

2012 NCAI Mid-Year Conference

Lincoln, NE
June 17-20, 2012

WORKING DRAFT Updated 6/6/2012 10:18 AM

Saturday, June 16

7:30 am-TBD **Economic Development Tour of Winnebago Reservation with Lance Morgan;
Cultural Tour with Local Planning Committee**
Visit www.ncai.org for more information.
(RSVP required)

Sunday, June 17

8:00-1:00 **NCAI Executive Committee Meeting - Grand Ballroom E**

Noon-4:00 **NCAI PRC Advisory Board Meeting - Grand Ballroom E**

1:00-5:00 **Registration/Rules & Credentials Open - Main Lobby Atrium 1**

Pre- Meetings:

9:00-Noon **USDA Listening Session - Renaissance**
The listening session will focus initially on the extension, education, and research areas followed by a general listening session on other USDA programs (housing, business, farm and ranch, etc.)

9:00-Noon **Large Land Base Tribal Nations Task Force - Hawthorne (Lower Level)**
The purpose of the Large Land Base Tribal Nations Task Force is to strengthen the ability of NCAI to advocate for the unique issues of the large land base tribes and to foster unity and cooperation among all tribes to preserve tribal sovereignty, lands, culture, and quality of life for all.

9:00-Noon **National Climate Assessment, Climate Science and Response: Innovation through Tribal Participation - Yankee Hill 2 (Lower Level)**
The tribal climate assessment can help tribal leaders prepare for resource and infrastructure challenges. The authors of the tribal chapter of the 2013 National Climate Assessment will present their nearly final draft and will be seeking feedback from Indian Country before the final submission. The National Climate Assessment fulfills an Executive Order and was completed in 2001 and 2009, neither time including tribes. The tribal chapter for the 2013 National Climate Assessment has been developed with input from over 250 tribal representatives. This session will help build the foundation to develop and sustain an intertribal climate change policy, as well as introduce new collaborative work with the National Integrated Drought Information System to investigate and monitor drought impacts specific to the Great Plains.

Moderator: Bob Gough, Secretary, Intertribal Council on Utility Policy; Lead Author for the National Climate Assessment

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Presenters:

Chris Farley, National Climate Change Specialist, US Forest Service, Resource Use Sciences
Dennis Ojima, Senior Scientist at NCCSC; and lead author of the Great Plains Chapter
Kalani Souza, Executive Director, Olohana Foundation - National Disaster Preparedness
Training Center (UH NDPTC), Indigenous Knowledge PRiMO Working Group
Jean Tanimoto, NOAA Pacific Services Center, National Climate Assessment, Indigenous
Knowledge and the Environment (IKE) Hui

9:00-Noon

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Task Force - Arbor 2 (Lower Level)

The TANF Task Force was established to develop national tribal priorities for the reauthorization of TANF. The Taskforce will also be developing recommendations on effective implementation strategies, administrative fixes, and programmatic changes that will assist tribes and tribal TANF participants. This session will focus on generating consensus to finalize the national tribal TANF priorities.

9:00-Noon

Department of Veterans Affairs Consultations - Yankee Hill 1 (3rd Floor)

The Department of Veterans Affairs, is initiating consultation to request input to enhance the delivery of services to American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans. Tribal consultation topics include: Native American Direct Loan Program, Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment service programs, Tribal Cemetery Grants, and increasing tribal government involvement in the VA/Indian Health Service Memorandum of Understanding workgroups and workgroup activities at the national and local levels.

8:00-Noon

Emergency Management Training/FEMA - Arbor 1 (Lower Level)

The demanding schedule of tribal officials rarely allows them to attend workshops or training sessions which might provide additional knowledge and skills in dealing with disaster situations. This abbreviated four-hour course is designed to help tribal leaders understand how an effective emergency management can improve the sustainability of their tribal community and better protect tribal citizens, lands, culture, and sovereignty. Course topics will include the benefits of emergency management in tribal communities; the components of an effective emergency management program; the role of the Tribal Emergency Manager; the role of the tribal leaders in emergency management; and, an overview of FEMA programs available to tribal governments. The target audience is tribal elected officials; tribal council members; tribal chairs, presidents, governors, principal chiefs and appointed officials.

9:00-5:00

Native Women's Forum - Grand Ballroom D

9:00-1:00

Violence Against Women Task Force

The NCAI Task Force on Violence Against Women serves as a unified tribal voice opposed to violent crimes perpetrated against Native women. This meeting will focus primarily on the upcoming reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

Presenters:

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Charon Asetoyer, Executive Director and Founder, Native American Community Board and the Native American Women's Health Education Resource Center

Jacqueline Agtuca, Policy Director, Clanstar, Inc.

Katy Jackman, Staff Attorney, NCAI

1:00-5:00 **Native Women's Caucus**

The Native Women's Caucus was established to support the interests of women throughout Indian Country. The Caucus supports key women's issues that have significant impact in our communities, such as welfare, economic, education, and health issues. The Caucus is open to all.

1:00-3:00 **Department of the Interior Consultation: Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative - Yankee Hill 3**

The Department of the Interior will hold a consultation meeting to seek input from Indian Country on a new Presidential initiative to increase transparency of extractive industries, such as mining, through public reporting of company payments and revenues received by the federal government.

1:00-5:00 **Emergency Management Training/FEMA - Arbor 1 (Lower Level)**

Repeat of morning session.

1:30-4:00 **Our Natural Resources (ONR) – Yankee Hill 1**

Intertribal Policy, Climate Change, Fish & Wildlife issues, increasing tribal representation in federal decision-making are some of the new hot topics to be discussed.

1:30-5:00 **Federal Recognition Task Force - Renaissance (2nd Floor)**

The Federal Recognition Task Force was established to address the interests of all tribes, both federally and non-federally recognized, on any recommended changes to policies, procedures, or strategic plans in the federal recognition process. This session will continue work on the development of realistic, actionable recommendations to Congress and the Administration on revising the federal recognition process.

1:30-5:00 **Behavioral Health Task Force - Arbor 2 (Lower Level)**

The new Behavioral Task Force unites NCAI's previous separate initiatives on Suicide and Methamphetamine. During this session, members will develop a vision and tasks for the group's work over the next two years. Members will engage in a facilitated discussion about initiatives for future work, new opportunities in which the Task Force would like to engage, and development of materials for a youth empowerment toolkit that will promote healthy behaviors and youth leadership.

1:30-5:00 **Telecom 101: An Introduction to Basic Telecommunications Terms and Concepts - Hawthorne (Lower Level)**

As the United States focuses on broadband deployment and adoption, tribes must stay

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apprised of policy and funding developments. To do so, tribal leaders and administrators must have a basic working knowledge of the telecommunications field including, but not limited to, terminology and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rulemaking processes. This session will focus on basic “telecom 101” and will cover telecommunications concepts, teleco company/regulatory structures, and funding options available. Tribal leaders in attendance will have the ability to engage in informative discussions and Q&A.

Presenters:

Panel 1: Navigating the Federal Communications Commission Proceedings and Rulemakings
Federal Communications Commission, Office of Native Affairs and Policy Staff
Geoffrey Blackwell, Chief, FCC-ONAP

Panel 2: Funding Opportunities and Potential Obstacles to Deployment of Telecommunications Infrastructure
David Villano, Assistant Administrator, USDA Rural Utilities Service, Telecommunications Program
Dustin Miller, Program Specialist, USDA Office of the Secretary, Office of Tribal Relations

Panel 3: Q&A Session with Tribal Leaders and Technical Experts
Bill Bryant, General Manager, Saddleback Communications – Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Carroll Onsaе, General Manager, Hopi Telecommunications, Inc.
Brian Tagaban, Acting Executive Director, Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission
Valerie Fast Horse, Director of IT, Coeur d’Alene Tribe
Will Micklin, Executive Director, California Association of Tribal Governments

1:30-5:00

Tribal Consultation on Housing Needs Study - Yankee Hill 2 (3rd Floor)

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will hold a consultation meeting to update tribal leaders and seek input regarding the agency’s study on “Assessment of Native American, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Housing Needs.”

1:30-5:00

Tribal Leaders as Senior Executives in the Administration - Olive Branch (Lower Level)

Tribes are uniquely and disproportionately impacted by the federal government on a day to day basis, yet American Indians and Alaska Natives are not adequately represented in the federal government’s decision-making senior ranks. Many tribal leaders qualify for these Senior Executive Service (SES) positions, because they have governmental leaders experience. However, deciphering how to fill out, submit, and write your qualifying statements can be a mystery. This session will assist participants in understanding how their government leadership experience qualifies them for senior federal government positions.

Moderator: Shana Barehand, Treasurer, Society of American Indian Government Employees

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3:00 – 5:00

New NCAI Member Orientation

All members and officers are invited to this welcome session for new members of NCAI and a briefing on membership, committees, voting, and process. This is an opportunity to learn more about NCAI meeting policy and procedures.

Jacqueline Johnson Pata, Executive Director, NCAI

Robert Holden, Deputy Director, NCAI

John Dossett, General Counsel, NCAI

Juanita Ahtone, Chair, Resolutions Committee, NCAI

4:30 – 5:00

NCAI Committee and Subcommittee Chairs Meeting with Resolutions Committee

NCAI requests all committee and subcommittee chairs attend this important meeting.

5:00-10:00

Welcome Pow-Wow and Cultural Celebration

Located at Indian Center Inc - William Canby Arena

Monday, June 18

7:30-5:00

Resolutions Office Open – Boca Raton Room

Registration Open – Main Lobby/Atrium 1

Rules & Credentials Open – Main Lobby/Atrium 1

Elder's Lounge - Camp Creek Room

8:30-12:30

Youth Commission – Olive Branch (Lower Level)

Keynote: An Extraordinary Career & Life, Brad Worthley

9:00-5:00

Marketplace Open – Lancaster Ballroom (Lower Level)

Booths displaying a variety of crafts, information, and services will open.

8:30 - Noon

First General Assembly – Grand Ballroom

8:30

Call to Order

Jefferson Keel, President, NCAI

Color Guard

Invocation

Welcome from Host

9:00

Local Official Welcome

Rick Sheehy, Lieutenant Governor, Nebraska

Chris Beutler, Mayor, Lincoln

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- 9:20 **Rules of the Convention**
Yvonne Oberly, Chair, NCAI Rules & Credentials Committee
- Resolutions Process Report**
Juanita Ahtone, Chair, NCAI Resolutions Committee
- 9:30 **President’s Report – Uniting Tribes to Advance Our Shared Goals**
Jefferson Keel, President, NCAI
- 9:45 **Executive Director’s Report – Action Plan for Sovereignty**
Jacqueline Johnson Pata, Executive Director, NCAI
- Strategies for Protecting and Expanding Indian Commerce on Your Reservation**
Lance Morgan, CEO, Ho-Chunk, Inc.
- White House Report – Promises Kept and Work for the Future**
Jodi Gillette, Senior Policy Advisor for Native American Affairs,
White House Domestic Policy Council
- Progress on Public Safety in Indian Country:
The Tribal Law & Order Act and the Violence Against Women Act**
Brendan Johnson, U.S. Attorney for South Dakota and Chair of the Native American
Issues Subcommittee
- Bureau of Indian Affairs Report**
Del Laverdure, Acting Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs
- 11:30 **Tribal Leaders Discussion**
- 12:00 Lunch Recess
- 1:30-4:00 **Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

Leveraging the Time Beyond School to Expand Opportunities for Native Youth - Grand Ballroom D

The connection is clear: programs offered to youth outside of normal school hours improve students’ academic achievement and reduce the rate of at-risk behaviors. For Indian Country, these programs also present an important opportunity to sustain Native languages and cultures. However, Native students more often than not lack access to quality, affordable programs. This breakout session will highlight the value of before-school, after-school, and summer programs for Native youth, equip tribal leaders with a tool for assessing what opportunities currently exist in their communities, and offer strategies for developing and expanding these programs to better serve Native youth.

Presenters:

Ahniwake Rose, Director of Human Service Policy, National Congress of American Indians

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Brian Yazzie, Director of Native American Services, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale
Lisa Kaslon, Extension Educator, 4H National Mentoring Program
Matt Pilcher, Traditional Wellness Court Judge, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska
Scott Aldrich, Traditional Wellness Court Judge, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

Mapping the Landscape for Asserting Tribal Water Rights - Grand Ballroom E

Tribal water rights are governed by a unique set of case law, often providing tribes favorable approaches towards quantifying their inherent water rights. However, most tribes have yet to begin quantifying their water rights. NCAI, along with the Indian Water Working Group, has developed this agenda to map the different processes towards quantifying water rights, as well as the various factors to consider when moving towards asserting tribal water rights.

Presenters:

Wes Martel, Co-Chairman, Eastern Shoshone Tribe
John Echohawk, Executive Director, Native American Rights Fund
Steven Walker, Attorney, Lewis, Longman & Walker
Robert Brunoe, General Manager, Natural Resources Department, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, *invited*
Helen Padilla, Director, American Indian Law Center, University of New Mexico

Native Vote: Making Our Voice Heard - Grand Ballroom F

The Native Vote campaign is committed to the largest Native turnout ever during the 2012 election. NCAI has formed partnerships with a number of national partners to provide tribes with access to tools that can help identify Native voters that need to register and conduct effective outreach to get out the Native Vote. Join Native Vote partners as we share the tools and hear how one tribe - the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians – utilized these tools to reach out to their citizens to encourage them to vote. The session's second panel will address voter protection issues, another key focus of the 2012 Native Vote campaign, with a focus on the national voter's rights laws and how local community's can coordinate to protect the Native Vote in this upcoming election. Join us to learn how YOU can help make 2012 Native Vote campaign EVER!

Moderator: Peter Morris, NCAI Director of Strategy & Partnerships

Panel 1 (GOTV)

Jamie Edwards, Director, Governmental Affairs, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Sally Fineday, Executive Director, Native Voters Alliance in Minnesota

Panel 2 (Voter Protection)

Sarabeth Donovan, Deputy Chief, Voting Section, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice
Patty Ferguson-Bohnee, Director, Indian Legal Program at ASU's Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
Sonia Gill, Associate Counsel, Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Enterprises on Our Lands: Farming, Ranching, and Food - Yankee Hill 3 (3rd Floor)

Tribes are reintroducing and building out their own agriculture (farming, ranching, fishing, value-added) and food enterprises, often using leased lands for tribal food and agricultural enterprises that employ tribal people. Food and agricultural enterprises have long been stable job creators in rural areas. Tribal leaders and tribal natural resources/agriculture managers are assessing all options in order to create new and evolving food and

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agriculture agendas. This session will discuss tribal food and agriculture enterprises in different stages of development. Speakers will share the history and planning considerations each tribe made while beginning and growing its agriculture base. A second panel will present information on funding options, financial and business planning, and credit availability to start or ramp up these enterprises. Participants will have an opportunity to discuss tribal agriculture development practices and the funding and management resources available to tribal leaders and tribal citizens.

Panel 1

Moderator: Ross Racine, Executive Director, Intertribal Agriculture Council - *invited*

Presenters:

Jim Stone, Executive Director, InterTribal Buffalo Council
Greg Matson, Vice-Chairman, Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin
Mike Jandreau, Chairman, representing Lower Brule Farm Corporation - *invited*
Greg Moshier, Swinomish Fish Company

Panel 2

Moderators: Janie Hipp, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, Tribal Affairs and Director, Office of Tribal Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Dustin Miller, Program Specialist, Office of Tribal Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Presenters:

Karen Atkinson, Director of Indian Energy and Economic Development Office, U.S. Department of the Interior
Ken Keegan, Executive Vice President – Risk Management, Farm Credit Council
Mike Lettig, Native American Financial Services – AgriBusiness, KeyBank - *invited*

Update on Public Safety in Indian Country: TLOA Implementation and the VAWA Reauthorization - Hawthorne

It's been nearly two years since the Tribal Law & Order Act was enacted into law and implementation of a number of the law's provisions is ongoing. This session will bring together tribal and federal law enforcement officials to discuss implementation of TLOA's key provisions, including federal declination reporting and reassumption of concurrent federal jurisdiction in PL280 states. This session will also provide an update on the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act and its critical tribal amendments.

