

## Tribal Council Travel Report – Treasurer Marcella Reyes

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Training/Event: 2015 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Conference

Location: San Diego, CA

Date of Event: October 18 – 25, 2015

Fellow Tribal Council Members and LTBB citizens, thank you for allowing me to attend the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) 2015 Conference

Per Travel Policy I am attaching a signed copy of convention agenda and have highlighted sessions that I attended during my stay.

Special Note: I attended all daily General Sessions.

Thank you for once again for allowing me to attend this convention.

Respectfully,

  
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Treasurer Marcella Reyes

Attach: 2015 NCAI Agenda

Thriving Communities



Driving Opportunities

## 72<sup>nd</sup> NCAI Annual Convention & Marketplace San Diego, California

Use #NCAIAnnual2015 to stay connected!



@NCAI1944

### Saturday, October 17

Download the NCAI app for Convention documents!

10:00 – 3:00

#### **Regional Indigenous Peoples and Nations Consultation on Climate Change:**

**“Defending our Rights and Defining our Priorities on the Road to Paris and Beyond”\***

*Sunrise – MH Conference Center*

NCAI and the International Indigenous Treaty Council (IITC) are co-hosting a Regional Indigenous Peoples and Nations Consultation on Climate Change to discuss the international efforts to address climate issues in our communities. This consultation will continue the effort to get input into this process from Tribal Nations in North America before the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP 21) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to finalize a legally binding international agreement to reduce greenhouse gasses, curb the pace of climate change and define programs to help the most vulnerable States and Peoples to mitigate and adapt to the impacts. Onsite registration will begin at 9:30am.

5:00 – 7:00

#### **NCAI Executive Board Meeting**

*Pacific Salon Three*

*Closed to Press*

### Sunday, October 18

#### **Morning Sessions:**

9:00 – 12:00

#### **Large Land Base Tribal Nations Task Force**

*Royal Palm Three*

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.

#### **Task Force on Violence Against Women**

*Royal Palm Two*

The Violence Against Women Taskforce 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.

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## Monday, October 19

- 7:00 – 8:00            **Native Prayer Sunrise Gathering**  
*Tiki Pavilion*  
This event is a casual gathering. Attendees will hear encouraging stories of faith and strengthen relationships.
- 7:30 – 5:00            **Registration/Rules & Credentials - Open for the Convention**  
*Atlas Foyer*
- 7:30 – 5:00            **Resolutions Office - Open for the Convention**  
*Terrace Salon One*
- 9:00 – 4:00            **Elder's Lounge - Open for the Convention**  
*Board Room*
- 12:00 – 5:00           **Tradeshow and Marketplace Opens**  
*Grand Exhibit Hall*

### **First General Assembly**

*Atlas Ballroom*

8:30 – 12:00

- 8:30                    **Call to Order**  
Brian Cladoosby, President, NCAI
- Honor Guard**  
American Indian Veterans Association Color Guard of Southern California
- Honor Song**  
Bluewater Drum
- Invocation**  
George Prietto, Tribal Elder, Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation
- 8:45                    **Welcome**  
Kevin Faulconer, Mayor, San Diego
- Welcome from Local Tribes**
- 9:00                    **Welcome**  
Kevin Faulconer, Major, San Diego
- 9:30                    **Rules of the Convention**  
Yvonne Oberly, Credentials Committee Chair

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**Resolutions Process**

Juanita Ahtone, Resolutions Committee Chair

9:55

**President's Address**

Brian Cladoosby

**Executive Director's Report**

Jacqueline Johnson Pata

10:25

**Supreme Court Update**

John Dossett, General Counsel, NCAI

John Echohawk, Executive Director, Native American Rights Fund

10:45

**Ramah Case Update**

Mike Gross, M.P. Gross Law Firm

11:00

**Message from the Department of the Interior**

Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, DOI

11:20

**Tribal Leader Discussion**

12:00 – 1:20

**Roundtable Discussion of *Ramah Navajo Chapter v. Jewell Contract Support Cost Lawsuit***  
*Pacific Salon Three*

The US Department of Justice and the US Department of the Interior have announced a \$940 million proposed settlement with a nationwide class of Indian tribes that, if approved by the federal district court, would resolve a 25-year-old legal dispute related to contract support costs for tribal agencies. This roundtable is an opportunity to discuss the proposed settlement with class counsel and prepare for next steps.

12:00 – 1:00

**Trade Show Networking Reception**

*Grand Exhibit Hall*

Join us to kick off an exciting tradeshow! Network and make connections with top business representatives, tribes, federal agencies, corporations, and non-profits! Support tribal business by visiting our many Native American art and craft booths!

**Second General Assembly**

*Atlas Ballroom*

1:30 – 4:00

1:30

**Call to Order**

Randy Noka, First Vice-President, NCAI

**NCAI Announcements**

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1:40 **International Update**  
Grand Chief Edward John (Akile Ch'oh), North American  
Representative to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

1:55 **Environmental Protection Agency Update**  
Gina McCarthy, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency

2:10 **Congressional Update**  
Congresswoman Betty McCollum, MN

2:25 **Federal Administration Update**  
Julian Castro, Secretary, US Department of Housing and Urban  
Development

2:45 **Indian Health Service Update**  
Mary Smith, Deputy Director, Indian Health Service

3:00 **2016 Presidential Elections**  
Holly Cook, Charlie Galbraith, and Ron Ramirez, Hillary Clinton  
Presidential Campaign  
Ben Carson, Ben Carson Presidential Campaign, *Video*  
Bernie Sanders, Bernie Sanders Presidential Campaign, *Video*

3:20 **Tribal Leader Discussion**

4:15 – 6:00

**Committee Meetings**

Economic, Finance & Community Development – *Royal Palm One & Two*

Human Resources – *Pacific Salon Two*

Land & Natural Resources – *Pacific Salon Four & Five*

Litigation & Governance – *Pacific Salon Three*

Veterans – *Royal Palm Three*

6:00 – 7:00

**Youth Commission End of the Day Wrap Up**

*Tiki Pavilion*

Youth attendees please join us to share what your day was like, learn about opportunities and mingle with other youth attendees.

6:00 – 8:00

**Welcome Reception & Cultural Night**

*Golden Ballroom*

Join the fun at the Welcome and Cultural Celebration featuring Kumeyaay Bird singing, dancing and story telling; hosted by the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation and the Local Planning Committee. Don't miss an evening of great food and friends!

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## Tuesday, October 20

### 7:15 – 8:15 **Area Caucus Meetings**

Alaska Area – *Pacific Salon Six & Seven*

Eastern Oklahoma Area – *Pacific Salon Four & Five*

Great Plains Area – *Royal Palm Two*

Midwest Area - *Sunrise*

Northeast Area - *Royal Palm Six*

Northwest Area - *Royal Palm Four*

Pacific Area – *Pacific Salon Two*

Rocky Mountain Area – *Royal Palm One*

Southeast Area – *Royal Palm Five*

Southern Plains Area - *Sunset*

Southwest Area – *Pacific Salon Three*

Western Area – *Royal Palm Three*

### 11:00 – 7:00 **Tradeshow and Marketplace Open**

*Grand Exhibit Hall*

### **Third General Assembly**

*Atlas Ballroom*

8:30 – 12:00

#### 8:30 **Call to Order**

Aaron Payment, Recording Secretary, NCAI

#### **Invocation**

#### **Announcements**

#### 8:40 **Dr. Vincent Felitti**

Co-Principal Investigator, Adverse Childhood Experience Study

#### 9:10 **Seeds of Native Health: A Campaign for Indigenous Nutrition**

Lori Watso, Secretary-Treasurer, Business Council, Shakopee

Mdewakanton Sioux Community

#### 9:20 **Tribal Leader Strategy Discussion**

Tribal Leaders are invited to engage in dialogue on Community Change: What really matters, and how will you lead change in your community?

#### 12:00 – 1:00 **Youth Honoring Luncheon**

**Sponsored by San Manuel Band of Mission Indians**

*Golden Ballroom*

Noah Blue Elk Hotchkiss, 2015 SPORTS 'N SPOKES Junior Athlete of the Year

NCAI Youth Leadership Awards presented by Ernie Stevens, Jr., Chairman, National Indian Gaming Association

*Tickets are available for purchase.*

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12:00 – 1:00

**White House Tribal Nations Conference Preparation Discussion**  
*Atlas Ballroom*

1:30 – 4:00

**Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

**Tribal Policy that Heals: Resilience Models that Allow Youth to Thrive**

*Royal Palm Five*

We know that many Native communities face barriers to health and wellbeing, including experiences of trauma and loss. Fortunately, Native families and leaders across Indian Country are drawing on some of the rich and powerful resources that are available. For generations, tribal nations have used language, traditional lifeways, and spiritual practices, along with many other aspects of culture, to foster resilience in youth and families. In this session, we will highlight ways tribes are creating policy to support resilience approaches and moving the goal from surviving to thriving. Our goal is to identify some key elements towards developing resilience tools and a curriculum for tribes.

Moderator: Chester Antone, Councilman, Tohono O'odham Nation

Dr. Stephanie Fryberg, Associate Professor, University of Washington

Jami Bartgis, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, PhD, Assistant Professor of Research, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Agnes Attakai, Director Health Disparities Outreach Prevention Education Center for Rural Health; Center for American Indian Resilience Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

**Building a Sustainable Economy: Strategies for Aligning Your Nation's Corporate Priorities with Its Cultural and Social Ones**

*Pacific Salon Three*

This session brings together corporate and political leaders from tribal nations who are working to strategically align their nations' long-term community development priorities with their corporate priorities. Among other things, they will share how they have shaped and reshaped the values, goals and objectives of the businesses owned and operated by their nations to appropriately reflect and reinforce the cultural values and shared aspirations of their citizens. They also will address how they are creating a synergy between cultural considerations, social needs, and business profitability that is capable of advancing and sustaining their overall economy building efforts.

Joseph Kalt, Co-Founder and Co-Director, Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development

Tom Acevedo, CEO, S&K Technologies

Lance Morgan, President & CEO, Ho-Chunk, Inc.

Anthony Mallott, President and CEO, Sealaska

Susan White, Trust Director, Oneida Indian Nations of Wisconsin

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## **A 21st Century Trust for 21st Century Tribes: Strategy Session on Legislative and Administrative Efforts to Modernize Land into Trust, Trust Asset Management, and the Trust Relationship**

### *Pacific Salon Two*

To build off the recent successes and current tribal efforts to modernize the laws and regulations governing the federal trust system, this session will focus on pending legislation addressing specific aspects of the trust relationship. This includes reaffirming the Secretary of the Interior's Authority to take land into trust, protecting land already taken into trust by the Secretary, land reaffirmation legislation, trust asset management reform, and probate reform proposed by the Office of the Special Trustee. The goal is to increase awareness, answer questions, and build broad Indian Country support for these important components of trust modernization as they move forward in the 114th Congress.

## **Health Sovereignty**

### *Royal Palm Four*

The health and well-being of American Indians/Alaska Natives can improve by tribes taking the lead on incorporating innovative ways to provide health care to their tribal citizens. The Indian Health Service is significantly underfunded so tribes are finding others ways to address health disparities. The Swinomish tribe recently made a declaration that it would be moving towards incorporating Dental Health Aide Therapists (DHATs) into their system of care to improve the oral health of their citizens. DHATS have been used in Alaska for over 10 years and have proven to be a safe and cost effective way to increase access to basic oral health care services. Other tribes are taking advantage of the American Indian/Alaska Native Affordable Care Act special benefits and purchasing insurance for tribal citizens through the individual Marketplace. In this session you will learn about DHATs and Swinomish's efforts to incorporate DHATs into their system of care, and about the benefits of tribal sponsorship of Marketplace plans for tribal citizens.

John Stephens, Director of Health and Social Services

Stephen LeCuyer, Director, Swinomish Legal Department

Christine Smith, Associate Health Policy Analyst, California Rural Indian Health Board

Doneg McDonough, Consultant

Laura Bird, National Congress of American Indians

Dawn Coley, National Indian Health Board

## **Transboundary Roundtable**

### *Pacific Salon Six & Seven*

The health of our rivers and streams is paramount; however, transboundary waterways pollution can have potentially damaging impacts on water quality, fish, wildlife, recreation, livelihood, and customary and traditional practices. After hearing presentations from tribal leaders and experts working on transboundary issues in their communities, we will have a roundtable discussion to bring forward the many experiences, concerns, and ideas to develop a strategy to address transboundary issues from the broader Indian Country perspective. This will also include a review of various tribal resolutions and current efforts to address transboundary issues with the United States, states, and foreign governments.

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## **Fashioning an ICWA Advocacy Plan for your Tribe**

### *Royal Palm Two*

This workshop will give tribal leaders the tools they need to advocate on behalf of Indian child welfare on both local and national levels, which will be particularly important as we get closer to the Department of Interior's release of its final Regulations for State Courts and Agencies in Indian Child Custody Proceedings. Tribal leaders want to know how they can be most effective in standing up for their youth populations at home. This session will teach tribal leaders how to effectively advocate on behalf of their children by educating their local communities and Congressional representatives.

