruder, Chief Medical Officer, California Area IHS Office
 - iii. Dr. Karen Schoenfeld-Smith, Team Leader, San Diego Vet center; Stephanie Birdwell, Director VA OTGR
3. Other Issues
4. Consideration of Resolutions
5. Adjourn



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Veterans Committee Agenda

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

4:15pm – 6:00pm

Royal Palm Three

Committee Co-Chairs:

Daniel King, Oneida Nation & Larry Townsend, Lumbee Tribe

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Introductions
2. Updates
 - a. VA Housing Benefits
3. Other Issues
4. Consideration of Resolutions
5. Adjourn