



# Indian Country TODAY

THIS WEEK FROM  
THE PREMIER E-NEWSLETTER SERVING THE NATIONS, CELEBRATING THE PEOPLE

## A Letter from the Publisher

*Shekóli.* Last week, President Obama delivered his State of the Union address to the residents of the United States. It was followed by commentary and responses from members of Congress. Brian Cladoosby, President of the Nation Congress of American Indians, gave what is traditionally billed as the State of Indian Nations speech two days later. For coverage, turn to this week's feature on the subject.

It has been a lively week at Indian Country Today Media Network, with correspondents and opinion columnists delving into elements raised by politicians and leaders as they attempt to chart a course for the next year. While specific proposals and advancements attract our attention and energy, underlying them all are bedrock principles from which all our solutions must come.

The most important issue, forever and always, is the land. When we control our land, when we exist in vibrant communities making the best use of our land, when we live clear of obstructions and hurdles and can freely exercise our eternal rights, we thrive. All steps and measures our governments make in concert with the federal government to rid our nations of the paternalistic policies of the past are good. Self-determination works when treaty obligations are honored, and funds owed are used at each Nation's discretion.



Education in all its forms—knowing one's language, traditions and culture, in addition to acquiring portable skills that can foster a career and help guide a community—is an integral part to maintaining our growth as independent peoples. This particular aspect of self-reliance, to reach for as much knowledge as we can as individuals, is part and parcel of self-governance.

As a media enterprise, ICTMN will play close attention to proposed legislation that will better educate Indian students and enrich our language programs. Just as we covered the successful passage of the Tribal General Welfare Exclusion Act, so too will our sights train on the passage of the Native American Housing and Self Determination Act. No matter what the subject or where the fight, we will hold fast to the basic truths about our land and our people, just as our ancestors did generations before us.

*Na ki' wa,*

Ray Halbritter

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### The Power Of Stories

*Recalling childhood memories and present experience, Dale Carson (Abenaki) considers how tribal tales can distract, entertain, educate and heal, during one of the darkest times of the year:*

As a child, when I misbehaved I was told not to do the deed again and I was usually asked to sit and listen to a story. I heard about Granny Squannit, the wife of the giant Mooshup on Cape Cod and the islands. Some think she may also have been the wife of the

Abenaki hero giant, Gluscabi. But that is another story.

Now that it is the coldest part of winter, fireside stories may be told in abundance. Person or animal, the story always had a lesson to pass along.

When not cooking or thinking about food, I work on craft projects. Stories help the work go faster, I even like to listen to them more than music sometimes. One of my favorite storytellers on tape is Tsonakwa (Gerard Rancourt Tsonakwa), an Abenaki from Quebec. The stories told by him, Joseph Bruchac, N. Scott

Momaday and many others who I have been blessed and honored to meet have stayed in my heart and my head.

In mid-winter, these stories can be told by the fireside. They are exciting, educational, and entertaining. They can teach important lessons and explain mysteries of the natural world in ways both young and old can understand and all the while continue on the oral history carried by the teller. Do remember to treat the storyteller well with a warm drink of tea or cocoa with chocolate shavings on top.

<http://bit.ly/15CRvCw> 

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### Our Pipeline Will Defeat Yours

*Jacqueline Keeler, a founder of Eradicating Offensive Native Mascotry, calls upon President Obama to stand by his promise to the Dakota/Lakota people to veto any congressional bill supporting the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline:*


Last year, I saw a banner at a rally that read, "Our Pipeline Will Always Fight Yours." It ran above an image of a line of Dakota/Lakota people in dark silhouette, identifiable by the feathers attached to their hair. All bore the

*canunpa*, the sacred pipe, over their chests with pipestone clearly painted in red. The vigil was one of many held all over the country that night.

I speak as the daughter of an Ihanktonwan Dakota (Yankton Sioux) family—a *tiyospaye*, as we say in Dakota. And I address President Obama as a relative, someone welcomed by the Lakota people of Standing Rock into their hearts. The proposed Keystone XL pipeline that would extend across South Dakota, being built by a Canadian corporation, TransCanada, threatens most of the Oceti Sakowin (Lakota/Dakota Nation)'s water supplies as it

runs over the Ogallala Aquifer and near the Missouri River.

It is the true power of our Dakota traditions to make life, not death. The focus of our culture has always been on people, not things. I hold out hope that TransCanada, the builder of the pipeline, and its shills in Congress will abandon their fight for this project as the price of oil plunges.

When I talk about "fighting," I am referring to the battle between the culture that produces pipelines that threaten people off the land and the pipeline of my people—which makes relatives and a life for us all on this land. <http://bit.ly/1CTuDsI> 

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### Why Canonize Genocide?


*On January 15, Pope Francis said he expects to canonize the Spanish Franciscan friar Junipero Serra, whom he called "the evangelizer of the West in the United States," during an upcoming U.S. visit that will take him to Philadelphia, New York City and Washington, D.C. This news disturbs Steven Newcomb (Shawnee, Lenape):*

The Catholic Church worked to achieve spiritual conquest by means of temporal political domination of church and state, and the cross and the sword, over "the infidels." Such domi-

nation is what Pope Francis's predecessor Alexander VI laid the path for with his papal bulls of 1493. Those documents called for "the propagation of the Christian empire" and for non-Christian "barbarous nations" to be "reduced" to the Catholic faith and Christian religion.

Junipero Serra's efforts at evangelization were undertaken in furtherance of the objectives set forth in papal documents of the Holy See. Evangelization was one means of extending the religio-political Spanish Catholic system of domination into the lands and territories of the original and independent

Native nations of the continent and the hemisphere throughout "the Americas." Pope Francis's decision to grant sainthood to Father Serra by canonizing him celebrates the genocidal legacy of the Spanish Catholic mission system of domination.

Given the unsaintly and deadly toll that Father Serra's Catholic mission system had on Native Nations and families in Alta California, it is a cruel irony that Pope Francis will finalize his canonization during the World Meeting of Families, in "the City of Brotherly Love," in the territory of our Lenape Nation. <http://bit.ly/1BKISDa> 

## Pipeline Rupture Spills 50,000 Gallons of Oil Into Yellowstone River

Crews have been battling ice and freezing temperatures in their attempts to clean up a 50,000-gallon oil spill from a ruptured pipeline into the Yellowstone River in Montana. The spill, which occurred at about 10 a.m. on January 17, caused the Bridger Pipeline Co. to close the 10-inch-wide Poplar pipeline, which carried 42,000 barrels of oil a day, Reuters reported.

“Our primary concern is to minimize the environmental impact of the release and keep our responders safe as we clean up from this unfortunate incident,” Tad True, vice president of Bridger, told the Associated Press.

Knowledge of the spill started surfacing on January 18 with reports of oily-tasting drinking water in Glendive, about nine miles downriver, the *Billings Gazette* reported. Officials said it was not clear that the drinking water had been contaminated. Nonetheless, they began bringing in water for 6,000 residents as a precaution. Tests are currently being conducted to determine whether a public health threat exists.

Meanwhile, some of the spilled oil is trapped beneath ice in the river, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) told the *Gazette*. The challenges to the clean-up are twofold, the EPA said: The oil cannot be seen beneath the ice and the ice is too thin to support the necessary equipment.

The Poplar pipeline is part of a system carrying crude from the Bakken oil fields in Montana and North Dakota. The cause of the breach has not yet been found. The accident recalls the rupture of an ExxonMobil Corp. pipeline during flooding in July 2011. That incident dumped 63,000 gallons of oil that coated 85 miles of riverbank. <http://bit.ly/1Cv9Jj3> 📍

## Bighorn Blight Shows Troubling Patterns, Wildlife Officials Say

BY JACK MCNEEL

A rash of bighorn sheep deaths this winter, most likely from pneumonia, has caused concern among wildlife officials. Dozens of bighorn lambs have died among the Upper Yellowstone herd near the North entrance to Yellowstone National Park since December, with one group of 25 to 30 animals now down to 17 sheep, according to reports.

