



## Monday, June 12

8:30-4:00 **Registration/Rules & Credentials Open**

*Ballroom Foyer*

9:00-12:00 **Large Land Base Tribal Nations Task Force**

*Brothertown Room*

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. The Task Force will govern its own proceedings consistent with this purpose.

9:00-12:00 **TANF Task Force**

*Shinnecock Room*

The NCAI Tribal TANF Task Force will discuss Administrative and legislative priorities with the goal of improving the function of TANF programs at the tribal level. The TANF Task Force has consistently supported goals to increase tribes' authority to administer their own family support and work readiness programs to serve tribal children and families.

9:00-12:00 **Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force**

*Narragansett Room*

At NCAI's 2016 Annual Convention, a session on the opioid epidemic stirred discussion among tribal leaders that underscored the importance of continually addressing substance abuse issues. This meeting aims to: (1) revive the Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force; (2) discuss strategies; (3) strengthen the voice of tribal leaders in advocacy efforts to support prevention services in their communities; and (4) leave with an agenda for the Task Force's meeting at the 2017 Annual Convention.

9:00-12:00 **NCAI Task Force on Violence Against Women**

*Pequot Room*

The Violence Against Women Task Force serves as a unified tribal voice opposed to violent crimes perpetrated against Native women. This meeting will focus on updates regarding the implementation of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, and will also discuss strategy surrounding continued advocacy efforts including protecting our Alaska Native sisters, international women's issues, and funding for critical programs.

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12:00-1:30

**A Conversation with the Field: Understanding the Issue of Missing & Murdered Native Women and Organizing a Response**

*Pequot Room*

In some tribal communities, the U.S. Department of Justice has found that American Indian women face murder rates that are more than 10 times the national average. Over the last year, the national movement for the safety of Native women organized to create a National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Native Women and Girls, with the first national day of awareness occurring May 5, 2017. While awareness of this national issue has increased over the last decade, more must be done at the local, regional, national and international levels. This session is designed to continue focused dialogue about the issue of missing and murdered Native women in connection to domestic violence including ways to increase awareness and strengthen organizing efforts to end such violence.

9:00-4:00

**Strengthening the Leadership Role and Operation of Tribal Child Welfare Services**

*Nehantic Room*

Ensuring the safety of Native children and helping strengthen their families are the central goals of all tribal child welfare programs. The path to achieving these goals involves establishing a model of governance that de-colonizes tribal child welfare programs and services and aligns it with tribal community values and culture. While each tribal community will have unique needs, there are several key areas of governance that tribal leaders can be involved in that will ensure that child welfare services achieve the goals and outcomes for children and families that the community is most interested in. This session will provide information and governance strategies for tribal leaders and senior tribal program directors on how to de-colonize their tribal child welfare program and establish an effective governance strategy to address funding, service delivery, community engagement, and partnership development activities.

Presenters:

Gil Vigil, President, National Indian Child Welfare Association

Sarah Kastelic, Executive Director, National Indian Child Welfare Association

David Simmons, Government Affairs and Advocacy Director, National Indian Child Welfare Association

Andrew Martinez, Research Specialist, Native Nations Institute, University of Arizona

Julian Nava, Staff Attorney, National Congress of American Indians

9:00-4:00

**Building Tribal Research & Evaluation Capacity**

*Schaghticoke Room*

Each year, the NCAI Policy Research Center (PRC) creates a space for its research and advocacy partners to share and coordinate information, data tools, and case studies to advance policy research in Indian Country. This year, both national and international perspectives on indigenous data governance and evaluation will be featured. In the afternoon, the PRC will highlight the results of the National Survey of Tribal Data Practices and share other insights learned from the "Using Science to Build Tribal Capacity for Data-Intensive Research" project, funded by the National Science Foundation.

Moderator: NCAI Policy Research Center

Presenters:

*Indigenous Sovereignty over Evaluation & Policy Studies*

Dr. Nicole Bowman, Bowman Performance Consulting

*Beyond Evidence-Based: Insights on Federal Roles in Supporting Tribal Research & Evaluation*

Christine Crossland, Eugenia Tyner-Dawson & Steven Hafner, US Department of Justice

*Supporting Tribal Data System Infrastructure through a Toolkit & Technical Assistance*

Dr. Erin Geary, James Bell Associates, Inc.

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*Māori Data Sovereignty*

Dr. Tahu Kukutai & Maui Hudson, University of Waikato, Aotearoa/New Zealand

*Indigenous Nation Data Governance: Data for Nation Rebuilding*

Desi Rodriguez-Lonebear & Dr. Stephanie Rainie, Native Nations Institute, University of Arizona,

*Releasing a State-of-the-Art Report on Tribal Nation Data Capacity*

Norm DeWeaver, Research Consultant, National Congress of American Indians

12:00-1:00

**New Member Orientation**

*Penobscot Room*

All members and officers are invited to this welcome session for new members of NCAI and a briefing on membership, committees, voting, and process.

Presenters:

Robert Holden, Deputy Director, National Congress of American Indians

John Dossett, General Counsel, National Congress of American Indians

Juanita Ahtone, Chair, Resolutions Committee, National Congress of American Indians

Yvonne Oberly, Chair, Rules and Credentials, National Congress of American Indians

Ed Thomas, Parliamentarian, National Congress of American Indians

1:00-4:00

**Federal Recognition Task Force**

*Brothertown Room*

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. The Task Force will continue work on implementation of the current proposals from the Department of the Interior to modify the federal acknowledgment process.

1:00-4:00

**The 2018 Farm Bill: Investing in and Defending Indian Country's Food and Infrastructure Future**

*Narragansett Room*

Congress's work on the next Farm Bill is expected to infuse nearly \$1 trillion in nutrition assistance, food production, agricultural business development, and infrastructure build-outs. But Indian Country is at risk of losing significant ground next year without a strong, united voice to protect programs benefiting our food producers and nutrition programs. This session will provide an overview of the Farm Bill, review the previous work of tribal food and agriculture advocates, and begin to look at new opportunities for Native communities. Also, a new report will be publicly released for the first time on the threats and opportunities in the reauthorization process. This session is to engage tribal leaders on priorities on the 2018 Farm Bill.

1:00-4:00

**Listening Session with Federal Agencies on Protection of Indigenous Traditional Knowledge, Cultural Expressions, and Genetic Resources\***

*Shinnecock Room*

The World Intellectual Property Organization, an agency of the United Nations, and is considering the adoption of an agreement among Member States to protect the traditional cultural expressions, traditional knowledge, and genetic resources of indigenous peoples. The WIPO Committee charged with this task is holding an important negotiation session in Geneva, Switzerland on June 12-16, 2017. This session will provide an opportunity for tribal leaders to meet with the federal agency representatives who will be participating in these negotiations on behalf of the U.S. Because this coincides with the first day of the negotiation in Geneva, the federal representatives will participate via conference call.

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- 1:00-2:45 **DOI Listening Session on Reorganization of Executive Branch\***  
*Passamaquoddy Room*  
 This listening session offers tribes the opportunity to provide input on how the U.S. government should implement President Trump's executive order to reorganize the Executive Branch to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability of Federal agencies.
- 3:00-5:00 **DOI Listening Session on Interior's Review of National Monuments\***  
*Passamaquoddy Room*  
 EO 13792 requires a review of national monuments designated or expanded since 1996 that meet certain criteria. On May 5, Interior Secretary Zinke released a list of monuments meeting those criteria that will be reviewed. This listening session offers tribes the opportunity to provide input on Interior Secretary Zinke's review of the identified national monuments.
- 3:30-5:00 **Department of Justice Listening Session on Crime Reduction & Public Safety\***  
*Pequot Room*  
 The Department of Justice has scheduled a series of listening sessions as part of the Task Force on Crime Reduction & Public Safety. Tribal leaders and law enforcement and justice personnel are invited to share their opinions about law enforcement and violent crime in Indian Country. More information is available at <https://www.justice.gov/otj>.
- 4:00-5:00 **Building Tribal Research & Evaluation Capacity: Focusing on Economic Development**  
*Schaghticoke Room*  
 This one-hour discussion immediately following the PRC's "Building Tribal Research & Evaluation Capacity" session will tackle tribal data capacity issues and solutions specific to tribal efforts to build sustainable economies. The conversation will delve into key questions including: What data do tribal decision-makers need to strategically build sustainable tribal economies? What data is missing, and how can tribes take ownership in developing that data? It also will begin to develop a cohort of interested researchers who will contribute to NCAI's development of comprehensive sets of data-based policy recommendations for both tribal leaders and federal policy makers.
- 4:00-5:00 **NCAI Committee and Subcommittee Chairs Meeting with Resolutions Committee**  
*Penobscot Room*  
 NCAI requests that all committee and subcommittee chairs attend this important meeting. We will focus on using the committees to assist in preparing a Transition Plan for the next Administration.
- 4:00-5:30 **Roundtable on USDA Programs Impacting Tribes\***  
*Narragansett Room*  
 The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) offers a variety of programs that tribes, tribal leaders, and tribal citizens are using. From local food programs to housing opportunities to business, infrastructure, and conservation, USDA offers programs to cover the needs of rural America, including Indian Country. This roundtable offers tribal leaders and other stakeholders the opportunity to engage with the USDA to share priorities, ask questions and receive technical assistance on a variety of programs that support construction, infrastructure, home ownership, food sovereignty, farmers markets, and more. Bring your priorities, and learn how USDA can help make them a reality!
- 4:00-6:00 **NCAI Youth Meet & Greet**  
*Nipmuc 2 Room*  
 Come get to know other Native youth from across Indian Country! All youth in attendance are invited and pizza will be served.
- 6:00-8:00 **Welcome Reception**  
*Cabaret Theater*  
 Join us to kick off the welcome to the 2017 Mid Year Conference! Come enjoy great food and great company!

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## Tuesday, June 13

- 7:30-5:00     **Resolutions Office Open**  
*Montauk Room*
- Registration/Rules & Credentials Open**  
*Ballroom Foyer*
- 8:00-8:30     **Youth Morning Gathering**  
*Ballroom Foyer*
- 8:30-4:00     **Elders' Lounge Open**  
*Nipmuc 1 Room*
- 9:00-5:00     **Marketplace Open**  
*Salon D*

8:30-12:00	First General Assembly	Salon A and B
8:30	<b>Call to Order</b> Brian Cladoosby, President, NCAI	
	<b>Presentation of the Colors</b>	
	<b>Honor Song</b>	
8:40	<b>Invocation</b> Lynn Malerba, Chief, Mohegan Tribe	
	<b>Welcome</b> Kevin Brown, Chairman, Mohegan Tribe	
	<b>Rules of the Convention</b> Yvonne Oberly, Chair, NCAI Rules & Credentials Committee	
	<b>Resolutions Process Report</b> Juanita Ahtone, Chair, NCAI Resolutions Committee	
9:30	<b>Welcome from Connecticut</b> Dannel P. Malloy, Governor, State of Connecticut	
	Chris Murphy, U.S. Senator, Connecticut, <i>video</i>	
9:45	<b>President's Report</b> Brian Cladoosby, President, NCAI	
10:00	<b>Administration Update</b> Ryan Zinke, Secretary, Department of the Interior	

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10:30 **Tribal Policy Agenda: Opportunities VS. Challenges**

Join NCAI's Executive Director and a group of panelist to discuss tribal priorities, what we know about the priorities that we know of the Administration, strategies to further economic development opportunities, and furtherance tribal self-determination.

Jacqueline Pata, Executive Director, NCAI

11:30 **Tribal Leader Discussion**

12:00 **Lunch Recess**

12:00-1:00 **Listening Session on FEMA's Tribal Consultation Policy Revision \***

*Oneida Room*

FEMA is updating its Tribal Consultation Policy that guides how the agency will engage in regular and meaningful consultation and coordination with tribal nations when developing and reviewing a doctrine or policy. FEMA is seeking suggestions and comments from tribal officials and partners on the revised tribal consultation policy to help inform further development and refinement of the policy. For questions, contact: Margeau Valteau, FEMA Tribal Specialist and Tribal Consultation Coordinator, [margeau.valteau@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:margeau.valteau@fema.dhs.gov).

12:00-1:00 **FCC Listening Session on Tribal Section 106 Review of Wireless Infrastructure\***

*Schaghticoke Room*

Join Federal Communications Commission staff for a listening session on the current Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (WT 17-79) "Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Deployment" that considers the role of Tribal Section 106 Historic Preservation Review of wireless infrastructure. This is an important opportunity for tribes to discuss the importance of tribal input and consultation in infrastructure projects that impact Indian Country.

12:00-1:00 **Native Vote Roundtable**

*Narragansett 1 Room*

Let's shape the 2018 Native Vote plan together! What worked for tribes and Native Vote Coordinators for the last election cycle? What did we learn? And what do we need? We know our vote counts – now let's get a plan so Indian Country can make an impact for 2018.

1:30-4:00 **Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

**Envisioning the Future of Indian Education**

*Brothertown Room*

In this session participants will discuss the current climate of education and how tribes can capitalize on discussions surrounding local control of education to enhance educational experiences and outcomes for Native youth. As the national discussion centers on school choice as the means of administering education, this session would provide information and discussion for tribal leaders and educators on what "Local Control" means for Native students.

Moderator: Aaron Payment, Chairman, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Presenters:

Matt de Ferranti, Legislative Director, National Indian Education Association

Dr. Tommy Lewis, Superintendent, Department of Diné Education, *invited*

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Duta Flying Earth, Head of School, Native American Community Academy

Bart Stevens, Deputy Director, Bureau of Indian Education

Ron Lessard, Acting Executive Director, White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education

### **Where Healing Really Begins: Why Our Mental Health, Well-Being and Resilience Demands Our Attention**

*Pequot Room*

Tribal communities are increasingly focused on utilizing cultural practices to improve the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of tribal citizens. In response to requests for more culturally relevant health promotion and healing, SAMHSA and IHS collaborated with tribal nations and urban Indian Health programs to develop the National Tribal Behavioral Health Agenda. This agenda is based on five pillars designed to reduce the impact of mental and substance use disorders in tribal communities. This session will discuss tribal implementation of those pillars including behavioral health systems and support, historical and intergenerational trauma and awareness. The panelists will discuss how they are implementing these pillars in their communities and the need for increased awareness in tribal communities.

Moderator: Whitney Sawney, National Congress of American Indians

Presenters:

Chester Antone, Councilor, Tohono O'odham Nation

Aaron Payment, Chairman, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Stephen Keung, CEO, Whanau Thai, New Zealand

Mikah Carlos, President, NCAI Youth Commission

### **International Advocacy to Protect Tribal Sovereignty**

*Nehantic Room*

Panelists will provide updates on recent advances and ongoing challenges in implementing the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Updates will include work related to implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement and the impacts of the recent announcement by the U.S. of its intent to withdraw. Panelists will also discuss the on-going negotiations focused on the creation of a mechanism for indigenous governments to participate at the United Nations as governments. The breakout session will also highlight recent developments on the issues of international repatriation, cultural protection, traditional knowledge, and addressing violence against women.

Moderator: Frank Ettawageshik, United Tribes of Michigan

Presenters:

Karla General, Indian Law Resource Center

Melody McCoy, Native American Rights Fund

Honor Keeler, Association on American Indian Affairs

Andrea Carmen, International Indian Treaty Council

Heather Whiteman Runs Him, Native American Rights Fund

Terri Henry, United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues Member

### **The Federal Trust Responsibility to Tribal Lands and Resources**

*Passamaquoddy Room*

This breakout will serve as a forum to address current issues with tribal lands and natural resources. The Department of Interior has been considering new directions for the future of tribal lands, but will need to work with tribal leadership to produce lasting changes that benefit Indian Country. The Department has announced a new direction on land to trust, and is considering new priorities for the Buy Back Program and the Office of Special Trustee. The federal trust responsibility during infrastructure permitting continues to be a priority issue, and litigation continues over the "now under federal jurisdiction" component of the Indian Reorganization Act.

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## Putting First Kids 1st in Juvenile Justice Policy

### *Wampanoag Room*

Doing justice by our youth is at the core of the First Kids 1st Initiative and its Native Children's Policy Agenda. Before courts or detention facilities, systems of support must be mobilized to intervene in the lives of at-risk youth. Join us to review both data trends and policy solutions in the juvenile justice space. Participants will leave with concrete, action-oriented recommendations for putting First Kids 1st in their communities.

#### Presenters:

Jack F. Trope, Senior Director, Indian Child Welfare Programs, Casey Family Programs  
Natasha Anderson, Native Youth Strategy Coordinator, National Congress of American Indians  
Sarah Pytalski, Policy Research & Evaluation Manager, National Congress of American Indians

## Building Tribal-State Relationships to Advance Critical Tribal Priorities

### *Shinnecock Room*

In this fluid political environment, forging strong and sustainable tribal-state relationships that strengthen tribal sovereignty and advance tribal priorities is more important than ever. This collaborative session between NCAI and the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators (NCNASL) will tackle critical and timely issues requiring informed, tactical advocacy with state governments and their elected leadership, from budget and appropriations issues to preserving Medicaid expansion to implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act regulations. Tribal leaders and NCNASL representatives also will discuss how to advance pro-tribal policies at the state level through sustained relationship building and maintenance.

