



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

November 3, 2014

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Jacqueline Johnson Pata
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS

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To: Tribal Leaders and Tribal Advocates
National Indian and Issue Organizations
Regional Intergovernmental Tribal Organizations

Re: Invitation for FY2016 Budget Recommendations, Budget Taskforce Meeting, 12/4/14

When: December 4, 2014 9:30 AM – noon (Eastern Time)

Where: National Congress of American Indians

1516 P Street NW

Washington DC, 20005

NCAI would like to invite your organization to participate in a strategy meeting to discuss collective FY2016 budget recommendations for Indian Country on December 4, 2014 from 9:30 am - noon at the NCAI Embassy of Tribal Nations, 1516 P St. NW, Washington DC, 20005. A conference call number will be available if you cannot attend in person.

Tribes and advocates must prepare for FY 2016 in this time of political disagreements about the role of the federal government. NCAI is working to unify tribal leaders, organizations and advocates to ensure the trust responsibility is honored throughout the federal budget.

Advocacy: NCAI will once again develop a national Tribal Budget Request to distribute in conjunction with NCAI's annual State of Indian Nations address scheduled for late January 2015. This will show the Administration and Congress that Indian Country is unified around these specific requests and strengthen all of our collective efforts.

Opportunity for Involvement: NCAI invites all national, regional, and tribal issue organizations as well as tribal leaders and advocates to partner with NCAI in contributing to the State of Indian Nations and preparing this Indian Country Budget Request.

Request for Stories/Anecdotes: As part of this budget request, NCAI would like to share stories from Indian Country and specific issue areas that show that tribes know how to best use their resources to meet the needs of their members when you let them. The way to honor Indian Country is to provide government parity so tribes have the tools to govern and meet the needs of their people.

In preparation for this meeting, NCAI asks for the following input on the FY 2016 Tribal Budget Request, specifically:

- The top funding priority for your tribal issue areas;
- Historical budget trend analysis for your respective Indian program areas;
- Well documented data and background to justify all increases sought;
- What authorizing legislation recommends for funding levels;
- Anecdotes of successes of the federal investment in tribal programs; and
- Images or photographs to accompany your recommendations.

If your organization would like to be represented and can provide a short (about 5-10 minute) overview of key messages and requests, let Amber Ebarb (aebarb@ncai.org) know by November 26.

The previous Tribal Budget Requests are available to review online here, <http://www.ncai.org/resources/ncai-publications/indian-country-budget-request/fy2015>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacqueline Johnson Pata". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jacqueline Pata
Executive Director