NCAI MID – YEAR
Youth Agenda at a Glance
June 20-24 2021 || Virtual || All Times are Eastern Standard Time

Sunday June 20

1:00 – 2:00 Youth Commission Board Meeting

Monday June 21

11:30 – 12:00 Youth Commission Welcome
11:00 – 4:00 Taskforce Meetings and Work Group
1:00 – 2:00 Youth Commission x NCAI Policy Research Center Discussion: Research
4:30 – 5:30 Youth Commission Discussion: Task Force Meeting Updates
5:30 – 7:00 Youth Commission Film Showing & Regional Panel Discussion: Environmentalism

Tuesday June 22

12:00 – 4:00 1st General Assembly
3:00 – 4:00 Youth Commission x Pen America – Social Media
5:00 – 6:00 Regional Caucus Meetings
6:00 – 7:00 Youth Commission Regional Panel: Culture
7:00 – 8:00 Youth Commission Open Mic Night: Cultural Storytelling

Wednesday June 23

12:00 – 6:45 Second General Assembly: Tribal Leader Scholar Forum
1:00 – 2:00 Engaging Native Youth in the Covid-19 Response: Findings from the Arizona Youth Identifying Project
4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. Concurrent Breakout Sessions:
   • AI/AN Juvenile Justice Data:
   • Covid-19 Data:
   • Community Partnership Data
5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. Concurrent Breakout Sessions:
  - Juvenile Justice: Innovative approaches Across Indian Country
  - Building Tribal Economies: Framing the Strategic Considerations
  - Building Civic Power in Indian Country:

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Youth Commission Panel Discussion: LGBTQ

**Thursday June 24**

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Youth Commission Roundtable Discussion on Cultural Appropriation
1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Third General Assembly
1:40 p.m. – 2:10 p.m. Tribal Supreme Court Project Update
2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Youth Commission Regional Panel: Health
3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. Youth Commission Officers Closing Remarks
3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. General Assembly: Resolutions
4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. General Assembly Closing
Sunday, June 20

1:00 - 2:00  NCAI Youth Commission Board Meeting

1:00 - 4:00  NCAI Executive Committee Board Meeting

Monday, June 21

11:30 - 12:00  Youth Commission Welcome

12:00 - 4:00  NCAI Task Force on Violence Against Women
The NCAI Task Force on Violence Against Women serves as a unified tribal voice opposed to violent crimes perpetrated against Native women. The Task Force will hear updates from key federal partners, discuss the strategy to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act and other important legislation, and share information related to the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.

closed to press

11:00 - 1:00  NCAI Federal Recognition Task Force
The Federal Recognition Task Force was established to address the interests of all Tribal Nations, both federally and non-federally recognized, on changes and challenges in the tribal acknowledgement process. This session will continue the work of the Task Force.

11:00 - 1:00  Technology Task Force
The NCAI Technology Task Force will hold an open meeting to discuss work in the fields of technology and communications in Indian Country. The Task Force is comprised of tribal leadership, tribal telecommunications companies, Information Technology (IT) experts, entrepreneurs, and representatives from tribal organizations.

11:00 - 1:00  NCAI Task Force on Tax and Finance
The Task Force on Tax and Finance will facilitate Indian Country’s input on issues within the Treasury Tribal Advisory Committee’s purview, organize tribal priorities on legislative tax policy, facilitate Indian Country consensus on developing and proposing solutions to address dual taxation, and share information regarding tribal-state tax agreements.

11:00 - 1:00  NCAI Tribal TANF Task Force
The NCAI Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Task Force will discuss current Administrative and legislative initiatives impacting Tribal TANF nationally, with the goal of highlighting solutions and discovering best practices in order to overcome barriers to the delivery of programs. The Tribal TANF Task Force has consistently supported goals to increase tribal nations’ authority

1:00 – 2:00  Youth Commission x NCAI Policy Research Center Discussion: Research

2:00 - 4:00  NCAI Addiction Task Force
The NCAI Addiction Task Force will discuss administrative and legislative priorities to increase access and improve the function of behavioral health and addiction programs at the tribal level. The Addiction Task Force has consistently supported efforts to advance education, treatment, preventative services, and public safety in tribal communities.
NCAI Climate Action Task Force
The working mission of the Climate Action Task Force (CATF) is to “document, inform, and support the climate action efforts of tribal nations and Native organizations and identify and advocate for policies and funding designed to empower their ability to engage in effective, sustainable climate action.”