Bighorn deaths from pneumonia are not unusual. But wildlife experts are worried because, in addition to the lamb die-off, more adults than usual have succumbed. The deaths are not restricted to Montana. There are ongoing bighorn problems in Hells Canyon between Idaho and Oregon as well, Nez Perce interim wildlife director Angela Sondenaa told Indian Country Today Media Network.

“That whole population has had ongoing problems,” Sondenaa said, adding that wildlife officials had already removed a small group of bighorn from Hells Canyon. “The decision was made to capture the remaining animals and send them to South Dakota as part of a research project.”

Pneumonia is the most common way that nature culls bighorn populations, said Mark Drew, wildlife veterinarian for Idaho Fish and Game. “The primary limiting factor in sheep populations is disease, primarily pneumonia although it can be other things,” he told ICTMN.

“Bighorn sheep in western North America have been exposed to those cattle and sheep pathogens since the advent of white settlement,” Drew added. “Let’s call it 150 years, 200 years give or take a little bit. When pneumonia hits bighorn sheep, they respond relatively poorly, and they tend to have mortality issues with it.” <http://bit.ly/1CGZIVK> 📍

## CDC Report Addresses Native Alcohol Deaths

BY STEVE RUSSELL

A report released by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) on January 6 has shed new light on U.S. deaths from alcohol poisoning. Based on death certificate data from 2012 to 2012, the report found that most U.S. deaths that occur from drinking binges are of white males. Men aged 45 to 54 accounted for 25.6 deaths per one million of the population. By comparison, the age-adjusted rate for American Indians and Alaska Natives was 49.1 deaths per million—the highest

of any ethnicity.

State alcohol poisoning rates ranged from 5.3 per million in Alabama to 46.5 per million in Alaska. The only two states that came in over 30 per million contain major Indian Country; they are Alaska and New Mexico.

“The high alcohol poisoning death rate among American Indians/Alaska Natives,” the CDC study noted, “is consistent with the high binge drinking intensity that has been reported by binge drinkers in this population. A recent study found that American Indians/Alaska Natives were seven times more likely to die from alcohol poisoning

than whites, reflecting both the higher intensity of binge drinking among binge drinkers in this population and other factors, such as geographic isolation and reduced access to medical care.”

The authors acknowledged that the study is limited by a general underreporting of alcohol poisoning deaths, and by reason of only counting deaths where alcohol poisoning was the primary, rather than a contributing, cause. There is also a long history of failure to record tribal status on official documents. This failure tends to increase with distance from Native homelands.

<http://bit.ly/1yUjEj3> 📍

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA

In Re:

Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena, Montana,  
a Montana Religious Corporation Sole,

Debtor-In-Possession

Chapter 11

Case No. 14-60074

**NOTICE OF (I) APPROVAL OF DISCLOSURE STATEMENT; (II) HEARING ON  
CONFIRMATION OF THE PLAN AND PROCEDURES FOR OBJECTING TO CONFIRMATION  
OF THE PLAN; AND (III) PROCEDURES AND DEADLINE FOR VOTING ON THE PLAN**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT

1. On December 12, 2014, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena, Montana (the “Debtors”) and the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors of Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena, Montana (the “Committee”) (collectively, the “Proponents”) filed their “First Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Reorganization of Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena, Montana” (the “Plan”) dated December 12, 2014 and a Disclosure Statement with respect to the Plan, dated December 12, 2014 (as such Disclosure Statement may be amended, the “Disclosure Statement”), pursuant to Section 1125 of Title 11 of the United States Code (the “Bankruptcy Code”).

2. After a hearing (the “Disclosure Statement Hearing”) held on January 14, 2015, the Court entered an Order approving the Disclosure Statement and the Proponents’ solicitation procedures (the “Disclosure Statement Approval Order”), in accordance with which you are receiving a copy of the Disclosure Statement and the Plan and certain other materials relating to the solicitation of votes to accept or reject the Plan.

3. A hearing (the “Confirmation Hearing”) to consider confirmation of the Plan and related matters will be held at 9:00 a.m. on March 4, 2015 before the Honorable Terry L. Myers, United States Bankruptcy Judge, at the United States Bankruptcy Court, 6450 N. Mineral Drive, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. The Confirmation Hearing may be adjourned from time to time without further notice other than announcement made at the Confirmation Hearing or any adjourned hearing, and the Plan may be modified, if necessary, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1127 prior to, during, or as a result of the Confirmation Hearing, without further notice to interested parties.

4. If you hold a claim against the Debtor and are entitled to vote to accept or reject the Plan, you have received with this Notice, a Ballot form and voting instructions appropriate for your claim or interest. For your vote to accept or reject the Plan to be counted, you must complete all required information on the Ballot, execute the Ballot, and return the completed Ballot to the Balloting Agent so that it is received no later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing Mountain Time, on February 25, 2015. Any failure to follow the voting instructions included with the Ballot may disqualify your Ballot and your vote.

5. Holders of (i) unimpaired claims and (ii) claims and interests who will receive no distribution from the Debtor under the Plan are not entitled to vote on the Plan and, therefore, received a Notice of Non-Voting Status rather than a Ballot. In addition, unless otherwise set forth in the objection, claims that are the subject of an objection are not entitled to vote on the Plan and, therefore, did not receive a Ballot. If you disagree with the classification of, or objection to, your claim or interest and believed that you should be entitled to vote on the Plan, then you must (i) have timely filed a proof of claim by the applicable Bar Date and (ii) serve on the Proponents and file with the Court (with a copy to Chambers) a motion for an Order pursuant to Rule 3018(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (a “Rule 3018(a) Motion”) temporarily allowing such claim in a different amount or in a different class for purposes of voting to accept or reject the Plan. All Rule 3018(a) Motions must be filed on or before ten days before the hearing set for confirmation. In accordance with Bankruptcy Rule 3018, as to any creditor filing a Rule 3018(a) Motion, such creditor’s Ballot will not be counted unless temporarily allowed by the Court for voting purposes, after notice and a hearing. Creditors may contact the Balloting Agent to receive a Ballot for any claim for which a proof of claim and a Rule 3018(a) Motions have been timely filed. Rule 3018(a) Motions that are not timely filed and served in the manner set forth above shall not be considered.

6. Objections, if any, to the confirmation of the Plan must (i) be in writing, (ii) state the name and address of the objecting party and the nature of the claim or interest of such party, (iii) state with particularity the basis and nature of each objection to confirmation of the Plan and (iv) be filed, together with proof of service, with the Court (with a copy Chambers) and served so that they are received no later than 5:00 p.m., (prevailing Mountain Time) on February 25, 2015, by Elsaesser Jarzabek Anderson Elliott & Macdonald, Chtd., J. Ford Elsaesser, Esq. and Bruce A. Anderson, Esq., 320 East Neider Avenue, Suite 102, Coeur d’Alene, ID 83815 and; attorneys for the Committee, Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP, 10100 Santa Monica Boulevard, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, California 90067, Attn: James I. Stang, Esq. and 780 Third Avenue, 36<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10017, Attn: Ilan D. Scharf, Esq. Objections not timely filed and served in the manner set forth above shall not be considered and shall be overruled.

7. Any holder of a claim that (i) is scheduled in the Debtor’s Schedules of assets and liabilities at zero or in an unknown amount or as disputed, contingent, or unliquidated, and is not the subject of a timely filed proof of claim or a proof of claim deemed timely filed with the Court pursuant to either the Bankruptcy Code or any order of the Bankruptcy Court or otherwise deemed timely filed under applicable law or (ii) is not scheduled and is not the subject of a timely filed proof of claim or a proof of claim deemed timely filed with the Court pursuant to either the Bankruptcy Code or any order of the Court or otherwise deemed timely filed under applicable law, shall not be treated as a creditor with respect to such claim for purposes of (a) receiving notices regarding, or distributions under, the Plan or (b) voting on the Plan.

8. Any party in interest wishing to obtain (i) information about the solicitation procedures or (ii) copies of the Disclosure Statement or the Plan should contact the undersigned counsel to the Debtor or visit the official website of the Official Creditors Committee [www.pszjlaw.com](http://www.pszjlaw.com).

Dated: Coeur d'Alene, Idaho  
January 21, 2015.

ELSAESSER JARZABEK ANDERSON  
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January 21, 2015.

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Helena, Montana

## Hupacasath First Nation Loses Court Bid to Stop Canada-China Investment Treaty

BY WAWMEESH HAMILTON

The Canadian Federal Court of Appeal has struck down a British Columbia First Nation's bid to derail the Canada-China Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (FIPPA), a controversial treaty that opponents say could allow China to sue Canada if its demands for resources are not met.


The attempt was one of the last legal challenges facing the treaty, which went into effect on October 1, 2014 after its initial signing by Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Chinese President Hu Jintao in 2012. The Hupacasath had been waging a legal battle backed by the Council of Canadians and other groups to block the agreement, which they claim endangers indigenous rights.

The Hupacasath are a 300-member tribe located on the West Coast of Vancouver Island. Member Brenda Sayers, who has spearheaded the case, was not surprised by the decision.

"We are certainly disappointed," Sayers said. "But given that Stephen Harper ratified FIPPA last September while this case was still before the courts, well something like this was to be expected."

The First Nation had argued that it should have been consulted on the treaty, because the agreement's provisions could adversely affect Hupacasath lands. But a judge ruled in August 2013 that the tribe did not establish a case for consultation, a decision upheld on January 9.

Sayers disagrees. In Hupacasath territory, she said, consequences could arise if the tribe did not want resources extracted from, for example, a sacred tribal site. If China had an interest in a logging company that wanted to log a tribal sacred site, the tribe would oppose it. But under terms of the agreement, China could then sue Canada for loss of revenue.

<http://bit.ly/1Jbh9uq> 

## Number of Homeless Native American, Black Students in Washington State Increases

BY SIMON MOYA-SMITH


K-12 Native American and black students in Washington State are three times more likely to be homeless than their white peers, a new study has found.


In the 2013-14 school year, 7.6 percent of Native American students in Washington were counted as homeless, according to a report by the state's Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. Likewise, 7.6 percent of black students were counted as homeless. In that same period, by contrast, Washington's Hispanic and Latino students suffered a 4.1 percent homelessness rate. And 2.3 percent of white students were counted as homeless.

The overall percentage of homeless K-12 students throughout the state jumped six points from the previous year, according to the *Seattle Times*. During the 2012-13 school year, there were 30,609 homeless students. The next year, there were 32,494.

Elected officials in Washington are struggling with a recent state Supreme Court ruling to fully fund all K-12 schools, which threatens the funding to some social services programs.

"These numbers make it clear that funding education at the expense of the safety net is a false choice," said Rachael Myers, executive director of the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance. "Sufficiently funding basic education means funding what children need both inside and outside the classroom."

"Seattle needs to provide better direct access to emergency shelters and temporary to permanent housing options," said Caleb Dunlap, Ojibwe, who worked with Washington's Native American homeless community as program manager for the Seattle-based Chief Seattle Club. "Often family services can be limited due to the age of children. In the case of single mother families it can be harder for them to find housing placements if they have male children over the age of 13 due to often being in housing placement with domestic violence victims." <http://bit.ly/157oFJb> 

<http://bit.ly/157oFJb> 

## Buffalo Tiger, Miccosukee Tribe's First Chairman, Walks On

BY MICHELLE TIRADO


William Buffalo Tiger, the first tribal chairman of the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, from 1962 to 1985, passed away on January 6 at the age of 94.

Born on March 6, 1920, on an island in the Everglades, Buffalo Tiger did not take on an official Miccosukee role until 1953. In that year, the tribe's medicine people appointed him to serve as spokesperson in the tribe's dealings with the state and federal governments. In this unpaid position, Buffalo Tiger con-

stantly championed for the preservation of his tribe. In 1955, he met with Florida Governor Thomas LeRoy Collins to put an end to the harassment his family suffered at the hands of game wardens in the Everglades. In 1954, during termination hearings under the Eisenhower administration, he traveled with a delegation to Washington, D.C. to protest to the president.

Three years later, after the federal government failed to meet a critical deadline to recognize the Miccosukee as a tribe, Buffalo Tiger and a group of Miccosukee people went to Cuba to seek recognition from Fidel Castro, which the communist

leader granted. This move ultimately led to the federal government's decision to grant the tribe federal recognition in 1962.

Another important achievement Buffalo Tiger made was his contributions to the design of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975, also known as Public Law 93-638. He also was integral to the establishment of United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET), which today has a membership of 26 tribes. He served as an officer on the organization's board of directors for 17 years and had been president emeritus since 2010. <http://bit.ly/1yP5sK8> 

## Muscogee Plan On Entertainment Venue

*Will spend more than \$20 million*

The Muscogee Creek Nation is planning a \$22 million entertainment venue in a suburb of Tulsa, Oklahoma, splitting the cost evenly with its partner, RW Restaurant Group, the *Tulsa World* reported. “There will be nothing like it within a 250-mile radius of Tulsa,” Chief George Tiger said. The new venue will be in the town of Jenks; the tribe said it will offer high-tech golf and family oriented games, restaurants, a sports bar and corporate space. The facility will also provide private meeting and party spaces. The Muscogee Creek bought the existing property for \$11.5 million at auction after a foreclosure. Groundbreaking is imminent and the completion date is scheduled for 2017. <http://bit.ly/1DGGLky>

## Advocacy Group Fails To Change ‘Redskins’

*Met with team owner Snyder last August*

The Fritz Pollard Alliance Foundation, which works to establish diversity throughout the National Football League, attempted unsuccessfully during a meeting last August to discuss with a name change of the Washington Redskins with team owner Dan Snyder, *The Washington Post* reported. But the meeting swiftly deteriorated after objections by Gary L. Edwards, the executive director of the Original Americans Foundation, an organization founded by Snyder. Representatives of the Pollard al-

liance told the *Post* they also spoke with NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell about the team’s logo; Goodell said the matter was in the hands of the football team. <http://bit.ly/1yTfjoQ>

## Two Indian Casinos Rebound

*Mohegan Sun and Foxwoods recover*

Two Indian casinos in Connecticut that struggled for most of 2014 posted increases in wagers in December. Foxwoods Resort Casino, owned by the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, reported a slot revenue of \$36 million for December—down 4 percent from December 2013, but up from November 2014. The Mohegan Sun, owned by the Mohegan Tribe, reported slot revenue of \$49 million for December—up 7 percent from \$46 million in the same month a year earlier. Both casinos contribute a percentage of their earnings to Connecticut’s Special Revenue Fund. In December, Foxwoods contributed \$9.3 million to the fund and Mohegan Sun contributed \$12.2 million. <http://bit.ly/1CcoMQT>

## Vandalism At Jordan Trailhead

*U.S. Forest Service seeks several persons*

The U.S. Forest Service is seeking information about individuals connected to vandalism to an archaeological site known as Jordan Cave near the Jordan Trailhead parking lot in Sedona, Arizona. Authorities said that several people were seen removing and throwing rocks from the walls of the site over a steep embankment. Some of the rocks were even



Listen to the full song at <http://go.cms.gov/nottoworry>

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Health Insurance Marketplace





## LAND CONSOLIDATION EFFORTS UNDERWAY

The Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations, created to implement part of the *Cobell Settlement*, is offering fair market value to landowners for voluntarily restoring fractional land interests to tribes, which helps ensure that Indian lands stay in trust.

*Many landowners have already been paid. While purchase amounts will vary, some individuals are receiving thousands of dollars for transferring land to tribes. All sales are voluntary, but landowners will only have 45 days to accept offers.*

**Landowners are encouraged to contact the U.S. Department of the Interior to learn about eligibility and to ensure that their contact information is up to date. Please call the Trust Beneficiary Call Center today:**

# 1-888-678-6836

More information available from your local Fiduciary Trust Officer, or on the web at:  
**[www.doi.gov/buybackprogram](http://www.doi.gov/buybackprogram)**

dug from the prehistoric floor of the site and thrown over the embankment. “Damaging the resource of any kind is illegal and, depending on the extent of the crime, something could be punishable up to \$20,000, possible jail time and restitution,” Brienne Magee, public information office with the Coconino National Forest, told AZCentral. <http://bit.ly/1y3U5qZ> ☞

### Caricatured Candy Will Be Changed

*German confectioner regrets stereotypes*

The German confectionary company Haribo, which invented gummy bears, will alter its all-licorice “Skipper Mix” following criticism that its depictions are racist. The Skipper Mix includes faces

that appear to be stereotypical caricatures of African and Asian people, and masks of African or Polynesian origin. One piece even bears a resemblance to a Sambo or pickaninny image from the late 19th-early 20th century. The company took the action after receiving complaints from the public. “I understand the criticism and think it’s important to listen to the customers,” said Ola Dagliden, the director of Haribo in Sweden, reported the Swedish news site TheLocal. <http://bit.ly/1JeqKTc> ☞

### Nottawaseppi Huron Band Swears In Officers

*All offices filled are reappointments*

The Nottawaseppi Huron

Band of the Potawatomi (NHBP) of Michigan reappointed four individuals to various seats during their December Tribal Council meeting. Matthew L.M. Fletcher was reappointed as tribal associate justice and will serve a six-year term on the Supreme Court. The NHBP also reappointed Melissa L. Pope as Chief Judge of the tribal court; she will serve a four-year term. Rounding out the appointments, Nancy A. Bogren was reappointed to her second four-year term as the NHBP prosecutor and presenting officer, and William J. Brooks was sworn in for a fourth term as tribal chief legal officer. <http://bit.ly/1CruQFr> ☞

### Charges Of Racism In Winnipeg

*Magazine decries Canadian city*

*Maclean’s* has branded Winnipeg, Manitoba as Canada’s most racist city, based on its treatment of its indigenous population. “Unfortunately, the truth is we have a far worse race problem than the United States,” the news magazine declared in the cover story of its latest issue. “We just can’t see it very easily.” Newly elected Mayor Brian Bowman, Métis, gave a tearful news conference at which he vowed to fight racism after the magazine hit the stands on January 22, CTV News reported. Standing beside him was former National Chief of the Assembly of first Nations Ovide Mercredi, who said, “This is a national problem.” <http://bit.ly/1CIUy6a> ☞

**BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA**

**In re: The Roman Catholic Bishop of Helena, Montana, a Montana Religious Corporation Sole (Diocese of Helena)  
("Debtor")**

**Case No. 14-60074**

**NOTICE OF DEBTOR'S MOTION TO APPROVE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT, RELEASES AND POLICY BUYBACKS WITH GREAT AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY, INCLUDING THE SALE OF INSURANCE POLICIES FREE AND CLEAR OF LIENS, CLAIMS, ENCUMBRANCES, AND OTHER INTERESTS ("SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT"); AND NOTICE OF HEARING**

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Debtor has filed in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Montana, a motion for approval of the Settlement Agreement with Great American Insurance Company ("Motion"),

**THE MOTION SEEKS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, AN ORDER OF THE COURT, PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C. §§ 105(A) AND 363 AND FRBP 6004 AND 9019, APPROVING A SETTLEMENT, RELEASE, AND COMPROMISE OF ALL CLAIMS AS MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT. IF THE MOTION IS APPROVED, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE DEBTOR WILL SELL, AND GREAT AMERICAN WILL PURCHASE, THE SUBJECT INSURANCE POLICIES (AS DEFINED IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT), FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL INTERESTS (AS DEFINED IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT), INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ALL LIENS, CLAIMS AND ENCUMBRANCES. GREAT AMERICAN WILL PAY \$1,750,000 FOR THE BUYBACK OF THE SUBJECT INSURANCE POLICIES FREE AND CLEAR OF SUCH INTERESTS AND GREAT AMERICAN WILL PAY \$1,750,000 TO OBTAIN THE BENEFIT OF THE PERMANENT INJUNCTION (AS DEFINED IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT) AND OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT. THE ABOVE PAYMENTS SHALL BE PAID TO THE DIOCESE TRUST (AS DEFINED IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT), TO BE ESTABLISHED BY THE DEBTOR'S FIRST AMENDED JOINT CHAPTER 11 PLAN OF REORGANIZATION PROPOSED BY THE ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF HELENA, MONTANA AND THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS ("PLAN"). ALL ABUSE CLAIMS (AS DEFINED IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AGAINST THE DIOCESE PARTIES (AS DEFINED IN THE PLAN) WILL BE CHANNLED TO THE DIOCESE TRUST AS THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE SOURCE OF PAYMENT OF ANY SUCH CLAIMS. IN ADDITION, PURSUANT TO THE MOTION, THE DEBTOR SEEKS FINDINGS THAT, AMONG OTHERS, GREAT AMERICAN IS ENTITLED TO THE BENEFIT OF AN INJUNCTION, PERMANENTLY BARRING ALL CLAIMS BY ANY ENTITY (AS DEFINED IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT) AGAINST THE SUBJECT INSURANCE POLICIES, AND AGAINST GREAT AMERICAN RELATING TO SUCH POLICIES. THE AGREEMENT ALSO REQUIRES THAT ANY ORDER CONFIRMING THE PLAN ENJOIN ALL ABUSE, CONTRIBUTION, DIRECT ACTION, EXTRA-CONTRACTUAL OR TRUST, CLAIMS AGAINST GREAT AMERICAN (AS EACH TYPE OF CLAIM IS DEFINED IN THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT). THE DESCRIPTION ABOVE OF THE RELIEF SOUGHT BY THE MOTION, AND THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT ARE SUMMARY ONLY. REVIEW THE MOTION AND THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IN THEIR ENTIRETY FOR A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE RELIEF SOUGHT. IF YOU HAVE A CLAIM AGAINST THE DEBTOR AS TO WHICH INSURANCE COVERAGE IS OR MAY BE AVAILABLE, YOUR RIGHTS MAY BE AFFECTED.**

If you object to any aspect of the Motion or the sale of the insurance policies, you must: (1) file with the Clerk of the Court at U.S. Bankruptcy Court District of Montana, Room 263, 400 North Main Street, Butte, MT 59701 a written response stating the specific facts upon which the objection is based; (2) serve a copy thereof on Bruce Anderson, counsel to the Debtor, at Elsaesser Jarzabek Anderson Elliott & Macdonald, CHTD., 320 East Neider Avenue, Ste 102, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815, no later than February 25, 2015; and (3) attend the hearing on March 4, 2015, at 9 A.M. Pacific Standard Time at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, 6450 North Mineral Drive, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. If no objections are filed, the Debtor may seek entry of an order approving the Motion without further notice or hearing. A copy of the Motion (Docket No. 430) can be obtained through the PACER system on the Court's Website at <https://ecf.mtb.uscourts.gov> or by contacting Bruce Anderson, Elsaesser Jarzabek Anderson Elliott & MacDonald, CHTD., 320 East Neider Avenue, Suite 102, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815.

DATED this 26th day of January, 2015.

# More Radiation Problems In New Mexico

A toxic vestige of the Cold War now presents a poisonous legacy

**Bottom Line:** *Disposal problems at a nuclear energy plant in New Mexico may have only just begun.*

A year ago, a radiation leak forced the nation's only underground disposal facility for Cold War–related nuclear waste, in New Mexico, to close.

Now, as the Energy Department challenges the fines levied against the facility by the state, new revelations are coming to light regarding safety lapses and a delay in the reopening of the facility.

The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), located approximately 26 miles east of Carlsbad, New Mexico, was scheduled to reopen in 2016. But it will be unable to take new shipments of waste until at least 2018, said the Energy Department and Nuclear Waste Partnership, the contractor that runs the federal repository. Limited operations can resume in 2016, the Associated Press reported on January 15.

But officials said the facility needs a new ventilation system and exhaust shaft before it can accept new material. In fact, the AP said, officials have not been able to close a storage bunker that was affected by the leak, even though the deadline for the closure was January 1.

“The initial closure of Panel 6 was supposed to be one of the quick and easy things to be done,” said Don Hancock, the director of the Southwest Information and Research Center, a watchdog group, after a meeting in Carlsbad to discuss the cleanup efforts from the accident. The accident itself was caused by a fire that ruptured a waste drum from the Los Alamos National

Laboratory that was stored underground. The rupture contaminated 22 workers and closed the facility.

Hancock said that clean-up efforts were both incomplete and sluggish. “It’s not done,” he told the AP. “It’s not quick. It’s not easy. There are going to be risks to workers just to do that. It’s more of a problem than they thought it would be because there’s a

have been part of the waste stream at all, with or without organic matter.

“Investigators believe the radiation leak at WIPP resulted when organic, wheat-based cat litter provided fuel for a chemical reaction with oxidizing nitrate salts that were part of the waste stream packaged at Los Alamos,” the *Albuquerque Journal* reported. “The nitrates were left over from

a process used to extract plutonium.” But the new disclosure is the first suggestion that oxidizing nitrates—even without the addition of organic material—should have been a cause for concern as waste was packaged for WIPP.”

On December 6 the New Mexico Environment Department fined Los Alamos and the WIPP \$54 million for the various breaches, with indications that more fines could follow. It was the biggest civil penalty

ever levied by state authorities against the federal government.

A month later, on January 8, the Energy Department filed a legal response challenging the fines. The New Mexico Environment Department stood its ground on the fines—\$36.6 million against Los Alamos and \$17.7 million against WIPP.

The Energy Department disputes some of the state’s findings and said that the fines are excessive. New Mexico’s environmental department said its conclusions were based on the department’s own data. An official told the *Albuquerque Journal*, “We will not agree to back down on any of the problematic issues we identified in the compliance orders.”

The investigation and cleanup are ongoing. <http://bit.ly/1BoXmWG>



*A damaged nuclear-waste container at Los Alamos National Laboratory, with its lid unsealed and apparent heat discoloration in evidence*

significant amount of contamination in the area. They’re behind schedule on that, and they’re going to remain behind schedule.”

News of the initial leak was followed by disclosures that the plant and the laboratory had not followed their own safety precautions and rules, and then had covered up their lapses. On January 16, the *Albuquerque Journal* reported that Los Alamos had changed a procedure without first examining it for safety.

At issue is whether organic or inorganic kitty litter should have been used in processing waste containing oxidizing nitrates. Organic kitty litter is one of the potential culprits in the explosion that caused the fire and subsequent leak. A December report from the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board indicates that nitrates should not

# Cladoosby: 'We Must Tear Down Barriers'

NCAI president outlines goals following Obama address **BY VINCENT SCHILLING**

**Bottom Line:** *From growth to education, from broadband to energy reform, the State of Indian Nations constitutes an ambitious wish list. Will Congress and the White House listen?*

Two days after President Obama gave his State of the Union Address, the president of The National Congress of American Indians emphasized the need for tribal growth, brought about by cooperation with the federal government.

"Today, I bring a simple message from the tribes of the 21st century," President Brian Cladoosby, chairman of the Swinomish Nation, said in his State of Indian Nations Address on January 22. "We must tear down barriers to growth, simplify regulations that are limiting opportunities, and acknowledge that tribes have the capability as governments to oversee our own affairs."

"Congress and the administration need to find ways to help bring federal agencies out of the 19th century and into the 21st century," he continued. "We need them to be partners for growth and not barriers to growth."

Some of the priorities for the NCAI in 2015 that Cladoosby outlined can be found in the organization's report The FY 2016 Indian Country Budget Request: Promoting Self-Determination, Modernizing the Trust Relationship. Among its provisions, the 130-page document outlines a plan for funding the federal government's trust responsibility through the budget process.

It is time, Cladoosby said, for Congress to advance tribal tax reform that would enable tribes to raise tax revenue free from overlapping state taxation, and to create incentives for business and jobs.

Cladoosby expressed optimism about the growth of Indian Country. "Indian Country is leading," he said. "Indian Country is innovating. Indian Country is growing. And the state of Indian Nations grows

stronger by the day."

Taking note of the historic visit by President Obama to the Standing Rock Sioux Nation last year, Cladoosby echoed the president's words by extending a personal invitation to Speaker of the House John Boehner (R-Ohio), House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-California), Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) and Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nevada) to visit Indian country in 2015. He urged that all other members of Congress join them.

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*'Indian Country  
is innovating.  
Indian Country is  
growing.'*

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"Make it a goal to come to Indian country this year," Cladoosby said.

Cladoosby addressed many other issues of concern. He asked Washington to partner with the private sector to increase broadband in Indian Country, extend access to capital by recognizing the equal status of tribal governments to access tax exempt bonds, and ensure tribal inclusion in the New Markets Tax Credit Program.

In addition, he called on Congress and the White House to ensure that tribal nations "have a seat at the policymaking table" by being consulted on all major policy issues such as the Keystone Pipeline, renewable energy, health care and education.


In regard to the latter subject, Cladoosby asked Congress to reauthorize the Elemen-

tary and Secondary Education Act and to enact legislation that supports Native language programs. And, he added, "I applaud President Obama's proposal to make the first two years of tribal and community college free. It will finally make K-14 education a reality."

Cladoosby delivered his remarks at the Newseum Knights television studios in Washington, D.C. to a full house of members of Congress, senior administration officials, and leaders of tribal nations. The event, which was live streamed on the NCAI channel, was viewed all over Indian country with a reported 50 or more "viewing parties" around the country. As part of his appearance, Cladoosby held up an Iroquois Wampum belt as a gesture of mutual respect among all Indian Nations.

After Cladoosby's address, Sen. John Barrasso (R-Wyoming), the new chair of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, delivered the congressional response. "The relationship between the United States and Indian tribes has not always been positive—and has not always served the people of Indian country well," Barrasso acknowledged. "As President Cladoosby stated, 'We are not where we used to be'.

"My main priority is to help the people of Indian country live better lives. There are two tribes in my home state of Wyoming: the Eastern Shoshone Tribe and the Northern Arapaho Tribe. The tribal leaders of these two tribes have stated to me over the years how important good jobs, health care and public safety are to their communities.

"Addressing these fundamental needs can contribute significantly to improving the lives of Indian people," Barrasso said. "As Chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs, my top priorities are jobs, energy and natural resource development, healthcare, juvenile justice, and tribal self-governance." <http://bit.ly/15Cwhnk> 

# The Changing Face Of The Iditarod

Native mushers face many challenges BY RICHARD WALKER



*“There’s not too many Native mushers anymore,” said Chuck Schaeffer, Inupiaq, who will race in his third Iditarod this year.*

**Bottom Line:** *It’s the gold standard of dog sled races. And increasingly, Alaska Natives are being crowded out of it.*

The Iditarod is considered the premier long-distance sled dog race. “It’s our history, it’s our way of life,” said Yup’ik culture bearer Mike Williams Sr., veteran of 15 Iditarods and three-time Most Inspirational Musher of the race. Alaska Native mush-

ers are prominent in the Iditarod’s history; Athabascans won three of the four earliest competitions.

But the number of Alaska Native mushers in the Iditarod is dwindling. As of January 15, only four of 75 mushers registered for the 2015 challenge—which begins on March 7—are Alaska Native. And that has sparked concern. Without an indigenous presence in the Iditarod and other big rac-

es, many believe, waning interest in mushing among young Alaska Natives will only accelerate.

The reasons for the decline in Iditarod interest among Alaska Natives are many. Thanks to technology, the use of dogs is plummeting. Expenses associated with the contest are mounting. Physical hurdles literally impede one’s ability to prepare for the race.