#### Moderator:

Brian Cladoosby, President, National Congress of American Indians

#### Presenters:

W. Ron Allen, Chairman, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe  
Susan Allen, Representative, Minnesota House of Representatives  
Carolyn Beaulieu, Secretary-Treasurer, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, *invited*  
Peggy Flanagan, Representative, Minnesota House of Representatives  
Paulette Jordan, Representative, Idaho State Legislature  
Sarah Kastelic, Executive Director, National Indian Child Welfare Association  
Jefferson Keel, Lieutenant Governor, Chickasaw Nation  
Stephen Roe Lewis, Governor, Gila River Indian Community, *invited*  
John McCoy, Senator, Washington State Legislature

4:15-6:15

### **SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS**

*closed to press*

*Subcommittees can meet as full committees.*

Disabilities/Elders – *Nipmuc 1*

Economic Development, Finance, & Employment – *Narragansett 2*

Education – *Brothertown*

Energy & Mineral Policy – *Schaghticoke*

Environmental Protection & Land Use – *Schaghticoke*

Health – *Oneida*

Housing – *Wampanoag*

Human, Religious & Cultural Concerns – *Penobscot*

Indian Child & Family Welfare – *Paugussett*

Jurisdiction & Tribal Government – *Nehantic*

Taxation – *Passamaquoddy*

Technology & Telecommunications – *Pequot*

Transportation & Infrastructure – *Nipmuc 2*

Tribal Gaming – *Narragansett 1*

Trust Lands, Natural Resources, & Agriculture – *Schaghticoke*

Veterans – *Shinnecock*

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# Wednesday, June 14

- 6:45           **Sunrise Ceremony**  
*Outside the exit doors by Salon D*  
 The NCAI Sunrise Ceremony will be held as a part of the observances and ceremonies during the National Days of Prayer to Protect Native American Sacred Places. The public is invited to attend NCAI’s respectful observance to honor sacred places, sacred beings and sacred waters, and all those who care for them and protect them from harm.
- 7:15-8:15       **Regional Caucus Meetings** *closed to press*  
 Alaska Region – *Narragansett 1 Room*  
 Eastern Oklahoma Region – *Schaghticoke Room*  
 Great Plains Region – *Nehantic Room*  
 Midwest Region – *Pequot Room*  
 Northeast Region – *Shinnecock 2 Room*  
 Northwest Region – *Narragansett 2 Room*  
 Pacific Region – *Oneida Room*  
 Rocky Mountain Region – *Shinnecock 1 Room*  
 Southeast Region – *Passamaquoddy Room*  
 Southern Plains Region – *Brothertown Room*  
 Southwest Region – *Paugussett Room*  
 Western Region – *Penobscot Room*
- 7:30-5:00       **Resolutions Open**  
*Montauk Room*
- Registration/Rules & Credentials Open**  
*Ballroom Foyer*
- 8:00-8:30       **Youth Morning Gathering**  
*Ballroom Foyer*
- 8:30-4:00       **Elders’ Lounge Open**  
*Nipmuc 1 Room*
- 9:00-5:00       **Marketplace Open**  
*Salon D*

8:30-12:00	Second General Assembly	Salon A and B
8:30	<b>Call to Order</b> Fawn Sharp, First Vice-President, National Congress of American Indians	
	<b>Invocation</b> Steve Gordon, Councilor, Seneca Nation	
	<b>Announcements</b>	
8:45	<b>Ajit Pai, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission</b>	

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9:00 **NCAI Policy Research Center Update**  
Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, Director, NCAI Policy Research Center

9:10

**NCAI's 12th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum**

***A Research Response to the Federal Policy Agenda:  
Navigating Infrastructure, Tax, and Health Care Reforms***

Both Congress and the Trump Administration have made it clear that their most urgent priorities are to invest in infrastructural development, revise and simplify the tax code, and repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA). When tribal governments engage with these policy reforms, research and data are critical to shaping future outcomes for the benefit of tribal peoples. An expert panel has been assembled to share data insights from both domestic and international fronts.

Moderator: Dr. Yvette Roubideaux

*Economic Costs & Opportunities Lost: Tribal Infrastructural Needs in the 21st Century*

Dr. Dick Todd, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

*Why Beggar Thy Indian Neighbor? The Case for Tribal Primacy in Taxation in Indian Country*

Kelly S. Croman, National Intertribal Tax Alliance

Jonathan Taylor, Taylor Policy Group

*A Health Economic Analysis of an ACA Repeal & Replace*

Dr. Tim McBride, Washington University-St. Louis

*Te Ahi Kaa Roa: Asserting Tribal Data Sovereignty in Aotearoa Government Negotiations*

Maui Hudson, University of Waikato, Aotearoa/New Zealand

*Tribal Leader Responders*

Liana Onnen, Chairwoman, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation

Mark Fox, Chairman, Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation

11:30 **Tribal Leader Discussion**

12:00 **Lunch Recess**

12:00-1:00 **Tribal Listening Session: Proposal to Revise the Definition of Waters of the United States\***  
*Brothertown Room*

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, with the participation of the Department of the Army and the Army Corps of Engineers, is consulting with tribal leaders and officials on a proposal to revise the definition of "waters of the United States." The agencies are aware that the scope of Clean Water Act jurisdiction is of intense interest to many tribes and stakeholders and therefore want to provide time for appropriate consideration and deliberations on the ultimate regulation. Tribal officials are invited to participate in this session to learn more about the agencies' actions and to provide feedback on how different rulemaking options might affect tribes.

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12:00-1:00

**Poster Session**

*Ballroom Foyer*

Tribal Leaders continually share how much they value engaging with numerous scholars across varied research disciplines in a condensed period of time. The poster session creates a supportive environment for learning between presenters and other attendees. Participants walk from one poster to another to hear poster presenters share cutting-edge research in a short (and meaningful!) period of time.

**“Indigenous Perspectives on Biobanking and Genetics Research: Findings to Inform Sovereign Nation Policy Development and Ethical Oversight for the *All of Us* Precision Medicine Initiative”**

Dr. Nanibaa’ Garrison, Seattle Children’s Research Institute and University of Washington

Dr. Ka’imi Sinclair & Cynthia Gamble, Washington State University

**“Exploring the Effect of Indigenous College Student Mentors on the Well-being of Urban Indigenous Youth in San Francisco”**

Audrey Juliussen, Stanford University

**“Indigenous Rights is Environmental Justice: Programming & Insights from an American Indian Studies Center”**

Kellie Thompson, Washington University-St. Louis, Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies

**“Integrating Art and Culture into Water Infrastructure Sustainability: Key Insights from the Water is Life Project”**

Marleah LaBelle, National Tribal Water Center

**“Graduation Expectations & Associated Factors among Urban AI/AN and White Students”**

Adrian Dominguez, Urban Indian Health Institute

**“San Xavier’s Formal and Informal Economy”**

Allison Ramirez, University of California, Los Angeles

1:30-4:00

**Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

**What is our Economic Base? Mapping Industries and Capital on Tribal Lands**

*Salon D2*

Tribal governments are aware of their primary industries and economic drivers—from health care to gaming, from fishing to timber. But how often have these industries been analyzed or mapped out with real economic data? How often are we thinking about future returns on investments or diversification? And where do community institutions that lie beyond the government shape and propel economic futures for local businesses and entrepreneurs? Join us for this exciting and interactive session that will inform the ways in which we grow our economic base.

Moderator: Councilman Roger Rader, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians

Presenters:

*Tribal-County Comparisons in Workforce Opportunity: Questions of Infrastructure and Social Capital*

Dr. Dick Todd, Community Development & Center for Indian Country Development, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis

*Spatial Economic Data on Industries on Indian Reservations*

Dr. Lawrence Gross, University of Redlands

*Community Integrity through Community Investment: Insights from a Native CDFI*

Jonathan Taylor, Taylor Policy Group

International Responders: Dr. Tahu Kukutai and Maui Hudson, University of Waikato, Aotearoa/New Zealand

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## **Serving our Students: New Futures for Tribal Education & Policy**

### *Nehantic Room*

The future of tribal education is in our hands. How will we shape better, stronger outcomes for our youth? How will we exercise greater self-determination over schools to ensure that the needs of all students are not only identified in the data but acted upon through proactive policy reform? We have reached a critical juncture; our concurrent policy concerns must interface with the latest research on education and practice. This panel of experts will share their insights on how data can inform our next steps.

Moderator: Robin Sigo, Treasurer, Suquamish Tribe

Presenters:

*The Future of Ed: What do Charter Schools mean for Indian Country?*

Diana Cournoyer, National Indian Education Association

*The Misidentification of AI/ANs: Tracking and Supporting Native Students*

Barbara Aston, Washington State University

Dr. Yolanda Bisbee, University of Idaho-Moscow

Laura John, Education Northwest

Sara Marie Ortiz, Highline Public Schools

Patricia Whitefoot, Toppenish School District

*Reflections on the School-to-Prison Pipeline*

Dr. Dan Losen, Center for Civil Rights Remedies, UCLA Civil Rights Project

## **Building Tribal Data Infrastructure**

### *Narragansett Room*

What does culturally-driven, data-informed decision-making look like? How is research inherently connected to the exercise of sovereignty? To argue the case for decolonizing data and driving research agendas for your community, a panel of researchers and practitioners from diverse but intersecting fields of knowledge has been assembled. By demonstrating the impact of their work—how it has supported those citizens often most vulnerable or invisible within or without the tribal community—great lessons will be shared and new methodologies gleaned.

Moderator: Lynn Malerba, Chief, Mohegan Tribe

Presenters:

*Laying the Groundwork: Why Tribes Need Data & Research*

Desi Rodriguez-Lonebear, University of Arizona & University of Waikato

Dr. Stephanie C. Rainie, University of Arizona, Native Nations Institute

*Culturally-Grounded Research to Guide Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention*

Shanondora Billiot, Yale University

*Tracking Victims of Sex Trafficking*

Jim Walters, AMBER Alert Training & Technical Assistance Program

Dr. Dominique Roe-Sepowitz, Arizona State University School of Social Work

*Decolonizing Data*

Abigail Echo-Hawk, Urban Indian Health Institute

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## **Using Data to Sustain Our Shared Natural Resources**

### *Salon D3*

Many have predicted that the wars of the future will be waged over water instead of oil. Already we are seeing how this precious resource is increasingly compromised by rising temperatures, drought, contamination, and the like. The question now before us is: How do we use data to sustain our shared natural resources? In this timely breakout session, presenters from across Indian Country will demonstrate through their data and research how critical it is for tribal governments to be active change agents in the effort to protect our waters.

Moderator: Melvin Sheldon, Jr., Councilman, Tulalip Tribes

Presenters:

*Engaging Tribal Nations for Regional Ocean Planning*

Kelsey Leonard, McMaster University

*Contaminated Water: Increasing Tribal Access to Clean, Safe Drinking Water*

James Temte, National Tribal Water Center

*Renewable Energy Service Companies for Indian Country*

Dean Suagee, Of Counsel, Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker LLP

## **Tribal Government Tax Parity Initiative**

### *Schaghticoke Room*

NCAI is working with a coalition of tribal leaders and organizations on an initiative on taxation. This session seeks to further our progress. First, Congress created the Tribal Advisory Committee under the General Welfare Exclusion Act. We will engage with appointed members, and discuss the remaining vacancy. Second, we will discuss the next steps in the proposal to eliminate dual taxation in Indian country under the Trader Regulations. Third, we will take up federal Tax Reform and the Tribal Tax and Investment Reform Act and other key legislative initiatives.

## **Tribal Homeland Security and Emergency Management**

### *Shinnecock Room*

Tribal homelands and communities which have existed for thousands of years were split apart by the fabricated borders and the administration has not yet consulted with tribal governments. Tribal sovereignty, sacred lands, and natural resources, and tribal economies are at risk from federal government intrusion by border security policies and programs. The FY2017 budget does not include construction of the U.S. – Mexico border wall proposed by the Trump administration but does provide for additional funding for increased monitoring and undocumented immigrant detention. A request for proposals for construction of a wall was issued and options are being discussed. Opposition to the border wall includes tribes as well as states and non-tribal communities. This session will focus on an exchange of tribal government and community ideas and perspectives, and including a briefing on the border wall status from federal officials. There also will be an update on Department of Homeland Security and Federal Emergency Management Agency tribal and related programs.