The Tribal Border Caucus
Tribal citizen crossings of the U.S.-Canada and U.S.-Mexico borders for traditional, cultural, or religious purposes has been a paramount concern for Tribal Nations split by the invisible lines that divided their homelands and relatives. The Tribal Border Caucus invites all northern, southern, and Alaska border Tribal Nations to provide updates and discuss ongoing issues such as crossing the borders during the COVID-19 pandemic, travel visas, treaty rights, and searches of tribal regalia or cultural items.

Joint NCAI-ITA Transportation Task Force
The NCAI Transportation Task Force is focused on building a unified advocacy approach to tribal transportation development and legislative reauthorization to promote safety and prosperity in tribal communities and to ensure the United States upholds its government-to-government relationship with Tribal Nations.

NCAI Budget Task Force
The NCAI Budget Task Force will discuss the recently released FY 2022 President’s Budget Request to Congress, FY 2022 regular appropriations, and supplemental physical and human infrastructure appropriations with the goal of developing consensus strategies to overcome barriers to funding increases for tribal programs and the implementation of federally funded programs in tribal communities.

Youth Commission Discussion: Task Force Meeting Updates

Youth Commission Film Showing & Regional Discussion: Environmentalism
Tuesday, June 22

11:00 - 5:00  Registration/Rules & Credentials Open

Tech Support Open

1:00 - 8:00  Resolutions Open

12:00 - 4:00  First General Assembly

12:00  Call to Order and Welcome
Fawn Sharp, President, National Congress of American Indians

Presentation of the Colors

Land Acknowledgement
Aaron Leggett, President and Chair, Native Village of Eklutna

Invocation
Rob Sanderson, Jr., 4th V.P., Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

12:20  Welcome from Local Official
Senator Lisa Murkowski (AK) confirmed
Senator Dan Sullivan (AK) invited
Congressman Don Young (AK) confirmed
Governor Mike Dunleavy (AK) invited

12:40  Rules of the Convention
Yvonne Oberly, Co-Chair invited

Resolutions Process Report
Leslie Wheelock, Co-Chair, NCAI Resolutions Committee
W. Ron Allen, Co-Chair, NCAI Resolutions Committee

12:45 - 1:00  President's Report
Fawn Sharp, President, National Congress of American Indians

1:05 - 1:15  Chief Executive Officer's Report and Overview for the Week
Dante Desiderio, Chief Executive Officer, NCAI

Break

1:25 – 2:40  Historic Tribal Inclusion: What is Next?
Vice President Kamala Harris invited
Secretary Pete Buttigieg, U.S. Department of Transportation invited
Secretary Jennifer Granholm, U.S. Department of Energy invited
Secretary Marcia Fudge, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development invited
Secretary Marty Walsh, U.S. Department of Labor invited
Secretary Gina Raimondo, U.S. Department of Commerce invited

Break

2:50 – 3:35  Department of the Interior Update
Secretary Deb Haaland, U.S. Department of the Interior confirmed
Bryan Newland, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Indian Affairs confirmed
Anthony Morgan Rodman, Executive Director, White House Council on Native American Affairs invited

3:00 – 4:00  Youth Commission x Pen America: Social Media

3:35 - 4:00  Tribal Lead Discussion: Community and Economic Recovery
Economic Impact of COVID-19

6:00 – 7:00  Youth Commission Regional Panel: Culture

7:00 – 8:00  Youth Commission Open Mic Night: Cultural Storytelling

5:00 - 6:00  Regional Caucus Meetings
Alaska Region
Eastern Oklahoma Region
Great Plains Region
Midwest Region
Northeast Region
Northwest Region
Pacific Region
Rocky Mountain Region
Southeast Region
Southern Plains Region
Southwest Region
Western Region
closed to press

6:30 - 8:00  Subcommittee Meetings
*Some subcommittees are meeting in the same Zoom room
closed to press

Health
Human, Religious & Cultural Concerns
Public Safety & Justice
Technology & Telecommunications
Transportation & Infrastructure
Veterans

*Room 1
Disabilities
Education
Elders

*Room 2
Economic Development, Finance & Employment
Housing

*Room 3
Energy & Mineral Policy
Environmental Protection & Land Use

*Room 4
Jurisdiction & Tribal Government
Indian Child & Family Welfare

*Room 5
Taxation
Tribal Gaming
Wednesday, June 23

Native Prayer Sunrise
We encourage everyone to recognize prayer sunrise in your own way.

11:00 - 5:00  Registration/Rules & Credentials Open

1:00 - 8:00  Resolutions Open

12:00 - 3:30  Second General Assembly

12:00  Call to Order and Welcome
Aaron Payment, 1st Vice President, National Congress of American Indians

Invocation
Gregory Nothstine

16th Annual Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum
Governance, Trust, and Culture in Research

The purpose of the Tribal Leader/Scholar Forum is to provide an opportunity for researchers, practitioners, community members, and others to present their data research to tribal leaders, policymakers, and community members.

12:15  NCAI Policy Research Center Director Update
Yvette Roubideaux, MD, MPH, Director, Policy Research Center, National Congress of American Indians

12:30  Tribal Leader Perspective
Marilynn “Lynn” Malerba, DNP, MPA, Chief, Mohegan Tribe

12:50  Discussion

1:00  Engaging Native Youth in the COVID-19 Response: Findings from the Arizona Youth Identity Project
Angela Gonzales, PhD, Associate Professor and Associate Director, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University

Nathan D. Martin, PhD, Associate Professor, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University

1:20  Discussion

1:30  Indian Health Service National IRB Update
Rachael L. Tracy, MPH, Research Director, National Institutional Review Board, Chair, Indian Health Service

1:50  Discussion
2:00  Native Mascot Database Update
Ian Record, PhD, Vice President, Tribal Governance and Special Projects, National Congress of American Indians
Coby Klar, Research Associate, Tribal Governance and Special Projects, National Congress of American Indians

2:20  Discussion

2:30  Southcentral Foundation Research Department Update
Denise A. Dillard, PhD, Director of Research, Southcentral Foundation

2:50  Discussion
Announcements

3:00 - 3:30  Tribal Leader Discussion

4:00 - 5:15  Concurrent Breakout Sessions

AI/AN Juvenile Justice Data
This session will focus on recent NCAI work on AI/AN Juvenile Justice Data including case studies of innovation in Tribal Nation Juvenile Justice Systems and a landscape analysis of state policies related to over-, under-, and equal representation of AI/AN juveniles in the arrest and confinement stages in selected states.

Moderator: Gwynne Evans-Lomayesva, MPP, Researcher, Policy Research Center, National Congress of American Indians

Innovation in Tribal Nation Juvenile Justice Systems
Ryan Seelau, JD, LLM, SJD, Senior Researcher, Partnership for Tribal Governance, National Congress of American Indians

Landscape Analysis of State Policies Regarding AI/AN Youth in the Justice System
Gwynne Evans-Lomayesva, MPP, Researcher, Policy Research Center, National Congress of American Indians

COVID-19 Data
During this session, presenters will provide data related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including tribal college enrollment data and behavioral health consequences of the pandemic.

Moderator: Yvette Roubideaux, MD MPH, Vice President for Research and Director, Policy Research Center, National Congress of American Indians

AIHEC – Tribal College Enrollment Data during COVID-19 Pandemic
Carrie L. Billy, President & CEO, American Indian Higher Education Consortium

COVID-19 and American Indians and Alaska Natives: Behavioral Health Consequences of the Pandemic
Dedra Buchwald, MD, Professor, Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine, Director, Institute for Research and Education to Advance Community Health (IREACH), Washington State University
Community Partnership Data
This session will highlight results from community-academic partnerships that worked on intellectual property management in agricultural collaborations and reducing violence and substance abuse.

Moderator: Sierra Watt, Research Associate, Policy Research Center, National Congress of American Indians

Gaps in Intellectual Property Management in Tribal-University Agricultural Collaborations
Kathryn Hilburn, Student Researcher, Montana State University (MSU) Food Product Development Lab

Wan-Yuan Kuo, PhD, Assistant Professor of Food Science, Director of MSU Food Product Development Lab, Department Health and Human Development, Montana State University

Catherine E. McKinley, PhD, LMSW, Associate Professor, Tulane University School of Social Work

Katherine P. Theall, PhD, Professor, Tulane University School of Public Health

Brackeen v. Haaland: Breaking Down the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals En Banc ICWA Decision and the Next Steps to Protect Native Children and Tribal Sovereignty
Over the past two years National Congress of American Indians, National Indian Child Welfare Association, Native American Rights Fund, and the Association on American Indian Affairs have worked together to create the Protect ICWA Campaign to help coordinate policy, legal, and communications efforts to protect Native children and uphold the Indian Child Welfare Act. This panel will focus on the outcomes of April 5, 2021, 5th Circuit En Banc ruling, what does the ruling mean for Tribal Nations today, and how you can join in the efforts to protect Indian children in the next steps of the case.

Building Climate Resiliency: Highlighting Tribal Innovations from Across Indian Country
This session will showcase the breadth and depth of tribal climate action efforts across Indian Country and identify strategic considerations of tribal climate action plan design and implementation. This session will feature representatives from three geographically diverse Tribal Nations who are leading cutting-edge climate resiliency efforts, as well as key voices who will speak to tribal climate action pathways and challenges nationally.

Moderator: Melanie Bahnke, President, Kawerak, Inc., Co-Chair of NCAI’s Climate Action Task Force

Panelists:
• Jeffrey Crawford, President, FCPC Renewable Generation, LLC, Forest County Potawatomi Community (Invited)
• Louisa McCovey, Environmental Director, Yurok Tribe (Invited)
• Jackie Qatalina Schaeffer, Senior Project Manager, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (Invited)
Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Building Civic Power in Indian Country
This session will introduce civic engagement as a means of building civic power within Indian Country and highlight the current stage of the civic engagement cycle. The session will include a recap of the outcome of the 2020 Census and a review of Native Vote 2020 to demonstrate the importance of data and how it can show impact. Next, a short presentation will showcase the current stage of the civic engagement cycle with an introduction to redistricting, followed by a panel who will discuss their redistricting work with Tribal Nations or as a part of their state's redistricting boards before closing with a question and answer segment.

Moderator: Yanenowi Logan (Deer Clan, Seneca Nation), Co-Vice President, National Congress of American Indians

Speakers:
- Yawna Allen (Quapaw, Cherokee, Yuchi), Director of Civic Engagement and Special Projects, National Congress of American Indians
- Saundra Mitrovich (Tyme/Yahmonee Maidu), Civic Engagement Associate, National Congress of American Indians
- Dr. Yvette Roubideaux (Rosebud Sioux/Standing Rock Sioux), Vice President for Research and Director of the Policy Research Center, National Congress of American Indians
- Gwynne Evans-Lomayesva (Snow Clan, Hopi) Researcher, Policy Research Center

Panelists:
- Ahtza Chavez (Dine) Executive Director, NM Native Vote
- Tammi Tiger (Chaha, Muskoke, Euro American) Vice Chair, United Natives
- Nicole Borromeo (Yup’ik) Executive Vice President, Alaska Federation of Natives
- Travis Lane (Navajo/Southern Ute) Assistant Director, Intertribal Council of Arizona

Building Tribal Economies: Framing the Strategic Considerations
This breakout session explores the key strategic considerations that tribal leaders, key decision-makers, and citizens must address as they work together to build thriving, resilient tribal economies. Featuring a panel of insightful voices sharing the innovative economy-building approaches of the Tribal Nations they represent, the session will also provide attendees a “sneak peek” preview of NCAI’s forthcoming “Building Tribal Economies” decision-framing toolkit, which NCAI will be distributing to Tribal Nations later this year. The toolkit will equip Tribal Nations with the knowledge, tools, best-practice approaches, and proven strategies they need to develop and sustain strategic approaches to building economies that meet their needs and priorities.

Moderator: Sherry Salway Black, Chairperson, First Peoples Fund

Panelists:
- Raeann Adams, Project Director and Community Planner, “One Akwesasne” Tourism Initiative, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
- Dennis Johnson, CEO, Ho-Chunk Capital, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska
- Tyrel Stevenson, Legislative Director, Coeur d’Alene Tribe
Juvenile Justice: Innovative Approaches Across Indian Country

This breakout session showcases three innovative approaches taken by Tribal Nations to address juvenile justice issues within their communities. It features a panel of legal experts and on-the-ground practitioners sharing the institutions, policies, and programs their Tribal Nations have developed to address issues of substance abuse, mental trauma, truancy, and crime that so often tear communities apart. Attendees will hear strategies for engaging Native youth and helping them stay connected to their families, cultures, and communities. The session will also preview NCAI’s release of three juvenile justice case studies produced in full collaboration with the Tribal Nations they feature, and which will provide additional transferable lessons for tribal leaders, practitioners, and key decision-makers trying to heal and strengthen their youth and their communities at-large.

Moderator: Ryan Seelau, Senior Researcher, Partnership for Tribal Governance, National Congress of American Indians

Panelists:
- Addie Rolnick, Professor of Law, William S. Boyd School of Law, UNLV
- Kami Hart, Children’s Court Judge, Gila River Indian Community
- Chaniel Grant, Coordinator, Healing to Wellness Court, Blackfeet Nation

Mitigating, Responding, and Recovering from the COVID-19 Pandemic: Accessing FEMA Resources to Protect Tribal Citizens Today (session will go until 7:00 p.m.)

On March 13, 2020, the past Administration issued a Presidential Nationwide Emergency Declaration to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Declaration covered all 574 Tribal Nations and provided an avenue for those Nations to directly access Public Assistance resources from FEMA. Despite over a year passing, only 15 percent of all Tribal Nations (91 of the 574) have been able to access FEMA resources either as a direct or sub recipient under the Nationwide Emergency Declaration or under a Tribal Major Disaster Declaration. On April 2, 2021, FEMA leadership committed to supply every Tribal Nation that is interested in accessing FEMA Public Assistance COVID-19 resources with a dedicated FEMA program delivery manager to help the Nation navigate the complex FEMA process. During this breakout FEMA will discuss how it is working to ensure that one hundred percent of Tribal Nations are able to directly access and utilize FEMA COVID-19 resources on the ground in Indian Country. Tribal emergency mangers will also provide insights into the process to access FEMA resources through the Nationwide Emergency Declaration and a Tribal Major Disaster Declaration.

7:00 – 8:30 Youth Commission Panel Discussion: LGBTQ

7:00 - 8:30 Full Committee Meetings
closed to press
Economic, Finance & Community Development
Human Resources
Land & Natural Resources
Litigation & Governance
Veterans
Thursday, June 24

11:00 - 12:00  **Regional Caucus Meetings **

Regional Caucus Meetings **Optional**

- Alaska Region
- Eastern Oklahoma Region
- Great Plains Region
- Midwest Region
- Northeast Region
- Northwest Region
- Pacific Region
- Rocky Mountain Region
- Southeast Region
- Southern Plains Region
- Southwest Region
- Western Region

**closed to press**

12:00 – 1:00  Youth Commission Roundtable Discussion: Cultural Appropriation

1:00 - 4:30  Third General Assembly

1:00  Call to Order and Welcome

Juana Majel Dixon, Secretary, National Congress of American Indians

 Invocation

1:10 - 1:40  Tribal Supreme Court Project Update

John Echohawk, Executive Director, Native American Rights Fund confirmed
Joel West Williams, Senior Staff Attorney, Native American Rights Fund confirmed
Dan Lewerenz, Staff Attorney, Native American Rights Fund confirmed

1:40 - 1:50  Treasurers Report

Shannon Holsey, Treasurer, NCAI

 Break

2:00 - 2:35  Congressional Update: Infrastructure and Native American Caucus

 Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer (NY) video
Congressman Tom Cole (OK) invited
Congresswoman Sharice Davids (KS) confirmed

2:15 – 3:30  Youth Commission Regional Panel: Health

2:35 - 2:50  Treasury Update

Jacob Leibenluft, Chief Recovery Officer, Department of Treasury confirmed

2:50 - 3:30  Tribal Leader Discussion: Community and Economic Recovery

President Rodney Bordeaux, Rosebud Sioux Tribe invited
President Shelley Buck, Prairie Island Indian Community invited
Chief Cyrus Ben, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians invited

3:00 – 3:45  Youth Commission: Closing Remarks

 Break

3:40  Resolutions Committee Report Full Committee Reports and Consideration of Resolutions
Economic, Finance & Community Development Committee
Human Resources Committee
Litigation & Governance Committee
Land & Natural Resources Committee
Veterans Committee

4:20  Closing Invocation
     Shirley Kendall

4:30  Adjourn 2021 Mid Year Conference