"I look at it from a traditional standpoint," said Chuck Schaeffer, an Inupiaq musher who will race in his third Iditarod this year. "My dad was the last one to own dogs in Kotzebue when the snowmobile came along ... On [training runs] from Nenana to Kotzebue, I go through a lot of Yukon River and Kobuk River villages. There's not too many [Native] mushers anymore. It's something that is being lost in our culture."

These days, Native mushers in bush Alaska are finding that it takes longer and costs more money to train and compete. And it's harder to take time off to do so. "Our Costco is in the river and in the land," Williams said. "We have to fish in the summer and put food away and take care of our families in the village. That's what we depend on to survive."

It can cost some mushers more than \$100,000 a year to get ready for the marathon. They must pay for food, shelter and veterinary care for the dog team; for mushing equipment and gear; for fuel and transportation; and to take time off for training. In the bush, that kind of money is hard to come by. Alaska Native mushers generally make up the difference between sponsorships and expenses out of their own pockets. (Some mushers say sponsorships can range from in-kind donations to more than \$10,000).

Removed from road systems, rural Alaska Native mushers are located far from potential sponsors and economic opportunity that can help cover the costs of training and competing. Several mushers on road systems operate businesses where tourists can experience a dog sled ride, go on an excursion, and enjoy an overnight stay. But not all can do so.

"We're not in a road system," Williams said. "There's no tourism. A lot of those mushers that are in the road system, and are close to urban areas, and transportation and airports, they seem to do well in terms of entertaining tourists and telling the dog-mushing and Iditarod story. There are folks that pay to see that and feel that. But out here in the boonies in Akiak, we see hardly anybody."

To have a chance of being competitive in the Iditarod, a musher must train and compete in other races year-round. Depending

on the season, training requires that you travel to where the snow is. In Alaska there are approximately six mid-distance races, two long-distance races (three, including the Iditarod), and several club, festival and local races.

The expenses are considerable for mushers from the bush. Richie Diehl, Dena'ina Athabaskan, of Aniak, offered some examples: Gasoline is \$7.50 a gallon in Aniak, whereas it is \$3 a gallon in Anchorage. A 40-pond sack of dog food is \$70 in Aniak, while it is \$48 in Anchorage. Straw for the

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*Money is a big factor. If you're just scraping by, you're going to get stressed about it.*

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dogs' bedding is \$35 a bale in Aniak, as opposed to \$12 in Anchorage. And out in the bush, a veterinarian is on call only every six months.

But one must stay in training and pay the cost. "It's a little bit harder, but if you don't do road system races, your teams don't get exposure," said Diehl, the 2014 Iditarod's Most Improved Musher and a competitor in this year's race.

This is not a big-money sport for those who finish out of the top 10 or, depending on the race, the top five. At the Iditarod, the prize money ranges from \$70,000 (and a new truck) for the champion, to \$1,900 for 30th place. Finish out of the top 30 and you take home a check for \$1,049.

So how do mushers get by the rest of the time? Chuck Schaeffer compensates with his income from construction work. He also hunts seal in the spring ("We only get two or three weeks to do that"), fishes for salmon in the summer and traps fur animals in winter. In November he fishes for sheefish, a freshwater whitefish, which he uses as a high-protein food for his dogs

and to trade for other kinds of dog food. "It's one way I can cut expenses," he said.

Peter Kaiser, Yup'ik, of Bethel, owns a plane and works for a construction company as a carpenter in the summer. His sponsors include Calista Corporation, his employer Knik Construction, Donlin Gold, Ryan Air, and numerous other companies, individuals and families. After sponsorships and winnings, he makes up the difference with his income. To date he has had two top 10 finishes in five Iditarods; he finished 13th in 2014, netting \$23,400.

"I'm fortunate to have had people help me out quite a bit. It's made it possible for us to get to where we are today," he said. "Money is a big factor in this sport. If you're just scraping by, you're going to get stressed about it, and it's only a matter of time before you're not doing it anymore."

Money is not the only stressor. Training takes Kaiser away from his girlfriend and their young son for as long as three months at a time. Still, being out on the ancestral routes with his dogs is part of his DNA.

"It's something I grew up doing all my life," he said. "It's something I've always loved and wanted to do. Now, I love it even more."

So important are the challenges that two prominent Yup'ik mushers, Williams Sr. and his son, Mike Jr., are skipping this year's Iditarod to build their resources and prepare for 2016. Mike Jr. finished 13th, 11th, and eighth in three of five Iditarods, and the father's goal is to see his son become the first Yup'ik Iditarod champion.

"We need all the support we can get from Indian country and our Alaska Native corporations," the elder Williams said. "Native corporations help some, but not to a level where it's something major. I appreciate their help, but I've been discouraged that Alaska Native mushers aren't getting that consistent help. There's been some help, but not to a level where we'll be real competitive."

Diehl stands behind an Alaska Native presence in competitive mushing. "I think it's real important," he said. "It shows the youth that with hard work, good things come from it. It can give them hope, give them something to look forward to. ... It's something that the community needs."

<http://bit.ly/1Btdh8X> 

## David Minkin Senior Apartments

Beginning on January 26, 2015 our 99-unit building at 5313 9th Avenue; Brooklyn, NY 11220 will be re-opening its waiting list to the elderly, where the head or spouse is 62 or older, including units that are handicapped accessible, with limited income based on Section 8 guidelines.

Qualifications for the 99 units, which include 10 units for the mobility impaired, will be based on Section 8 guidelines. Interested persons may obtain an application by writing to:

David Minkin Senior Apartments  
c/o P.O.P. MANAGEMENT CORPORATION  
191 Joralemon Street, 8th Floor  
Brooklyn, New York 11201

Or in person at 5313 9th Avenue; Brooklyn, NY 11220; leave contact information during the hours of 2-4 pm.

**All applications will be mailed.**

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS MUST BE SENT BY REGULAR MAIL TO THE POST OFFICE BOX INDICATED ON THE APPLICATION FORM. APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE POST OFFICE NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 21, 2015.



## Positions Available



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs



### Bureau of Indian Education

**Associate Deputy Director - BIE Operated Schools**

**Location: Albuquerque, NM**  
**Control Number: 391413100**

**Associate Deputy Director - Tribally Controlled Schools**

**Location: Bloomington, MN**  
**Control number: 391425200**

**Closing Dates for both Positions:**  
**February 11, 2015**

For More Information and Application Procedures:

**www.usajobs.gov**

Use the control numbers to search the database.

**Or Contact:**

Ms. April Gromadzki, HR Specialist at,  
april.gromadzki@bia.gov

The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) is an Equal Opportunity Employer  
Preference will be given to American Indian and Alaska Natives

## INVITATION FOR STATEMENTS OF INTENT TO RESPOND TO BID

The Metlakatla Housing Authority (MHA) is planning a phased construction project to add six building lots for future construction of 20 multifamily rental housing units located in Metlakatla, Alaska. To fulfill Indian Preference Procurement Requirements under 24 C.F.R. § 1000.52(c)(1)(iii), MHA intends to limit the procurement to Alaska Natives or American Indians (AN/AI), AN/AI organizations or firms, and AN/AI-owned enterprises. By this Invitation, MHA solicits AN/AI Entities to submit Intents to Bid on a Request for Proposals.

Entities submitting Intents to Bid should be able to show that they qualify as AN/AI Entities, that they are appropriately licensed in Alaska to provide construction and related services, and that they will comply with Indian preference requirements for subcontractors, HUD regulations, and any applicable laws or rules. A successful intent to bid will show the AN/AI entity is able to perform the site development construction that will provide the roads, lots, and utilities necessary for future construction of 20 multifamily housing units. The site development project will require: blasting and dispose of approximately 16,000 cubic yards of muskeg and approximately 2,100 cubic yards of rock from blasting/trenching; installation of water and sewer lines; delivery of 41,000 cubic yards of material for fill in trenches, roads and building lots; construction of 800 linear feet of concrete roads; and, installation of 300 linear feet of culverts.

