



Utah Division of Indian Affairs

Tribal Leaders Newsletter Report

March 12, 2009



The primary service provided by UDIA is **Information and Referral**.

This includes:

- General information about Utah's American Indians and tribes
- Presentations to various sectors: public, private, schools
- Publication and distribution of information
- Speaker's Bureau
- Web site: www.indian.utah.gov

*Division of Indian Affairs
Powerpoint

Comments from the Director, Division of Indian Affairs:

It has been a while since our last report in November. Although winter has not been as cold as previous winters, it has been a somewhat long winter. Spring is just around the corner and we are all looking forward to warmer weather.

During this past year's Indigenous Day we honored 15 outstanding people. We have some pictures of this year's event on page 9.

We had a great Indian Caucus Day, January 27, 2009. Thanks to all of you who attended and participated in the events of this day. Although we did not have as many legislators show up this year (perhaps 20), this is the first time that we had a visit from the Speaker of the House, David Clark - see page 3 for pictures. Our office was proud to report on the excellent progress of the "We Shall Remain" project. Our thanks to KUED (Ken Verdoia and Mary Dickson) for all their support!

In spite of the difficult economic times, this is a good time for Indian people. We have a few excellent projects that are nearing completion—they should make a difference in our quality of life for years to come.

Sincerely,



2009 GENERAL SESSION - January 26 - March 12, 2009:

As you know this year's general session was quite challenging due to major reductions in state revenues. As with other state departments and divisions, the Division of Indian Affairs has incurred budget cuts this past year (2009). We will be operating at a reduced funding level in the coming year (2010) but, the important part is... we will be operational.

Bills passed:

- HB 265 Postmortem Procedures Amendments
- HJR 5501 Joint Resolution Supporting Needed Improvements in the Navajo Nation's Ability to Collect and Track Child Support Payments
- SB 037 Utah Substance Abuse and Anti-violence Coordinating Council Amendments
- SB 111 Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program Amendments
- HB 179 State-owned Land Amendments

H.B. 179 State-owned Land Amendments:

Some of you might be aware of this bill that permits a land swap related to the extension of the Utah Transit Authority (UTA) rail line and station into the southern part of Salt Lake Valley. This bill is a "permissive" one that authorizes a land swap for the possibility of development in this area. The bill does not sanction nor authorize the UTA development proposal. It only makes it possible for this to occur.

There is the potential for destruction of a 3,000 year old archeological site in the vicinity.

Education - Statewide American Indian Language Program:

As you may know, we have been meeting and discussing the establishment of a statewide program to coordinate and provide support to tribal language projects. We have not been successful in identifying any real potential funding source for this project. Nevertheless, it has been good for all of us to compare notes and share vital information. Our efforts is now directed at assisting tribes to apply for language funding under the Administration for Native Americans.

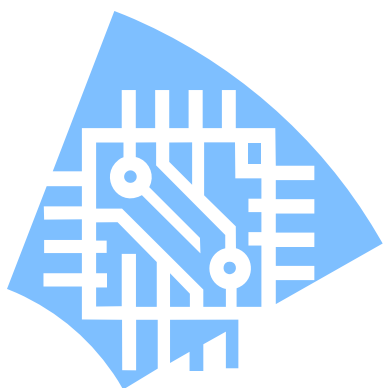


Indian Caucus Day on the Hill



American Indian Digitization Project:

The initial version of the Utah American Indian Digital Archive (UAIDA) is on track to go live in June 2009 so that its materials can supplement the curriculum binders and enhance the workshops for the "We Shall Remain" Utah Indian Curriculum Project. The website template for UAIDA has been designed, and the text for the website will be finalized this month. The archive currently contains over 3100 pages of maps, photos, historic books, tribal histories, and oral history transcripts. By August 1, 2009, the archive will contain another 3600 pages of oral history transcripts and at least 3300 pages of treaties, government documents, and historic documents, many having been collected by American West



Center staff from libraries and archives around the country. In addition to these written sources, UAIDA will contain the audio for at least 200 oral histories, 170 historic photographs, and images of 50 artifacts relevant to the Indians of Utah. The Utah American Indian Digital Archive has received approval for non-lapsing funding into 2009-2010. In the next phase of the project, researchers will continue to built the archive and manage the digital information associated with each document. A special focus will be placed on

gathering biographical information about the oral history interviewees, as was requested by the participants at the Utah tribal leaders gathering in November 2008.

Governors' Interstate Indian Council

We were saddened to learn that Arizona State Legislature eliminated the Office of the Arizona Indian Commission. Arizona was planning to host this coming year's GIIC annual meeting. Since they have had to cancel, I have placed a bid for the State of Utah to host the meeting. Some GIIC members are reporting major cut backs in funding prohibiting attendance at the annual conference.



2010 U.S. Census:

Census time is rolling around again and hopefully some of you have been contacted by U.S. Census personnel from the Denver Regional Office. I have attended one meeting with the regional representatives and the focus was upon working closely with various ethnic groups in our state. The U.S. Census is once again relying upon cooperation and coordination with Indian tribes in or-



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der to make an accurate count in 2010.

We Shall Remain:

I am pleased to report that all of the five (5) documentaries on the Utah tribes have been completed. I have watched two of them and they are excellent. I am told that all five are outstanding and that they accomplish everything we intended in producing them. The teacher guide being prepared by the American West Center is also nearing completion. A recent presentation to a statewide social studies teacher audience drew major raves and reviews by the teachers. Numerous presentations are being planned throughout the state beginning with the Premier showing scheduled for 7:00 p.m. March 17, 2009 at the SLC Library.



Repatriation of Human Remains:

On January 21st, Division of Indian Affairs oversaw the placement of ancient human remains into the Burial Vault. The remains came from two state agencies, Division of State History and the National Guard. We would like to specially recognize Shawn Nelson, of the National Guard, who has remained with us throughout this difficult process and who has provided unflinching support in the efforts to return human remains to a place of rest. Barring any new discoveries, the National Guard has completed its responsibilities regarding human remains in their possession.



And we would like to thank State History for their continuing work and efforts to return human remains to the earth.

We would also like to report we had a very successful Native American Remains Review Committee meeting on January 26th, 2009. We had full attendance (barring one member who was delayed during air travel) of the Committee and discussed the specifics of burial and repatriation, including who, when, and where do the remains go to when there has been a repatriation.



N.A. Summit - Economic Development Committee:

It looks like we will hold the September Summit at Thanksgiving Point. A morning "Walk" and golf tournament are being organized.

"We Shall Remain" Utah Indian Curriculum Project

The "We Shall Remain" Utah Indian Curriculum Project has made significant progress since work began in earnest in September 2008. There is no question these curriculum materials and an accompanying website with expanded capabilities will be available to teachers by the next school year as planned. We have also just learned that a no-cost extension has been granted for this project so that we can properly train teachers to use the materials, and so that we can update the website based on teacher's field experiences with the materials. To summarize our progress to date: the first few months of the project were spent pinning down a possible budget and looking for a project director. By September a project director was hired and the process of building a team to research and write the curriculum began. Once that team was in place they began working with Dr. Floyd O'Neil as well as other scholars, USOE representatives - particular Dr. Harold Foster and Tom Sutton - and members of the five tribal communities to create tribe-specific lesson plans. In November early drafts of lesson plans started to come together. Through December and January the last of the first drafts (21 in all) were completed and work began on refining goals for teachers and students. Team members were given copies of the State Core Curriculum and the NCSS standards to address which standards should be tied to individual lesson plans. They have also been working closely with KUED to link the curriculum materials to the five Utah documentaries. This process, in addition to the search for primary documents, oral histories, photographs, and maps to accompany and support the lessons kept both the UICP team and the UAIDA team busy through much of February. March has been particularly busy for the team as we work to wrap up final drafts of the lesson plans. We are also researching historical map data to support a series of interactive digital maps being produced by Round River Conservation Studies. March has also been the start of our outreach campaign with KUED to help the educational community prepare for the arrival of the "We Shall Remain" documentaries in April and the curriculum materials on July 1, 2009. The UICP has been introduced to the educational community in a number of environments. Starting with the UEA convention in the early fall, the tribal leaders gathering at Fort Douglas and the Indigenous Day meeting at the UDIA in November, the social studies curriculum coordinators meeting at the USOE this winter, the UMFA teachers night, UELMA and UCET conferences in March. Due to the perfectionism of the project director there are only 6 lesson plans considered "shareable" at this time but there are 15 very close to being complete. The final 3 lesson plans are the "unit assessment" plans to be completed following the lesson plans. Final editing and review on all work will continue for the next month, after which time the materials will be sent for design and printing. The team will continue to enhance the lessons and resource materials for the web site, and plan the teacher workshops that will be conducted throughout the summer and next school year.

WE SHALL REMAIN



Utah American Indian Housing Council

The Division of Indian affairs is pleased to announce we have received the funding to support the feasibility study that will be conducted by Oweesta in the next year. Every tribe should have received an invoice for their agreed upon contribution. After completing the contracting documentation Oweesta will be contacting each of the tribal housing directors. They will need as much information as possible in order to create a successful study.



Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee and State Forest Plan:

I have been serving on the Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee for several months now. They have wanted to coordinate their efforts with Indian tribes so they have asked me to serve initially. At the last meeting, I informed them that I would encourage Utah tribes with forest management responsibilities to become a member of this Committee. A state forest management plan is also being developed and they would like input from Utah's Indian tribes. For further information, please contact Mike Eriksson at 801-538-5457 or 386-1078 or mikeeriksson@utah.gov

Native Nations Institute (NNI) Training - May 27-28, 2009:

Please note: We simply must have a commitment from each tribal government that all elected leaders will attend the upcoming training session. We encourage you to invite some of your economic development directors and planning personnel to attend. The training will be conducted at the Zermatt Resort, 784 West Resort Drive, Midway, UT 84049, 866-643-2015.



Native Nations Institute for leadership, management, and policy

Indigenous Day 2009:

