



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

**OCT 26 2015**

Dear Tribal Leader:

On March 23, 2015, President Obama signed a Presidential Memorandum entitled “Expanding Broadband Deployment and Adoption by Addressing Regulatory Barriers and Encouraging Investment and Training.” The President created the Broadband Opportunity Council, which is tasked with producing specific recommendations to increase broadband deployment through executive actions within the scope of existing Agency programs, missions, and budgets.

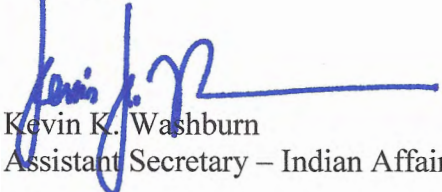
In an effort to specifically address broadband challenges on tribal lands, the Council would like to invite you to a listening session at the South Interior Building Auditorium on November 6, 2015, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. following the White House Tribal Nations Conference.

The listening session is an opportunity for you to provide the Council with valuable input on addressing the issue of Internet connectivity in Indian Country in preparation for the Native American Broadband Summit. The Summit will be held in the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2016, and will bring together the White House Council on Native American Affairs, Broadband Opportunity Council members, and tribal leaders to review the current status of internet access on tribal lands and discuss approaches to improve broadband access and adoption. A link to the Broadband Opportunity Council Report and Recommendations is available at:

[https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/broadband\\_opportunity\\_council\\_report\\_final.pdf](https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/broadband_opportunity_council_report_final.pdf)

We appreciate your input and look forward to your continued partnership and insight as we work towards improving Internet access in Indian Country.

Sincerely,



Kevin K. Washburn  
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs