

Little Traverse Bay bands of Odawa Indians  
7500 Odawa Circle, Harbor Springs Michigan 49740

Travel Report

October 23, 2015

From: Petoskey, MI to and back San Diego, CA.

Dates: October 18 thru 22, 2015

RE: 2015 Annual National Conference of American Indians

The theme for 2015 was Thriving Communities, Driving Opportunities and the general election was held for executive officers of NCAI.

My purpose for attending NCAI is to better my knowledge of all things current legislatively on the national level in Indian Country that affects our community here at home and my decision making when writing legislation for our Nation and its Citizens. Supporting, networking and connecting with other Tribes on issues that we all share to get the message out to the US government and to remind them of their Treaty and Trust obligation to all Indian Nations.

Elections were held for next two years results were;

Present Chair Brian Cladoosby was reelected unopposed Swinomish Tribe. Executive Vice Chair Randy Noka Narragansett Tribe reelected. Vice Chair Ron Allen Jamestown S'klallam Tribe elected Treasurer unopposed. Aaron Payment Ste. Saint Marie Tribe was reelected unopposed as Recording Secretary.

Attached to this report is the complete agenda for the week of meetings from October 18<sup>th</sup> thru October 25, 2015.

Upon arriving Sunday I attended the DOJ Consultation on VAWA Funding this was important for me as I will be attending a VAWA training coming up in Washington State on behalf of Council. This session was primarily on funds the DOJ will be holding from existing tribal programs to assist Indian Tribes in exercising special domestic violence jurisdiction. These funds will assist and support those Tribes who have VAWA in place

Attended the Firsts General Assembly meeting Monday morning and Second General Assembly in the afternoon. These meetings are to introduce the events of the day, which are many and very informative. Legislation being supported by NCAI such as VAWA, Indian Child Welfare Act and Bureau of Indian Education Inclusion to All Tribes. I have attached 12 pages of NCAI resolutions.

Please see agenda for all events attended. Later 6 to 8pm the Welcome Reception and Cultural Night was by the Sycuan Band of the Kimeyaay Nation. The significance in attending is to learn

and enjoy the culture of the host Tribe as there are differences in each of our cultures yet so many similarities.

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>: 7:15 attended Mid West Area Caucus Meeting one discussion was the need to get Councils on board with ICWA and the very important issues that affect our Children and to protect them and families.

Tuesday Third General Dr. Vincent Flitti present a discussion on "Adverse Childhood Experience Study" I will be presenting more detail on this topic at a later date to Council.

Round table discussion was held and we were to sit with folks we didn't usually sit with. I was elected as chair and our question was, "What is the one change in your community that would make the most difference?" Answer: Decrease the culture of dependency and entitlement. We need to know that each individual should be self sufficient, each contributing to the Tribe and be self-sufficient raising families. AS leaders we need to better our communications, be more transparent governments, better marketing our progress to the Tribal Citizens Citizens need to have higher expectation. We as Tribal Council can facilitate self-sufficiency.

Honoring Luncheon I attended sponsored by the host Tribe San Manuci Band of Mission Indians. Noah Blue Elk Hotchkiss was awarded the 2015 Sports 'n' Spokes Junior Athlete of the Year. Noah was insured in a car accident at age 9 and remains in a wheelchair, He is an outstanding student and all around athlete who is an inspiration to us all.

I attend Building a Sustainable Economy: Strategies for Aligning Our Nation's Corporate Priorities with our Cultural and Social ones. I want to learn more on how to strategically help our nation in long term community development priorities. The laws we create need to consider the Tribes social needs and business profitability that is capable of advancing and sustain our over economy building efforts.

I attended Child Welfare Act Advocacy Plan for our Tribe. DOJ will soon be releasing Regulations for State Courts and Agencies in Indian Child Custody Proceedings. We as Tribal Leaders need to know how to be more effective standing up for our population here at home. We need to be more effective in advocating for our children by educating local communities and Congressional representatives. I want to request we have ICWC Chair Rochelle Ettageshik also Vice Chair of NICWA to come present to Council.

That evening there was a Native Vote Talent Show/Lip Sync Battle

Wednesday 21 7:15am attended Mid West Area Caucus housing needs were discussed. Our housing department should and need to look at the Ho Chunk model.

The rest of the morning NativeVote, 2015 Honoring Nations finals. See attached list. One of which is Lance Morgan of the Ho Chunk Nation, who most of us know, for his developing a complete town site on his reservation complete with homes with attached garage, schools, parks, shopping, etc.

Attended the National Indian Health Board special session on Tribal Behavioral Health Agenda Priorities and Actions. 6-8pm.

Miigwech to the Tribal Council and Tribal Citizens for my attendance to NCAI 2015.

Departed October 22, 2015 at 6:25am Arrived at home at 9PM.

Tribal Councilor

Beatrice Law 0860

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beatrice Law". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.