A preliminary scope of work to inform your intent to bid is available by contacting Gordon Severson at Michael L. Foster & Associates 13135 Old Glenn Highway, Suite 200, Eagle River, Alaska 99577, ph: (907) 696-6200, fax: (907) 696-6202, email: ges@mifaalaska.com.

All Intents to Bid must be submitted to the Metlakatla Housing Authority, P.O. Box 59, Metlakatla, Alaska 99926, by February 26, 2015. Prospective bidders must submit an Intent to Bid in a sealed envelope clearly marked "Intent to Bid - Raven Loop Extension" or fax an Intent to Bid to the above listed number. Your Intent to Bid must include documentation satisfactory to show that you are an AN/AI Entity.

### ALASKA NATIVE AND AMERICAN INDIAN PREFERENCE

The work to be performed for this project is subject to Section 7(b) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. § 450e) and 24 C.F.R. § 1000.52. MHA requires that to the greatest extent feasible: (i) preferences and opportunities for training and employment shall be given to Alaska Natives and American Indians and (ii) preferences in the award of contracts and subcontracts shall be given to Alaska Native / American Indian-owned economic enterprises. This Invitation to Bid is limited to Alaska Native and American Indian entities.

## Shoshone-Paiute Tribes

**Duck Valley Indian Reservation**

**www.shopaitribes.org**

**Owyhee, Nevada**

### Vacant Positions Are:

- Associate Tribal Judge – Closes: 01/20/2015
- Tribal Health Administrator
- Medical Doctor
- Quality Assurance Director
- Clinical Health Director
- Clinical Registered Nurse

### For More Details, please view

The Tribes Website @ <http://www.shopaitribes.org/hr/jobpostings.html>

### Benefits such as:

- 401(k) Retirement Plan
- Medical, Dental & Vision Insurance
- Housing

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Human Resources at

hr@shopai.org

(208) 759-3100, ext. 1227 or 1224



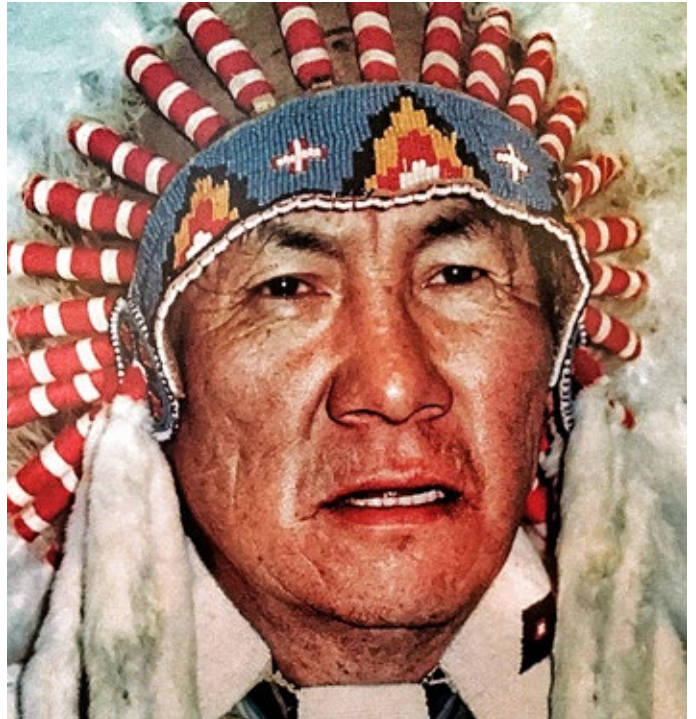
*This rendering is of the casino that the Cowlitz Tribe now plans to build near La Center, Washington.*



*A detail from Cara Romero's 'The Last Indian Market', a Native-themed tableau reminiscent of Leonardo da Vinci's 'The Last Supper.'*



*The U.S. Forest Service wishes to question these individuals in connection with recent vandalism at Jordan Cave in Arizona.*



*Gordon Crowchild, chief of the Tsuu T'ina First Nation from 1968 to 1976 and a leading radio figure, walked on January 12.*

WIKIPEDIA; COWLITZ TRIBE; COURTESY CARA ROMERO; U.S. FOREST SERVICE; TSUU T'INA FIRST NATION



**Seeking Established Brokerage Operations**

Seeking established Brokerage operations who have experience in Marketing and Sales within Indian Country for a newly formed Property/Casualty Tribal Insurance facility.

Please submit a resume of your agency/brokerage operation and include your tribal experience within Indian Country.

Reply to:  
[insurancebroker25@propertycasualtyfacility.com](mailto:insurancebroker25@propertycasualtyfacility.com)

**Navajo Community Development Financial Institution (NCDFI)** is seeking candidates for its Board of Directors.

Individuals interested in applying for the NCDFI board should contact Clara Pratte, Board Chair at [cpratte@gmail.com](mailto:cpratte@gmail.com). Deadline for submitting applications is Friday, February 13th, 2015. NCDFI was formally established on January 27, 2010 by the Navajo Nation Council as an independent for profit financial institution.

Applicants must have qualifications in finance, banking, and lending. Additional qualifications may include sophisticated knowledge of macro and microeconomic concepts; direct working experience with financial institutions; a philosophical foundation for community-based development; and a commitment to serving the economic goals of the Navajo people.

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# Headlines from the Web

## LAWMAKERS STILL TRYING TO STOP TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION CASINO

<http://bit.ly/15cB9zd>

## ONEIDA TAKES PACKARDS WAGER FROM FELLOW TRIBE

<http://gbpg.net/1zxO3W9>

## INCUMBENTS RETURNED TO TRIBAL COUNCIL

<http://bit.ly/1xRvhlP>

## CROW GOVERNMENT ERECTS SIGN PROCLAIMING 'JESUS IS LORD' ON RESERVATION

<http://bit.ly/1Cgauz7>

## HORSE RACE MACHINES SPARK DEBATE FOR IOWA TRIBES, CASINOS

<http://bit.ly/1xBgU6s>

## LEAPS AND BOUNDARIES FOR WYOMING TRIBES

<http://bit.ly/1L1X79k>

## Upcoming Events

### U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS JANUARY 28

This oversight hearing will be devoted to “Indian Priorities for the 114th Congress.”

**Location:** Dirksen Senate Building, Washington, D.C.

### STATE AND TRIBAL COLLABORATION WEBINAR JANUARY 29

“Improving Tribal Access to Victim Services: Lessons From National, State and Tribal Perspectives” is the latest in a series of webinars funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance and jointly hosted by the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) and the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). With a focus on the 2013 reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, the webinar will highlight practical approaches to ensuring tribal access to victims funding, compensation, and services. Presenters

are Dianne Barker Harrold, attorney and Indian Country consultant (Cherokee); Brian Hendrix, Victims of Crime Tribal Liaison for Oklahoma (Muscogee Creek); and Nikki Finkbonner, coordinator at Lummi Nation Victims of Crime Program.

**Information:** <http://bit.ly/1yIHqit>

### 2015 AMERICAN INDIAN FESTIVAL JANUARY 29-31

Members of all 22 tribes in the state of Arizona are expected to be at the American Indian Village in conjunction with Super Bowl XLIX in Phoenix. Featured events will include interaction with tribal elders, storytelling, social dances, Native cuisine, displays of traditional dwellings, artisanal demonstrations, and traditional and contemporary Native music. Presented by the Arizona American Indian Tourism Association and the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts.

**Location:** Scottsdale Civic Park Center, Scottsdale, Arizona

### TEXAS NATIVE AMERICAN LAW CONFERENCE JANUARY 30

The 2015 conference will present topics of current interest in Native American law, including the Indian Child Welfare Act and “Eagles, Feathers and Spiritual Birds: Native American Spirituality and the Law.” Featured speakers will be Bill Voelker and Troy, co-directors of Sia, the Comanche Nation Ethno-Ornithological Initiative. The conference will also include presentations by the Chickasaw Nation Stomp Dance Troupe, Chickasaw flutist Jesse Lindsey and the Eagle Point Singers. Sponsored by the Native American Law Section of the State Bar of Texas.