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

Matthew Newman, Staff Attorney, Native American Rights Fund

Sarah Kastelic, Executive Director, National Indian Child Welfare Association

Rafael Lopez, Commissioner, Administration on Children, Youth, and Family, US Department of Health and Human Services

## **Establishing Tribal Mechanisms to Bridge the Digital Divide**

### *Royal Palm Three*

The deployment of telecommunications infrastructure and services in Indian Country continues to lag behind the nation overall. Recent studies highlighting these disparities have shown that with every technological advancement in services the Digital Divide has increased on tribal lands. This session will focus on tribes determining their own telecommunications agenda to foster the deployment of economic and residential services on tribal lands. Panelists will discuss tribal initiatives to exercise regulatory authority over telecommunications providers and how to navigate complex federal policies to bring advanced services to tribal lands.

Moderator: Loris Taylor, President & CEO, Native Public Media

Danae Wilson, Manager, Nez Perce Tribe, Department of Technology Services

Fred McLaughlin, General Manager, Standing Rock Sioux Telecom

M. Teresa Hopkins, Active Executive Director, Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission

## **Higher Education & Tribal Communities**

### *Royal Palm One*

This session will explore the role that higher education plays in our tribal communities and how tribal colleges and universities are responding to the educational, training, and cultural needs of Native students and communities. The history of higher education in tribal and non-tribal systems will be discussed, compared, and contrasted, to provide a foundational perspective of the future and vision for higher education for Indian Country.

Moderator: Leander R. McDonald PhD, President, United Tribes Technical College

Cynthia Lindquist, President, Cankdeska Cikana Community College (CCCC), Chair - American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) Board of Directors

Joely Proudfit PhD, Chair, California State University-San Marcos American Indian Studies

Carrie Billie, President, American Indian Higher Education Consortium

William Mendoza, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education

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**Dual Taxation: Chronic Impacts of State Taxation in Indian Country**

*Pacific Salon Four & Five*

State governments provide few services on Indian reservations. For roads, schools, police and health care tribes receive inadequate federal funding and the remainder must be generated from tribal government sources. Tribal governments face a losing proposition when forced to collect state taxes: either impose a dual tax and drive business away, or collect no tribal taxes. This dilemma is fundamentally unfair to tribal governments, undermines the Constitution's promise of respect for tribal sovereignty, and keeps Indian reservations the most underserved communities in the nation. To add insult to injury, reservation economies are funneling millions of dollars into state treasuries to spend outside of Indian country. This session will focus on efforts to address this most fundamental challenge to Indian nations.

Moderators: Arlan Melendez, Chairman, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony and John Dossett, General Counsel, National Congress of American Indians

Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs, US Department of the Interior  
Lisa M. Koop, Tribal Attorney, Tulalip  
Arlan Melendez, Chairman, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony  
John Dossett, General Counsel, National Congress of American Indians

**Tribal Homeland Security and Emergency Management Breakout – Session One**

***Tribal Disasters and Federal Trust Responsibility in Emergency Management***

*Royal Palm Six*

Indian Country has recently experienced unprecedented number of disasters from wildland fires and floods, prompting emergency and disaster declarations in order to seek federal assistance. Tribal declarations for response and recovery under the Stafford Act is now an option, but tribal communities would be better served by equitable access to federal preparedness and mitigation grant programs that states have enjoyed. This session will feature tribal, federal and volunteer organization perspectives on the recent tribal disasters. Federal Emergency Management Agency officials will provide updates on tribal policy and program matters, including availability of tribal emergency management training. There also will be a presentation on a federal program to secure needed and usable surplus property for tribal emergency management programs.

Moderators: Steve Golubic, Former Director, Tribal Affairs, Department of Homeland Security and Robert Holden, Deputy Director, National Congress of American Indians

Rod Mendes, Office of Emergency Services Director, Hoopa Valley Tribe  
Theresa Gregor, Executive Director, Intertribal Long Term Relief Foundation  
Milo Booth, Director, FEMA Office of Tribal Affairs  
Chele Rider, Disaster State Relations Director, Southwest & Rocky Mountain Division, American Red Cross  
Harold Jones, Emergency Management/Physical Security Specialist, Office of Management Support, Indian Health Service  
Cristen Rodgers, Tribal Engagement Volunteer Partner, American Red Cross  
Hailey Starr, FEMA Youth Preparedness Council

4:15 – 6:00

**Subcommittee Meetings**

Disabilities – *Terrace Salon Two*  
Economic Development, Finance &  
Employment – *Royal Palm Five*  
Education – *Royal Palm One*  
Elders – *Terrace Salon Two*  
Energy & Mineral Policy - *Towne*  
Environmental Protection & Land Use -  
*Esquire*  
Health – *Royal Palm Four*  
Housing - *Dover*  
Human, Religious & Cultural Concerns -  
*Sunset*

Indian Child & Family Welfare – *Pacific  
Salon Four & Five*  
Jurisdiction & Tribal Government – *Royal  
Palm Two*  
Taxation - *Sunrise*  
Technology & Telecommunications – *Royal  
Palm Three*  
Transportation & Infrastructure - *Stratford*  
Tribal Gaming - *Pacific Salon Six & Seven*  
Trust Lands, Natural Resources &  
Agriculture – *Pacific Salon Two*  
Veterans – *Royal Palm Six*

5:30 – 6:30

**Youth Commission End of the Day Wrap Up**

*Tiki Pavilion*

Youth attendees please join us to share what your day was like, learn about opportunities and mingle with other youth attendees.

6:30 – 7:30

**NCAI Technology Task Force Meeting**

*Royal Palm Three*

This open meeting will convene members of NCAI's Technology Task Force to discuss work in the fields of technology and communications issues in Indian Country. The Technology Task Force was created during NCAI's 2013 Executive Council Winter session and is comprised of tribal leadership, tribal telecommunications companies, Information Technology (IT) experts, entrepreneurs, and representatives from tribal organizations. For more information please contact Brian Howard at [bhoward@ncai.org](mailto:bhoward@ncai.org).

7:00 – 9:00

**Native Vote Talent Show/Lip Sync Battle**

*Golden Ballroom*

Join us in kicking off Native Vote 2016 by celebrating the importance of Indian Country's voice in the election process! Come show off your skills, enjoy the performances, and eat some delicious food. All talents are welcome!

7:30 – 8:30

**Reception for Former FCC Chief of Office of Native Affairs and Policy, Geoffrey Blackwell**

*Royal Palm Four*

Join us for a reception to recognize Geoffrey Blackwell and his work on behalf of Indian Country at the Federal Communications Commission's Office of Native Affairs and Policy. Food and light refreshments will be served.

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## Wednesday, October 21

### 7:15 – 8:15 **Area Caucus Meetings**

Alaska Area – *Pacific Salon Six & Seven*

Eastern Oklahoma Area – *Pacific Salon Four & Five*

Great Plains Area – *Royal Palm Two*

Midwest Area - *Sunrise*

Northeast Area - *Royal Palm Six*

Northwest Area - *Royal Palm Four*

Pacific Area – *Pacific Salon Two*

Rocky Mountain Area – *Royal Palm One*

Southeast Area – *Royal Palm Five*

Southern Plains Area - *Sunset*

Southwest Area – *Pacific Salon Three*

Western Area – *Royal Palm Three*

### 11:00 – 7:00 **Tradeshow and Marketplace Open**

*Grand Exhibit Hall*

### **Fourth General Assembly**

*Atlas Ballroom*

8:30 – 11:30

8:30

#### **Call to Order**

Arlan Melendez, Treasurer, NCAI

#### **Invocation**

#### **Announcements**

#### **Credentials and Membership Report**

Yvonne Oberly, Credentials Committee Chair

8:45

#### **Native Vote Update**

Daniel Craig McCool, Professor of Political Science, University of Utah

9:00

#### **Honoring Nations**

Please join Honoring Nations for a special plenary session to learn about and celebrate success in tribal governance. The 2015 Honoring Nations finalists will each share a 10-minute presentation about their inspiring and innovative work to the Fourth General Assembly. At the conclusion of the presentations, the Honoring Nations Board of Governors will announce the awards for High Honors and Honors.

10:30

#### **Nominations and Speeches for NCAI Board Administrative Offices**

Standing Rules of Order, Section V. A. 3. Nomination speeches shall be no longer than two minutes. Individuals making nominations must state their name, the tribe they represent, and indicate that they are a member in good standing with NCAI. Nominations do not have to be seconded, and no seconding speeches shall be allowed. Campaign speeches by candidates shall be no longer than five minutes.

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11:30 – 12:30

**National Native American Just Move It! Healthy Lifestyles Walk, Run and Rally**

*Lion Fountain*

12<sup>th</sup> Annual National Native American Health & Fitness Walk. Come and join leaders from more than 500 nations as we all “Walk the Talk,” and show our commitment to wellness. All participants will receive healthy lifestyles incentives!

1:30 – 4:00

**Concurrent Breakout Sessions**

**Native Vote: Let’s Talk about Organizing!**

*Pacific Salon Four & Five*

As communities plan to get out the Native vote, NCAI will host a community conversation to share tools and strategies about coordinating GOTNV efforts, ensuring voter protections and rights are in place, engaging particular groups like Elders and veterans, and encouraging Native candidates to run for office, amongst others. Come over to talk story and link arms to make sure our voices are heard!