Moderator: Brent Leonhard, Attorney, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Presenters:

Brendan Johnson, U.S. Attorney, South Dakota
Randy Goodwin, Director of Public Safety, White Earth Nation
Deborah Parker, Vice-Chair, Tulalip Tribes
Mato Standing High, Attorney General, Rosebud Sioux Tribe – *invited*

Telecom Professionals: Pathways, Challenges, and Lessons Learned - Arbor 2 (Lower Level)

As technology advances to support faster Internet speeds and services, it is essential that tribes begin to plan for establishing their own tribal telecommunications companies or regulatory authorities. Development of a strong

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workforce with technical expertise is vital to accomplishing this goal in Indian Country. This session will highlight various telecom professionals and the decisions, successes, and obstacles encountered during the establishment and operation of tribal telecommunications companies and regulatory authorities. Tribal leaders will learn valuable information regarding the importance and various pathways available for broadband deployment in Indian Country.

Presenters:

Matthew Rantanen, Director of Technology, Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association, and Director of the Tribal Digital Village Initiative

Godfrey Enjady, General Manager, Mescalero Apache Telecom, Inc.

Brian Tagaban, Acting Executive Director, Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission - *invited*

Madonna Yawakie, President and CEO, Turtle Island Communications, Inc.

JD Williams, General Manager, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority - *invited*

The Future of Our Sacred Birds: Eagle Feathers & DOJ's Proposed Enforcement Policy - Yankee Hill 2 (3rd Floor)

Last fall, the Department of Justice issued a 'Request for Tribal Input' on a proposal to issue a new department-wide policy that would clarify its practice of enforcing federal wildlife laws in a manner that facilitates the ability of members of federally recognized tribes to use eagle feathers and other bird feathers and parts for cultural and religious purposes. DOJ is now in the process of receiving a second round of tribal feedback on its proposed policy. This session will bring together tribal leaders and officials from the Departments of Justice and the Interior to discuss the DOJ's proposed policy and related issues.

Tribal Emergency Management and Homeland Security Breakout Session - Arbor 1 (Lower Level)

Tribal governments have made significant strides in meeting the challenges to establish emergency management preparedness and response infrastructures to deal with natural and technical disasters, as well as national homeland security unfunded mandates. There has been an increased federal dialogue with tribes, and this workshop will address important programs and regulations that have yet to be addressed. Discussions will cover: recent Congressional legislation that will dramatically advance tribal sovereignty regarding tribal authority to directly request a Presidential disaster declaration; proposed elimination of the Tribal Homeland Security Grants; and, other issues under the jurisdiction of the Department of Homeland Security.

Moderator: Robert Holden, Deputy Director, NCAI

Presenters:

Steve Golubic, Director Department of Homeland Security Office of Tribal Affairs

Richard Flores, Special Advisor for National Tribal Affairs, DHS-Federal Emergency Management Agency

Laura Pettus, State and Local Planning Grant Program, Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Dick Gordon, Federal Security Director, Transportation Security Administration

Tim Purdon, United States Attorney, District of North Dakota

Jean Tanimoto, NOAA Pacific Services Center, National Climate Assessment, Indigenous Knowledge and the Environment (IKE) Hui

4:30 – 6:00 **Youth Commission Re-Cap Session - Olive Branch**
Re-cap on the day and discussion of youth toolkit.

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Jacqueline Johnson Pata, Executive Director, NCAI

4:30-6:00 SUB COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Subcommittees can meet as full committees if they so choose.

Disabilities/Elders - Camp Creek	Indian Child & Family Welfare – Heartland (2 nd FL)
Economic Development, Finance, Employment - Hawthorne (Lower Level)	Jurisdiction & Tribal Government - Grand Ballroom D
Education - Yankee Hill 2 (3 rd FL)	Taxation – Grand Ballroom D
Energy & Mineral Policy - Grand Ballroom F	Telecommunications - Ivanhoe (Lower Level)
Environmental Protection & Land Use –Grand Ballroom F	Transportation & Infrastructure – Yankee Hill 1 (3 rd FL)
Health - Yankee Hill 3 (3 rd FL)	Tribal Gaming - Grand Ballroom D
Housing - Arbor 2 (Lower Level)	Trust Lands, Natural Resources, Agriculture - Grand Ballroom E
Human, Religious & Cultural Concerns – Grand Ballroom D	Veterans - Arbor 1 (Lower Level)

6:30-8:00 Veterans Affairs Listening Session – Arbor 1 (Lower Level)

The Department of Veterans Affairs, National Cemetery Administration (NCA) vision is to be the model of excellence for burial and memorials for our nation's veterans and their families. Understanding and meeting the burial and memorial needs of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) veterans is a key to ensuring that veterans as a whole are satisfied with the burial and memorial benefits available to them through VA. In partnership with VA's Office of Tribal Government Relations NCA is hosting a listening session.

6:30-8:00 United League of Indigenous Nations Evening Event - Renaissance (2nd FL)

The United League of Indigenous Nations Treaty was developed and proposed by NCAI's Special Committee on Indigenous Nation Relationships in 2007. The Treaty establishes an international political and economic alliance to advance the common interests of Indigenous Nations regarding the impacts of climate change on their homelands, to promote trade and commerce among Indigenous Nations, to bring their cultural properties under the protection of the laws of Indigenous Nations, to protect the human rights of Indigenous Peoples and to assert traditional rights to cross international borders. This event will provide treaty signatories, as well as tribes interested in endorsing the treaty, a forum for discussion and presentation.

6:30-8:30 DOI Consultation Information Technology Infrastructure Consolidation and Reorganization - Lincoln

The Department of Interior seeks tribal input on the 2012 Information Technology transformation realignment proposal and on implementation of Information Technology transformation.

6:30-8:30 Sacred Sites Listening Session – Yankee Hill 1

The Sacred Sites Listening Session is being held by the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior. This listening session is being held to unify themes for the need to conduct more consultation and communication between federal agencies and tribal leaders on

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sacred sites, increase access and protections for the sites, and develop stronger privacy assurance mechanisms.

Tuesday, June 19

- 6:00-7:30 **Sunrise Prayer Gathering - North Plaza area of the Capitol Building outside**
Attendees will conduct a sunrise prayer ceremony as part of the National Days of Prayer to Protect Native Sacred Places.
- 7:30-8:30 **Regional Caucus Meetings**
Alaska Area - Yankee Hill 1
Eastern Oklahoma Area - Renaissance
Great Plains Area - Hawthorne
Midwest Area - Lincoln
Northeast Area - Heartland
Northwest Area - Yankee Hill 2
Pacific Area - Ivanhoe
Rocky Mountain Area - Yankee Hill 3
Southeast Area - Nebraska
Southern Plains Area - Arbor 1
Southwest Area - Arbor 2
Western Area - Olive Branch
- 7:30-5:00
Resolutions Open – Boca Raton Room
Registration Open – Main Lobby/Atrium 1
Rules & Credentials Open – Main Lobby/Atrium 1
Elder’s Lounge - Camp Creek Room
- 8:30-Noon **Youth Commission – Olive Branch (Lower Level)**
- 9:00-5:00 **Exhibits Open – Lancaster Ballroom (Lower Level)**
- 8:30-Noon **Second General Assembly – Grand Ballroom**
- 8:30
Call to Order
Juana Majel Dixon, First Vice-President, NCAI
Invocation
Announcements
NCAI’s 7th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum
- 8:45
Seventh Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum
Malia Villegas, Director, Policy Research Center, NCAI

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A Call to Action: Tribes Using Community-Driven Research to Address Local Priorities

This morning's general assembly features tribes using research to address community and environmental health. Historically, many researchers came to tribal communities and conducted research that had little benefit to tribal communities and at times, resulted in harm. This session highlights three projects in which tribes actively designed and implemented research to benefit their community within the areas of **substance abuse prevention, water quality and rights, and youth suicide prevention**. Panelists will provide insights for other tribal communities interested in developing research to address their own needs.

9:00

Tribal Sovereignty and Substance Abuse

Lisa Rey Thomas, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute, University of Washington
Nigel Lawrence, Suquamish Tribe

Paper: *Asking Permission to Come Ashore: The Role of Tribal Sovereignty in the Healing of the Canoe Research Project on Culturally-Relevant Substance Abuse*

Youth Suicide Prevention: Using Data for Program Development

Cynthia Lindquist, President, Cankdeska Cikana Community College
Cora Whiteman, Project Coordinator, Wiconi Ohitika

Pat Conway, Essentia Institute of Rural Health

Paper: *Wiconi Ohitika Youth Suicide Prevention Project: Using Data for Program Development*

Making Clean Water a Sovereign Right

Larry Kindness, Apsaalooke Water and Wastewater Authority, Crow Environmental Health Steering Committee

John T. Doyle, Apsaalooke Water and Wastewater Authority, Crow Environmental Health Steering Committee

Urban J. Bear Don't Walk, Crow Nation Legal Counsel

James Real Bird, Crow Nation

Paper: *For as Long as the Grass Shall Grow and the Rivers Shall Flow: Making Clean Water a Sovereign Right*

Native Vote 2012 – Our Biggest Year Ever

Kevin Killer, State Representative, South Dakota

Hilary Tompkins, Solicitor, U.S. Department of the Interior

Tribal Leader Discussion

12:00

Lunch Recess

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12:00-1:00

Tribal Leader Scholar Forum Poster Session - Renaissance

Jessica Bardill, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign: Education as Tribal and Scientific Capacity Building

Paulette Blanchard, Haskell Indian Nations University: Climate Change Politics in Oklahoma: The New Indian Wars

Gordon Pullar, Jenny Bell-Jones, and Kevin Illingworth, University of Alaska Fairbanks: Applied Research and Capacity Building: The Goals and Experiences in Alaska Native Community, Political, Social, and Environmental Planning with the College of Rural and Community Development at the University of Alaska Fairbanks

Puneet Chawla Sahota, NCAI Policy Research Center: In Partnership: New Genetics Research Resource Guide for Tribal Leaders

Lavonne Snake, Little Priest Tribal College: Corn and the Return to a Traditional Diet to Treat Diabetes

Corinna Tordillos, University of Washington: The Native Comic Book Project

Fonda Walters, Arizona State University: Promoting Entrepreneurship in a Tribal Context: First Innovations Institute

1:30-4:00pm

Concurrent Breakout Sessions:

Protecting Your Community from Harm & Getting Results: Research Regulation Options for Tribes - Grand Ballroom E

Several tribes have established policies, practices, and boards to regulate research to protect the interest of their communities. This session will provide examples from tribes who have established Institutional Review Boards (IRBs), Community Advisory Boards (CABs), research agreements, and university partnerships to assist them in pursuing research that has community benefits, protects their tribal sovereignty, and controls their direction of research occurring on their land and with their citizens.

Facilitator: Ned Norris, Chairman, Tohono O'odham Nation – *invited*

Presenters:

Leo Killsback, Arizona State University, American Indian Studies

L. Jace Killsback, Chairman of the Rocky Mountain Regional Tribal Institutional Review Board, Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council

Conrad Fisher, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Northern Cheyenne Tribe

Kenton Laffoon, Program Director, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, American Indian Research Center on Health

Travis Lane, Health Program Specialist, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona

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Jamie Rose Scott, Research Ambassador and Outreach Specialist, Collaborative Center for Health Equity, Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Bethany Miller, Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin, Menominee Tribal Clinic and Community Action Board (CAB) member

Assessments to Improve Community & Environmental Health - Grand Ballroom F

From how to improve the health of their people, to making sure citizens have clean drinking water, to developing energy infrastructure that creates jobs and fuels the community, tribes are seeking information about what will work best in their community. Tribes are using research and establishing partnerships with universities, the federal government, and other tribes to have a better understanding of what their community is facing and how to better serve their citizens. This session provides examples of how tribes and their partners are assessing community needs and developing infrastructure to serve their citizens.

Facilitator: Ron Allen, Chairman, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Presenters:

Patrik Johansson, Associate Professor and Director, Rural Health Education Network, College of Public Health, University of Nebraska Medical Center
Patricia Knox-Nicola, Consultant for Penobscot Nation Health Director
Laurel James, Graduate Student, University of Washington and Program Manager, Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance
Larry Kindness, Apsaalooke Water and Wastewater Authority, Crow Environmental Health Steering Committee
John T. Doyle, Apsaalooke Water and Wastewater Authority, Crow Environmental Health Steering Committee
Ada Bends, Crow Community Organizer, Center For Native Health Partnerships, Montana State University Bozeman
Bob Gough, Secretary Intertribal Council on Utility Policy
David Eisenberg, Director, Development Center for Appropriate Technology
David Edmunds, Environmental Director, Pinoleville Pomo Nation
Kent Paul, Chief Executive Officer, AMERIND Risk Management Corporation

Bringing Honor and Strength to Our Elders and Youth through Research - Yankee Hill 3

This session will highlight research and programs that are working to better understand the experiences of Native youth and how tribes can work to protect their young people from harm and work together as a community. This session also explores the challenges with providing care to elders and the cultural considerations of care.

Facilitator: Joe Garcia, Head Councilman, Ohkay Owingeh – *invited*

Presenters:

Jordan Lewis, Alaska Native Elder Care
Terry Cross, Executive Director, National Indian Child Welfare Association
Quintin Lopez, Co-President, NCAI Youth Commission
Lisa Rey Thomas, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute, University of Washington
Nigel Lawrence, Suquamish Tribe
Cynthia Lindquist, President, Cankdeska Cikana Community College
Cora Whiteman, Wiconi Ohitika Project Coordinator

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Pat Conway, Essentia Institute of Rural Health

How Do Indigenous Knowledge, Science, and Language Matter - Arbor 1

Indigenous peoples have always developed knowledge and science to guide community planning. Yet there is a long history of Western research that has explored individual aspects of tribal life without regard to cultural context or local ways of knowing, rendering it basically useless to culturally rich tribal communities. This session will explore the ways that Indigenous knowledge, Native science, and Indigenous languages are essential to understanding tribal issues.

Facilitator: Dr. David M. Gipp, President, United Tribes Technical College

Presenters:

Lisa Lone Fight, Graduate Researcher, Montana State University, Bozeman, Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences. Spatial Sciences Laboratory
Clifford Eaglefeathers, State University of New York, Empire State College
Karyl Denison Eaglefeathers, State University of New York, Empire State College
Kalani Souza, Executive Director, Olohana Foundation
Jean Tanimoto, NOAA Pacific Services Center, National Climate Assessment, Indigenous Knowledge and the Environment

Genetics and Tribal Communities: Decision Guide for Tribal Leadership - Arbor 2

For the past two years, the NCAI Policy Research Center has been developing a web-based resource guide about genetics research for American Indian and Alaska Native communities. The goal of this project is to provide Native communities with the tools they need to make their own informed decisions about genetics research. This interactive session will offer an opportunity for tribal leaders and community members to talk with authors of the guide on their contributions as Native scholars in the field of genetics and to have a discussion about genetics in tribal communities. Your feedback is invaluable as NCAI moves forward to release the guide for community use in late 2012.

Facilitator: Malia Villegas, Director, NCAI Policy Research Center

Presenters:

Puneet Chawla Sahota, Senior Research Fellow, NCAI Policy Research Center
Vence Bonham, Jr., Branch Chief, Education and Community Involvement, National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institutes of Health
Rosalina James, Acting Assistant Professor, Department of Bioethics and Humanities, Center for Genomics and Healthcare Equality

Financially Savvy Citizens: What Tribes Can Do - Hawthorne

Tribes continue to develop economically, receive trust settlements, make investment decisions, provide per capita and minor's trust payments, promote business development, and enact laws that impact the financial health of their citizens. This two-part session will address the growing focus on building financial capability and consumer awareness in Indian Country. The first part will showcase best practices in financial and consumer education that tribes are using to educate tribal youth, elected officials, employees, entrepreneurs, and the broader community. The second part will feature a panel of representatives from the Department of the Treasury, Consumer Financial

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Protection Bureau, and the President's Advisory Council on Financial Education to gather input from tribal leaders and to share information about their programs.

Panel 1

Presenters:

Kevin Keckler, Sr., Tribal Chairman, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
Tanya Fiddler, Four Bands Community Loan Fund, Cheyenne River and Native CDFI Network
Larry Lasley, Director, Economic Development, Meswaki Nation

Panel 2

Presenters:

Melissa Koide, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Financial Access, Education and Consumer Protection, Department of Treasury - *invited*
Nick Rathod, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
Amber Kuchar, Associate Program Manager, CDFI Fund, Department of the Treasury
Sherry Salway Black, Member, President's Advisory Council on Financial Capability and NCAI Director of the Partnership for Tribal Governance

Celebrating Trust Settlements and Looking to the Future of Tribal Lands – Yankee Hill 2

With the recent announcement of over \$1.2 billion in tribal trust settlements and more pending, it is a time to celebrate the resolution of trust mismanagement claims that have plagued the Department of the Interior and hindered the development of tribal lands. At the same time, this is an opportunity to begin looking forward toward new systems that maintain the federal trust responsibility while increasing tribal control over tribal lands. The discussion will include land restoration and land to trust acquisition which is critical to rebuilding tribal land bases that support tribal self-determination.

Presenters:

Fawn Sharp, Chair of Trust Reform Commission
Daryll LaCounte, Deputy Regional Director, Trust Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Intertribal Tax Initiative: Current Issues & Legislative Agenda for 2013 - Grand Ballroom D

NCAI's Intertribal Tax Initiative, which includes partners from the United South and Eastern Tribes, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, the California Association of Tribal Governments, and the Native American Finance Officers Association, will be continuing to advance its tribal tax agenda in this upcoming year. In this session, we will discuss our upcoming legislative agenda as well as current issues we are working to resolve with both the Internal Revenue Service and the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Moderator: Chief Lynn Malerba, Mohegan Tribe

Presenters:

Mary Streitz, Attorney, Dorsey & Whitney
Brenda Bellonger, Attorney/Tax Director, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
Howie Arnett, Attorney, Karnopp Petersen LLP, on behalf of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Christie Jacobs, Director of the Indian Tribal Governments Office, Internal Revenue Service

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4:15-5:15

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

Subcommittees can meet as full committees if they so choose.

Disabilities/Elders - Camp Creek
Economic Development, Finance,
Employment - Hawthorne
Education - Yankee Hill 2
Energy & Mineral Policy - Grand
Ballroom F
Environmental Protection & Land Use
- Grand Ballroom F
Health - Yankee Hill 3
Housing - Arbor 2
Human, Religious & Cultural
Concerns - Lincoln

Indian Child & Family Welfare –
Heartland
Jurisdiction & Tribal Government -
Grand Ballroom ABC
Taxation - Renaissance
Telecommunications - Ivanhoe
Transportation & Infrastructure –
Yankee Hill 1
Tribal Gaming - Grand Ballroom D
Trust Lands, Natural Resources,
Agriculture - Grand Ballroom E
Veterans - Arbor 1

5:30-6:30

FULL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Economic, Finance, & Community Development Committee - Grand Ballroom F
Human Resources Committee - Grand Ballroom D
Land & Natural Resources Committee - Grand Ballroom E
Litigation & Governance Committee - Grand Ballroom ABC
Veterans Committee - Arbor 1

5:30 – 6:30

Youth Commission Re-Cap Session - Olive Branch

“Defeating Distracted Driving” video by Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance
Robert Powers, Michigan State Police

7:00-9:00

Native Vote Event: Native American Idol - Yankee Hill 1,2,3

They come from across Indian Country in search of one dream – to be the inaugural Native American Idol! Join the Native Vote team as we “Rock the Native Vote” in Lincoln to turn out the largest Native Vote ever! Come share laughs, enjoy the food, get your Native Vote shwag, and compete for the trophy. Don’t miss out!

Wednesday, June 20

7:30-8:30

Regional Caucus Meetings **Optional**

Alaska Area - Yankee Hill 1
Eastern Oklahoma Area - Renaissance
Great Plains Area - Hawthorne
Midwest Area - Lincoln
Northeast Area - Heartland
Northwest Area - Yankee Hill 2

Pacific Area - Ivanhoe
Rocky Mountain Area - Yankee Hill 3
Southeast Area - Nebraska
Southern Plains Area - Arbor 1
Southwest Area - Arbor 2
Western Area - Olive Branch

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- 7:30-Noon **Elder's Lounge - Camp Creek Room**
- 8:30-10:20 **Youth Commission - Olive Branch (Lower Level)**
- 9:00-Noon **Indian Arts and Crafts Open – Atrium 1**
- 8:30-12:30 **Third General Assembly – Grand Ballroom**
- 8:30 **Call to Order**
Edward Thomas, Secretary, NCAI
- Invocation**
- 8:40 **Native Youth: Starting the Future Now**
Randi Ashley Begaye, Co-President, NCAI Youth Commission
Quintin Lopez, Co-President, NCAI Youth Commission
- 8:50 **Indian Child Welfare and Cultural Bias in Foster Care Systems**
Terry Cross, Executive Director, NICWA
Ahniwake Rose, Director of Human Service Policy, NCAI
- 9:05 ***Carcieri* and the *Patchak* Decision: Implications for Tribal Lands**
- Supreme Court Project Update**
John Echohawk, Executive Director, NARF
John Dossett, General Counsel, NCAI
- 9:25 **The Problem of Whiteclay: Border Towns Impact to Indian Country**
President John Steele, Oglala Sioux Tribe - *invited*
- 9:45 **Unity in Indian Country**
- 10:00 **Presidential Appointments**
Dave Noble, Special Assistant to the President for Energy and Environment, The White House
- 10:10 **Constitution Committee Report**
- 10:35 **Committee Reports**
Economic, Finance & Community Development Committee
Human Resources Committee
Litigation & Governance Committee
Land & Natural Resources Committee
Veterans Committee

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12:15 **Retire Colors/Closing Prayer**

12:30 **Adjourn 2012 Mid Year Conference**

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Other Meetings and Events

Sunday, June 17

Tribal Roundtable: Tribal Public Health Institute Feasibility Project

9:00-Noon

Olive Branch

Red Star Innovations was contracted by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to lead an 18 month project to examine the role a tribal public health institute (TPHI) might play to improve health among American Indian and Alaska Native communities. Public Health Institutes are nonprofit entities that serve as partners and conveners to improve population-level health outcomes and foster innovations in the public health. The purpose of the Tribal Roundtables is to engage tribal elected officials, health board and committee members, health administrators/directors and tribal health department staff in a consultative process to inform the overall direction of the project. This Tribal Roundtable is one of seven that will be held nationally. All are welcome. For more information contact Aleena M. Hernandez, MPH at (520) 407-6307 or aleenamh@redstar1.org.

FCC Internet Learning Lab

9:00-5:00 pm

Ivanhoe Room

The FCC Native Learning Lab – open Sunday through Tuesday – provides an introduction and hands-on instruction on using the FCC’s web-based systems and applications for the benefit of your Tribe. One-on-one and small group sessions on filing official comments to the FCC record, spectrum license searches, tower information/ownership information, and the FCC’s auctions systems and mapping data are available. Use an available laptop or bring your own. All instruction and assistance will be individually tailored to the needs of your tribe.

Drop by the Native Learning Lab or contact Lyle Ishida at 202-409-3944 / lyle.ishida@fcc.gov if you’d like to make an appointment for a specific time (including before or after regular conference hours) to receive assistance from one of the Learning Lab’s staff members.

Tribal Education Departments National Assembly (TEDNA) Forum

2:00-5:00 pm

Lincoln Room

The forum will include a legislative update on Indian education and representatives from the U.S. Department of Education will speak about a new funding opportunity for tribal education departments, referred to as the State Tribal Education Partnership Pilot Program, and implementation of the Obama Administration’s Indian Education Executive Order. For more information contact Joanne Soklin, at 303-447-8760 or soklin@narf.org.

Monday, June 18

Effective Messaging Focus Group Session

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Noon – 1:00pm

Renaissance Room

Kauffman and Associates, Inc. (KAI) is an American Indian, woman-owned consulting and research firm. KAI is gathering information on effective messaging about influenza immunization in Indian Country on behalf of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). As part of this information gathering process, which will help to provide the foundation for an upcoming awareness campaign, you are invited to a focus group session. All participants will receive a **\$50 visa gift card**. Space is limited, so please RSVP to Adair Hill at adair.hill@kauffmaninc.com.

Fredericks Peebles and Morgan LLP Reception

6:30 – 8:00pm

Hawthorne Room

The law firm of Fredericks Peebles and Morgan LLP will host a client appreciation reception. We invite our clients and friends to join us for conversation and cocktails. Please contact Leonika Charging at 402-333-4053 for more information.

FCC Internet Learning Lab

9:00-5:00 pm

Ivanhoe Room

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Tuesday, June 19

FCC Internet Learning Lab

9:00-5:00 pm

Ivanhoe Room

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Contemporary Indigeneity: The New Art of the Great Plains

5:00-7:00 pm

Great Plains Art Museum, 1155 Q Street, Hewitt Place, first floor, Lincoln

Special hours for NCAI participants. Free and open to visitors.

For more information, call (402)472-6220.

Climate Education Tools

6:30-8:30 pm

Lincoln Room

The Central Great Plains Climate Change Education Partnership will be providing a presentation on climate education tools developed at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The purpose of the focus group is to solicit feedback and ideas from tribal leaders and conference attendees about climate education, and discuss climate education strategies, opportunities, and challenges. Focus group attendees must pre-register at the Partnership's booth to participate. For more information contact Tarik Abdel-Monem at tabdelmonem@nebraska.edu or phone: (402) 472-3147.