Moderator: Robert Holden, NCAI Deputy Director

Presenters:

Mary Hyland, U.S. Department of Homeland Security CBP Intergovernmental Public Liaison

Laura Francois-Eugene, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

David Hall, Tribal Training Coordinator, U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Robin Beatty, Office of Emergency Communications, Tribal Communications Projects, Department of Homeland Security

Jason Ackleson, Office of Policy, Department of Homeland Security

David Munro, Director Tribal Government Affairs, Office of Partnership Engagement, Department of Homeland Security

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4:15-6:15

**FULL COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

*closed to press*

Economic, Finance & Community Development – *Narragansett Room*

Human Resources – *Brothertown Room*

Land & Natural Resources – *Schaghticoke Room*

Litigation & Governance – *Pequot/Paugussett Room*

Veterans – *Shinnecock Room*

6:30-8:30

**Mid Year Meet & Greet**

*Cabaret Theater*

Mohegan Holding Company is hosting a Meet & Greet for NCAI attendees. Come mingle with your fellow attendees for a night of fun memories with passed hors d'oeuvres and door prizes!

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# Thursday, June 15

- 7:15-8:15     **Regional Caucus Meetings *\*\*Optional\*\**** *closed to press*  
 Alaska Region – *Narragansett 1 Room*  
 Eastern Oklahoma Region – *Schaghticoke Room*  
 Great Plains Region – *Nehantic Room*  
 Midwest Region – *Pequot Room*  
 Northeast Region – *Shinnecock 2 Room*  
 Northwest Region – *Narragansett 2 Room*  
 Pacific Region – *Oneida Room*  
 Rocky Mountain Region – *Shinnecock 1 Room*  
 Southeast Region – *Passamaquoddy Room*  
 Southern Plains Region – *Brothertown Room*  
 Southwest Region – *Paugussett Room*  
 Western Region – *Penobscot Room*
- 8:00-8:30     **Youth Morning Gathering**  
*Ballroom Foyer*
- 8:30-12:30    **Elders’ Lounge Open**  
*Nipuc 1 Room*
- 9:00-12:00    **Indian Arts and Crafts Open**  
*Uncas Ballroom Foyer*

8:30-12:00	Third General Assembly	Salon A and B
8:30	<b>Call to Order</b> Aaron Payment, Secretary, National Congress of American Indians  <b>Invocation</b> Lynn Malerba, Chief, Mohegan Tribe  <b>Announcements</b>	
8:50	<b>Supreme Court Project Update</b> John Dossett, General Counsel, National Congress of American Indians John Echohawk, Executive Director, Native American Rights Fund	
9:10	<b>Farm Bill</b> Lori Watso, Chair of Seeds of Native Health, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Janie Simms Hipp, Director, Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative, University of Arkansas School of Law	
9:20	<b>Native Vote</b>	
9:30	<b>Mascots</b>	
9:40	<b>Association of American Indian Affairs</b>	

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9:50	<b>Climate Change</b>
10:00	<b>Committee Reports</b> Economic, Finance & Community Development Committee Human Resources Committee Litigation & Governance Committee Land & Natural Resources Committee Veterans Committee
12:15	<b>Retire Colors</b>  <b>Closing Invocation</b> Lynn Malerba, Chief, Mohegan Tribe
12:30	<b>Adjourn 2017 Mid Year Conference</b>

## Other Meeting and Events

### Tuesday, June 13

- 7:00-8:00pm **Carlisle Indian School Project**  
*Uncas Ballroom*  
Join us in the celebration of plans for a Heritage Center in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, to honor the students who attended.
- 6:30-9:30pm **Foxwoods Resort Casino's 25th Anniversary Reception**  
*High Rollers Luxury Lanes and Lounge located at the Grand Pequot Tower, 350 Trolley Line Blvd., Mashantucket, CT*  
Please join us as we celebrate Foxwoods Resort Casino's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary milestone and NCAI's continuing mission to protect, enhance, and improve the quality of life of Native Americans. You are cordially invited to a private buffet dinner reception at Foxwoods Resort Casino. Transportation will depart from Mohegan Sun Group Bus Lobby from 6:15-6:40pm. Returning transportation will depart from Foxwoods Resort Casino's Grant Pequot Tower lobby at 8:30pm, 9:30pm, 10:30pm and 11:00pm.

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