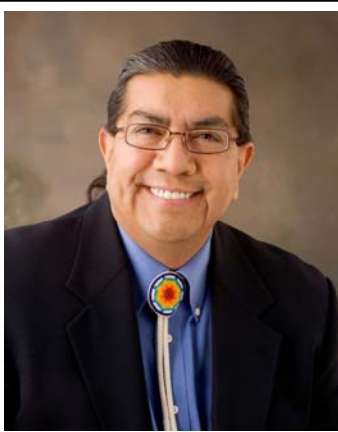




# Utah Division of Indian Affairs

## Tribal Leaders Newsletter Report

August 8, 2008



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](http://www.indian.utah.gov)

\*Division of Indian Affairs  
Powerpoint

### Comments from the Director, Division of Indian Affairs:

I hope you and your families have been enjoying the summer season. It was nice to see some of you in attendance of the Federal Communications Commission ITI Regional Workshop and Roundtable, July 16 and 17, 2008, in Salt Lake City, Utah at the Indian Walk-In Center. I also hope that this meeting contributed to better understanding in the Indian community of the Digital transition and what steps they must take to continue watching television after the transition is complete, as required by law, on February 17, 2009.

I was also very pleased to attend the Annual Ernst & Young Award ceremonies, June 27, 2008 at the Salt Palace wherein **Travis Parashonts** was honored at this year's "*Entrepreneur of the Year for 2008*." This was such a joyous and rewarding ceremony especially since, to our knowledge, this is the first time that an American Indian was awarded such distinguished recognition.

During a recent *Internal Revenue Service Diversity Week*, July 15-17, 2008, I gave a total of five presentations to IRS staff on the history of Utah's American Indian tribes and their governments. These presentations were arranged for the first time thanks to former tribal council member of the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Tribe, Rebecca Lewis, based on her experience as a tribal leader.

Sincerely,

## Tribal Leadership and Governance Conference:



# Nation Building:

Leadership, Governance & Economic Policy  
*An Executive Education Seminar for Tribal Leaders*

*The Yarrow Resort Hotel & Conference Center  
Park City, Utah*



July 30-31, 2008



**Native Nations Institute Training:**

Approximately 30 people attended the NNI Seminar, July 30-31, 2008, at the Yarrow Hotel in Park City. The training was excellent and provided research based information about why some tribes succeed in business while some do not. For some leaders, it was a real eye-opener, while for others it was nothing new under the sun. Never-the-less, the seminar had much to offer everyone who attended. The evening entertainment was especially hilarious and featured some of our very own, homegrown entertainers, i.e. Chairman Bruce "Bono" Parry!



### **American Indian Digitization Project:**

The Division is currently entering into Memorandum of Agreement with the University of Utah American West Center and Marriott Library to initiate action under this project to digitize such historical documents as our recent history book, oral histories such as the Duke Collection, and numerous other research and historical documents. Both the Division of Indian Affairs and U of U Marriott Library have allocated funds for this project. The MOA has been signed off and is being processed in the state finance office.

### **Education - Early Dropout Warning System:**

According to the United States Department of Education's National Center for Educational Statistics, Utah's graduation rate is 78% for all students but for American Indians it is 50%. Due to this alarming statistic, the Utah Division of Indian Affairs and the Utah Office of Education - Indian Education, joined with the Utah State Office of Ethnic Affairs, in presenting a seminar devoted to this topic. The "Dropout Early Warning System (DEWS)," was a half-day seminar that addressed the high dropout rate of students in the ethnic community. The seminar was held, Wednesday, July 23, 2008 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Granite Education Center, SLC. The DEWS is a comprehensive systemic approach in using Predictive Analytic (PA) models to identify high-risk students, recognize student trends and patterns, and predict dropout behavior outcomes. This approach is multi-phased and identifies the student by examining the root causes associated with dropping out of school. In addition, DEWS will be able to identify grade levels most in need, and schools most in need of improvement."

### **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 order to make an accurate count in 2010.

<http://www.census.gov/2010census/>



### **Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year:**

The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® Hall of Fame is an elite corps of men and women who have been recognized for their exceptional entrepreneurial achievements. On Friday, June 27, 2008, Suh'dutsing Technologies was selected the recipient of the prestigious Ernst & Young Award for "Entrepreneur of the Year" for 2008 in the category of "Services." Travis Parashonts was beside himself, he was so happy to receive this acknowledgment.



### **We Shall Remain:**

On July 24-25, 2008, I accompanied the KUED film crew to the Ute Indian Reservation. We taped two individuals, one in the afternoon and the other the following morning. The crew went on to the Meeker Massacre site to tape a powwow and other festivities that were part of the town of Meeker's attempt to reach out to the Ute people in reconciliation of the famed Meeker Massacre in which resulted in the displacement of the Whiteriver Band and Uncompahgre Band from Colorado to Utah.



## Native American Summit

Once again we remind you all of this years Native American Summit, being held on **September 24 & 25**, in Vernal, Utah, at the Western Park Convention Center, and hosted by the Ute Tribe. It will continue last years focus on economic development, education, and health issues. Progress continues with each of the committees assigned to these topics, with the addition of Jane Shock, from American Express's Center for Community Development, taking the role of Committee Chair for the economic development committee. We appreciate her efforts and look forward to this year's summit. In addition we'd like to thank Danielle Murphy who will be leaving the Lieutenant Governor's Office for an internship with W magazine in New York City. Our best goes out to her and we are grateful for her efforts at previous summits.



## Human Remains Repatriation:

Four sets of human remains have been submitted to the Division of Indian Affairs for dispersal to the Utah tribes and other interested parties for repatriation and claiming. Three of the sets come from the Antiquities Section and the remaining group comes from the National Guard. Once the tribes and interested parties receive the packets containing all the relevant information they will 45 days to submit to the Division of Indian Affairs an intent to claim letter. If no claims (or intent notices) are submitted the remains will be placed in the burial vault to await re-interment.

## Range Creek:

It appears that most of you are interested in taking the tour of Range Creek. We have established the date of Friday, September 26, 2008 as the date of the tour. Those of you attending the Native American Summit should plan to spend Thursday night (September 25, 2008) at the Holiday Inn in Price, Utah. We will travel to Range Creek immediately following breakfast Friday morning.

## THE INDIAN VOTE:

An important initiative of the Division of Indian Affairs is to encourage Utah's American Indians to register and become an active voter on a regular basis. Register to vote: [ROCKTHEVOTE@COM](mailto:ROCKTHEVOTE@COM)



### Utah Indian Housing Council:

On August 5, 2008 the Utah Indian Housing Council traveled to Ft. Duschesne to meet with the newly appointed Ute tribal housing Director, Emmett Duncan and the Ute tribal housing board. In attendance were members of the board, a member of the Ute Business Council, Jon Warner, director of the Utah Indian Housing Council and Mike Glenn, Director of Housing for the State of Utah. Due to the extreme boom in oil and gas production in the Uintah basin, housing needs of the tribe are critical. Emmett Duncan stated they needed around 300 units, for everything from the elderly to the young couples just starting out. They are attempting to leverage all funds available and are researching other avenues of funding. They are excited to work with the Work Camp group and the Weatherization program next year in the summer of 2009.



**University of Utah Natural History Museum Groundbreaking ceremony:**

Another very impressive event was the Ground Breaking Ceremony, July 29, 2008, for the new U of U Museum of Natural History. Almost 2,000 community members, including some tribal representatives who participated in the groundbreaking ceremony, came to help put shovels in the ground and take part in activities, live science demonstrations, and a guest appearance from "Mr. Bones", a life-size dinosaur skeleton puppet. The Museum is now referred to as the *New Utah Museum of Natural History at the Rio Tinto Center*.

The Rio Tinto Center will be built to LEED-certified building standards and adorned with about 42,000 square feet of copper on the building's exterior. The donation includes copper mined from Kennecott's Bingham Canyon Mine.