**Discipline & Culture: Stemming the Tide of Native Youth Being Pushed into Prison**

*Pacific Salon Three*

Many Native youth who experience violence and/or are pushed out of schools and foster care systems find themselves caught in a pipeline to prison. In educational settings, cultural mismatch and language barriers may result in disproportionate disciplinary action that can push youth out of school and into prison. In foster homes, challenging experiences may lead some Native youth to run away, endure homelessness, and become involved in juvenile justice systems. In this session, we will discuss tribal initiatives to stop the flow of Native youth into prison.

Honorable Judge Richard Blake, Hoopa Valley Tribe

Jenna Gearhart, United Indians Labateyah Youth Home

Sarah Hernandez, Sycuan Inter-Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation, *invited*

Dr. Tarajeau Yazzie-Mintz, American Indian College Fund

**Protecting Indian Water Rights Under Drought Conditions**

*Royal Palm Four*

With unprecedented drought conditions in California and the Western United States, the right to use and access water has never been more critical. This session will look at the drought conditions and expectations and a few examples of what tribes are doing now and what can be done going forward to protect and assert tribal water rights. After a general overview of water rights and drought issues, there will be presentations on water issues in Northern California and the litigation efforts in Southern California to protect tribal rights to ground water under the Winters doctrine.

Moderator: Susan Masten, Vice Chairperson, Yurok Tribe

Amy Cordalis, Attorney, Yurok Tribe

Steve Moore, Staff Attorney, Native American Rights Fund

Catherine F. Munson, Partner, Kilpatrick Townsend

Margaret J. Vick, Special Water Counsel, Colorado River Indian Tribes

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## **Honoring the Sacred, Protecting Our Cultures**

### *Pacific Salon Six & Seven*

The protection of sacred places and cultural practices has involved a complex system of laws, regulations, and governmental entities. This session will include panelists discussing various tribal efforts to protect historical areas and former tribal homelands to ensure the preservation of cultural, religious practices and access to sacred places. This panel will also include a discussion regarding the Tribal Cultural Protection Disaster Preparedness Project being spearheaded by the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO) in conjunction with the Narragansett Tribe THPO.

Moderator: Amanda Barrera, Secretary, Colorado River Indian Tribes

John Murray, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Blackfeet Nation

Daniel Cordalis, Associate Attorney, Earthjustice

Leonard Forsman, Chairman, Suquamish Tribe

Katherine Brodie, Consultant, National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers Association

## **Workforce Development: Building the Human Capacity to Rebuild Tribal Nations**

### *Royal Palm Two*

A growing number of tribal nations are designing innovative approaches to cultivate the abilities of their citizens to pursue careers that those nations have determined are essential to creating the futures they seek. As part of NCAI's ongoing focus on tribal workforce development, roundtable participants will share some of these approaches and explore how tribal nations can assess the current state of their workforces and forecast their future workforce needs, create new jobs and career pathways to meet those needs, and strengthen work ethic and skills to ensure success in those professions. In addition, NCAI will present the initial findings of its comprehensive research on the subject.

Lana Chanda, Director, Employment & Training Department, Gila River Indian Community

Alexander Yazza, Jr., Executive Director, Owens Valley Career Development Center

Leander "Russ" McDonald, President, United Tribes Technical College

Rosita Worl, President, Sealaska Heritage Institute, *invited*

## **Tribal Homeland Security and Emergency Management Breakout – Session Two**

### *International Borders, Travel, Evolving Threats and Homeland Security*

#### *Royal Palm Three*

The Department of Homeland Security is the federal agency primarily responsible for preventing terrorist attacks and addressing federal disasters. Tribal Nations are an integral part of the national discussion on homeland security. Evolving threats are challenging tribes across the nation and this guided discussion will provide insights of possible solutions. These challenges are amplified as tribes have yet to be provided the federal support necessary to establish and continue to operate appropriate homeland security and emergency management programs. This guided discussion session will include updates from tribal representatives who are members of federal advisory councils. Other presentations include officials from the Transportation Security Administration, US Coast Guard, the DHS Office of Emergency Communications and First Net.

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Moderators: Steve Golubic, Former Director, Tribal Affairs, Department of Homeland Security and Robert Holden, Deputy Director, National Congress of American Indians

Bonnie Arellano, Border Security Program Manager and Tribal Liaison, DHS US Customs and Border Protection, Tucson Field Office;

David Munro, Director, Office of Tribal Affairs, Department of Homeland

Leroy Tooley, Yuma Sector Tribal Liaison, DHS Customs Border Protection

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

#### *Pacific Salon Two*

Panelists will provide updates on recent advances and ongoing challenges in implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Updates will include work related to implementing the Outcome Document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and the upcoming UN meeting to finalize a legally binding international agreement to reduce greenhouse gasses, curb the pace of climate change and define programs to help the most vulnerable States and Peoples to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. The breakout session will also highlight recent developments on the issue of international repatriation.

Moderator: Heather Whiteman Runs Him, Native American Rights Fund

Frank Ettawageshik, United Tribes of Michigan

Andrea Carmen, International Indian Treaty Council

Robert T. Coulter, Indian Law Resource Center & Citizen Potawatomi Nation

Oren Lyons, Haudenosaunee Faith keeper, Onondaga Nation

### **Feeding Ourselves and Our Sovereignty**

#### *Royal Palm Five*

Building off the recently released *Feeding Ourselves: Food access, health disparities, and the pathways to healthy Native American communities* report, this session explores the extent of the food-related issues in Indian Country and begins a dialogue on developing tribally-driven solutions regarding access to healthy foods, health issues, and food sovereignty. A key part of this discussion will be the Model Food and Agriculture Code project launched by tribes and tribal agriculture experts to leverage the role of tribal sovereignty in food production in Indian Country. An update on recent negotiations to seat a Working Group of Tribal Leadership to address ongoing issues related to the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (food distribution feeding program) will also be discussed.

Janie Hipp, Director, Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative at the University of Arkansas School of Law

Wilson Pipestem, Managing Partner, Ietan Consulting, LLC

Crystal Echo Hawk, President & CEO, Echo Hawk Consulting

## Thursday, October 22

### 7:15 – 8:15            **Area Caucus Meetings**

Alaska Area – *Pacific Salon Six & Seven*

Eastern Oklahoma Area – *Pacific Salon Four & Five*

Great Plains Area – *Royal Palm Two*

Midwest Area - *Sunrise*

Northeast Area - *Royal Palm Six*

Northwest Area - *Royal Palm Four*

Pacific Area – *Pacific Salon Two*

Rocky Mountain Area – *Royal Palm One*

Southeast Area – *Royal Palm Five*

Southern Plains Area - *Sunset*

Southwest Area – *Pacific Salon Three*

Western Area – *Royal Palm Three*

### 11:00 – 5:00            **Tradeshow and Marketplace Open**

*Grand Exhibit Hall*

### 8:00 – 10:00            **Elections**

*California*

Membership must be current by 5:00pm PST, Wednesday, October 21, to vote in the NCAI elections. In the event of a runoff between candidates, voting will take place between 11:00 – 12:00pm on Thursday, October 22.

### **Fifth General Assembly**

*Atlas Ballroom*

8:30 – 12:00

### 8:30                      **Call to Order**

Rosemary Morillo, Regional Vice President, NCAI

### **Invocation**

### **Announcement**

### 8:40                      **Major General James T. Jackson**

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Vietnam

### 8:50                      **Youth Commission Report**

### 9:00                      **TANF Task Force Update**

MaryAnn McGovern, Tribal TANF Task Force Co-Chair

### 9:10                      **ICWA Update**

### 9:20                      **Gaming Update**

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

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- 9:30 **Technology Task Force Update**  
Matthew Rantanen, Co-Chair, NCAI Technology Task Force
- 9:40 **Education Update**  
Bill Mendoza, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education
- 9:50 **Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) Regulations**  
Rafael Lopez, Commissioner, Administration for Children Youth and Families
- 10:00 **Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Update**  
Mike Andrews, Staff Director and Chief Counsel, Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
- 10:35 **National Indian Health Board**  
Lester Secatero, Chairman, National Indian Health Board
- 11:00 **OST: Twenty Years of Trust**  
Vince Logan, Special Trustee, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians
- 11:30 **Tribal Leader Discussion**
- 12:00 – 1:00 **Elder's Honoring Luncheon**  
**Sponsored by Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians**  
*Golden Ballroom*  
The Four O'odham Youth Councils  
Chance Brown, Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians  
*Tickets are available for purchase.*

**Sixth General Assembly**

*Atlas Ballroom*

1:30 – 4:00

- 1:30 **Call to Order**  
Fawn Sharp, Regional Vice President, NCAI
- Announcements**
- 1:40 **Census Update**
- 1:50 **Navajo Nation**  
Russell Begaye, President, Navajo Nation

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2:10 **Tribal Access to Criminal Databases**  
Marcia Hurd, Senior Counsel to the Director, Office of Tribal Justice, US  
Department of Justice