**Location:** Texas Law Center, Austin, Texas

### THUNDERBIRD AMERICAN INDIAN DANCERS IN CONCERT JANUARY 30

In what has become a time-honored tradition, the Thunderbird American Indian Dancers will offer their 40th annual concert of dances, stories and traditional music from the Iroquois and Native Peoples of the Northeast, Southwest and Great Plains regions, celebrating the diversity of culture of First Americans.

**Location:** Theater for the New City, New York, New York

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for “How Technology is Helping Modern Language Revitalization Efforts” (January 8). Often, tribes do not bring resources together to assist one another. But technology is a tool that enables language preservation on a broad scale.

In this age of technology, we should have no excuses to let a tribal language become

extinct. If we do, we have no one to blame but ourselves. I would much rather hear, read, and learn about professional efforts and large-scale commitments to address problems than bellyache about the problems. We should not always expect Uncle Sam to dig us out of a hole.

If a tribe has millions of dollars coming by way of a court order—whether it be

via a lawsuit or gaming—why not direct some of it toward language preservation and classroom adoption? It makes no sense to wait another decade when, with each day that passes, we lose another elder who is our greatest teacher when it comes to using the native tongue.

—Isaac Curley  
Tempe, Arizona



## TOP NEWS ALERTS

From IndianCountryTodayMediaNetwork.com

### FORT PECK APPROVES MEDICAL POT

By a 7-4 vote, the Fort Peck Tribal Executive Board on January 12 approved a resolution to legalize medical marijuana on the reservation. The board set a deadline of June 1 to work out legal details, including amendments to existing laws, growth sites, effective growing method and the establishment of tribal prescription cards. A Justice Department memo, dated October 28, said that sovereign Indian Nations can choose to grow or sell medical marijuana on tribal lands without fear of federal harassment.

### CHOCTAW HELP RESTORE PUBIC TRANSIT

The city council of Meridian, Mississippi has voted unanimously to enter into a

memorandum of understanding with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians to restore public transportation to the city. The transport will be a bus "that will be used on a per call basis, three days a week," the *Meridian Star* reported. "This is something we've talked a lot about," said Mayor Percy Bland, "and I'm proud the council approved it." Meridian's public transportation system ceased three years ago because of a lack of funds.

### NEW CHEROKEE HEALTH FACILITY

The Indian Health Service (IHS) has granted a Joint Venture Construction Project to the Cherokee Nation to add a new facility to its W.W. Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Under the agreement, the IHS

will provide up to \$30 million a year and the tribe will build a complex of 250,000 square feet. The original facility was built 30 years ago to handle 65,000 outpatient annual visits. "Today the hospital serves more than 400,000 patient visits annually," the Associated Press reported.

### ANDREW JACKSON MUSICAL CANCELED

The production of the Tony Award-nominated musical *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, scheduled for the Raleigh Little Theatre in North Carolina in May, has been canceled. "The Native American community feels that it comes at the expense of historical facts and atrocities that [Jackson] instigated against their ancestors and family," the newly appointed artistic director, Patrick Torres, told

Indyweek.com. "There was no accurate and clear way to engage them in the process; as an institution, we would be excluding them from the production."

### NATIVE GIRL, REFUSING CHEMOTHERAPY, DIES

Makaya Sault, the Ojibwe member of the New Credit First Nation in Ontario who made headlines by preferring traditional indigenous treatments for her leukemia, died on January 19 at age 11. Sault had undergone 11 weeks of conventional chemotherapy after she was diagnosed in March. But following what she said was a vision of Jesus, she asked her doctors to cease treatment: "I am writing this letter to tell you that this chemo is killing my body," she told them, "and I cannot take it anymore."

# How Did I Miss That?

Cousin Ray holds forth on the Golden Globes, Rush Limbaugh and the photo-free cover of *Essence* magazine BY STEVE RUSSELL

Tina Fey and Amy Poehler at the Golden Globe Awards proved that there is life after making rape jokes.

“Maybe so,” my Republican cousin Ray Sixkiller commented, “but will they survive making fun of Bill Cosby?”

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*Bloomberg BusinessWeek* reported the development of “unhackable passwords. These are gizmos that use biometrics—a scanner for your iris, for example, or a wristband to compare your distinctive electrocardiogram. There is also a cell phone app that requires you to take a selfie that contains facial recognition software.

“There’s no truth to the rumor they are working on biometric breasts,” Cousin Ray assured me.

Then he had a seriously dire thought. “Two out of three,” he said of the new biometric passkeys, “could be defeated by a terrorist who cut off your head.”

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The Paris tragedy brought out the usual political bottom feeders predicting that the U.S. homeland will be struck again. Of course we’ll be struck again. Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-South Carolina) blamed President Obama for failing to label the situation a “religious war”—presumably being fought by the 31.5 percent of Christians and the 0.2 percent of Jews in the world against the 23.2 percent of Muslims. Sen. Kelly Ayotte (R-New Hampshire) blamed Obama for causing Paris by shutting down Gitmo. Rush Limbaugh blamed Obama for causing Paris with Benghazi.

“There’s no truth to the rumor,”

Cousin Ray assured me, “that the RNC is starting an ad campaign blaming the Paris attacks on Obamacare.”

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The surviving staffers of *Charlie Hebdo*, working from the offices of *Libération* because their workspace was still behind crime scene tape, met their publication schedule. The good news is that the magazine went to press in 16 languages and 3 million copies—up from the normal 60,000 copies in French—quickly sold out.

The bad news is that most U.S. news outlets are refusing to show the cover, which depicts the Prophet leaking a tear and holding a sign saying “Je suis Charlie” under the caption “Tout est pardonné” (“All is forgiven”).

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The Daily Beast reported on a new product called SKEA (“Smart Kegel Exercise Aid”), invented by physicist Tom Chen after his wife complained of a common after-effect of childbirth for which doctors prescribe Kegel exercises. SKEA is a video game controller that is . . . well . . . inserted. The player manipulates her avatar with Kegel squeezes. The first game for SKEA is called “Alice In Continent”—get it? Doctors recommend Kegels to prevent urinary incontinence, to guard against organ prolapse, and to make orgasms easier to achieve and more intense.

Cousin Ray wondered, “[Do] they make that Kegel stuff for men?”

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Some of us were reminded why we make fun of pols when Politifact was

asked to evaluate the truth of a remark by California Gov. Jerry Brown that “virtually no Republican” on the federal level accepts climate change science. After beating the brush, Politifact was able to find eight out of 278. That’s almost 3 percent. They were kind enough to call Brown’s remark “mostly true.” Politifact’s brush beating took place before the election.

One of the science believers is gone and the others whom Politifact counted were squishy.

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*Essence*, the magazine that has most successfully blended fashion and politics for the African-American community, has run an issue without a photograph on the cover. It’s a big deal because it is the only time in 45 years that the magazine has done so. But it’s a bigger deal because it is like seeing *Vogue* without a photo on the cover. The cover of *Essence* is coveted real estate. Of more import than fashion this time was #BlackLivesMatter.

“If only,” Cousin Ray sighed, “saying it could make it happen.”

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Plowing the Kirby Delauter furrow one more time from the tribal government side, a certain tribal business committee passed an ordinance in their January 10 meeting to provide for the firing of tribal employees who criticize tribal government on social media. It strikes me that a criticism of a person is not a criticism of tribal government.

“I see your point, smart ass,” Cousin Ray interjected, “but would you bet your job on it?” <http://bit.ly/1Cm1C8q> ☞



*Legendary Olympian Jim Thorpe (Sac and Fox) is celebrated in My Father's Bones by Native activists Suzan Shown Harjo and Mary Kathryn Nagle.*

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**THE BIG PICTURE**