Cannabis and Tribal Sovereignty Breakout Session

June 25, 2019
1:30p.m – 4:00p.m
Room – Cascade 2

Currently, 33 states and the District of Columbia have passed legislation to legalize marijuana in some form. For example, the District of Columbia, Alaska, California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington have legalized marijuana for recreational use. Thus far during the 116th Congress, there has been at least five pieces of marijuana-based legislation directly affecting tribes introduced in the Senate and ten in the House, including H.R. 1416, the Tribal Marijuana Sovereignty Act. There are over 400 federally recognized Indian tribes in those states that have legalized marijuana in some form. As marijuana legalization continues to gain a national foothold, tribes will need clarity for their path forward. This breakout session will consider potential jurisdictional intrusion by states and tribal sovereignty as well as relevant legislative updates.

I. Moderator: Arlan Melendez, Chairman, Reno Sparks Indian Colony

II. Welcome/Opening Prayer/Invocation

III. Panel:

- Joshua Clause, Principal, Clause Law
- Leonard Forsman, Chairman Suquamish Tribe
- Marla McDade Williams, Director, Northern Nevada Office, Strategies 360

IV. Question and Answer/Open Discussion