2:20 **Water Rights and the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit**  
Jeff Grubbe, Chairman, Agua Caliente

2:30 **Mascots Update**  
Luis Alejo, Assemblymember, California State Assembly  
Dhakota Brown, National Native Youth Cabinet, NCAI

2:50 **UNITY Update**  
Brian Weeden, Male Co-President, UNITY

3:00 **Tribal Leader Discussion**

4:15 – 6:00

**Committee Meetings**

Economic, Finance & Community Development – *Royal Palm One & Two*

Human Resources – *Pacific Salon Two*

Land & Natural Resources – *Pacific Salon Four & Five*

Litigation & Governance – *Pacific Salon Three*

Veterans – *Royal Palm Three*

5:30 – 6:30

**Youth Commission End of the Day Wrap Up**

*Tiki Pavilion*

Youth attendees please join us to share what your day was like, learn about opportunities and mingle with other youth attendees.

6:00 – 7:00

**VIP Pre-Gala Reception (open to all)**

*Golden Ballroom Foyer*

Enjoy this chance to mingle as we highlight some of our generous Annual Convention sponsors prior to the Gala Banquet.

7:00 – 10:00

**Gala Banquet**

*Sponsored by Bank of America*

*Golden Ballroom.*

Keith Secola, Award Winning Native American Musician

*Tickets are available for purchase.*

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## Friday, October 23

9:00 – 12:00 Indian Arts & Crafts Booths Open  
*Atlas Foyer*

### **Seventh General Assembly**

*Atlas Ballroom*

8:30 – 12:00

8:30 – 9:00 **Call to Order**  
Len George, Area Vice President, NCAI

**Invocation**

**Memorials**

9:00 **Treasurer's Report**  
Arlan Melendez, Treasurer, NCAI

9:45 **Rules and Credentials Report**

**Swearing in of NCAI Officers**

10:05 **Resolutions Committee Report**  
**Full Committee Reports and Consideration of Resolutions**  
Economic, Finance & Community Development  
Human Resources  
Land & Natural Resources  
Litigation & Governance  
Veterans

11:55 **Retire Colors/Closing Prayer**

12:00 **Adjourn 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention**

### **US Census 2020 Tribal Consultation\***

*Sunset*

1:00pm-5:00pm

The US Census Bureau is committed to the tenets of **Executive Order 13175**. As part of ongoing government-to-government relationship with federally recognized tribes, Census is conducting a series of tribal consultation meetings and one national webinar in preparation for the planning of operations and communications for the 2020 Census. These meetings will provide a forum for you to share insights, make recommendations, and discuss your concerns regarding the 2020 Census. Prior to the meetings, you will receive a booklet containing background information, subjects, and questions that seek your input through comment and

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participation in the consultation meetings. Please visit [http://www.census.gov/aian/census\\_2020](http://www.census.gov/aian/census_2020) for additional information or to download the background materials. For questions, please contact Jennifer Gillissen [Jennifer.Gillissen@Kauffmaninc.com](mailto:Jennifer.Gillissen@Kauffmaninc.com).

## **Saturday, October 24**

### **Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) Manual**

*Sunrise*

9:00am – 12:00pm

The FEMA Preliminary Damage Assessment Operations Manual (PDA) establishes national damage assessment standards developed from historic lessons learned and best practices already in use. The PDA is intended to increase the accuracy, consistency, and efficiency of damage assessments by empowering emergency management officials at all levels with clear information and defined roles and responsibilities. The PDA process is critical in assessing a request from a tribe or state for an emergency or major disaster declaration. FEMA officials will provide insight and guidance to tribal officials on their role in the assessment during this session.

Presenter: Ryan Buras, Senior Program Advisor FEMA Office of Response and Recovery Directorate

### **US Census 2020 Tribal Consultation\***

*Sunset*

9:00am-1:00pm

The US Census Bureau is committed to the tenets of **Executive Order 13175**. As part of our ongoing government-to-government relationship with federally recognized tribes, we are conducting a series of tribal consultation meetings and one national webinar in preparation for the planning of operations and communications for the 2020 Census. These meetings will provide a forum for you to share insights, make recommendations, and discuss your concerns regarding the 2020 Census. Prior to the meetings, you will receive a booklet containing background information, subjects, and questions that seek your input through comment and participation in the consultation meetings. Please visit [http://www.census.gov/aian/census\\_2020](http://www.census.gov/aian/census_2020) for additional information or to download the background materials. For questions, please contact Jennifer Gillissen [Jennifer.Gillissen@Kauffmaninc.com](mailto:Jennifer.Gillissen@Kauffmaninc.com).

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