Health Sovereignty
Tuesday, October 20, 2015
1:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Location: Royal Palm Four

1:30 p.m. - 1:40 p.m.  Welcome & Introductions
Laura Bird, National Congress of American Indians

1:40 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  Dental Health Aide Therapists (DHATs)
John Stephens, Director of Health and Social Services, Swinomish Tribe
Stephen LeCuyer, Director of the Swinomish Legal Department
Laura Bird, National Congress of American Indians (moderator)

The Swinomish Tribe has taken a bold stand to declare that it will use DHATs to improve the oral health disparities in their community. Presenters will provide information on the dental health aide therapist (DHAT) model in Alaska and discuss Swinomish’s efforts to incorporate DHATs into their system of care.

2:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.  Affordable Care Act Update
Laura Bird, National Congress of American Indians
Dawn Coley, National Indian Health Board

Presenters will provide a brief update on the Affordable Care Act, including open enrollment, upcoming trainings, available resources, and other timely information.

2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.  Tribal Sponsorship in ACA Marketplace Health Insurance Plans
Christine Smith, Associate Health Policy Analyst, California Rural Indian Health Board
Doneg McDonough, Consultant (presenting information on Tribally-Sponsored Health Insurance Program (T-SHIP) in Alaska)
Dawn Coley, National Indian Health Board (moderator)

A broad coalition of tribes and tribal health organizations in Alaska have implemented tribal sponsorship programs to improve the health of tribal members/shareholders. Under the Affordable Care Act, tribes may purchase health insurance for their tribal members/shareholders through a Health Insurance Marketplace. Because tribal sponsorship is not yet in place in California, the California Rural Indian Health Board is continuing to work with Covered California on implementation of tribal sponsorship in California and also discussing important considerations for implementation such as populations to be covered and other topics. Presenters will provide information on the approaches taken and results achieved in implementing tribal sponsorship of tribal members/shareholders.

3:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Questions & Answers / Closing