Portland Area IHS, Tribal, NPAIHB, Oregon Public Health Division Memorandums of Understanding

Portland Area IHS approached the NPAIHB and the Public Health Division with an idea:

- Recognize where tribes, IHS, the Board, and OPHD work together well to promote Indian Health in Oregon

- Get those activities in writing, so that they won't go away if there is a change in leadership at one of the agencies

Consulted with several folks in tribal health, who felt this would be useful. Based on discussions, we've identified three areas for possible MOUs:

- *Laboratory services* (to ensure that tribes and IHS can get timely testing through the State Public Health Lab during outbreaks)

- *Immunization Services* (to streamline work between tribal clinics, NPAIHB, and OPHD, and ensure that tribes are allocated new vaccines in pandemic and other outbreak settings)

- *Outbreak Investigation and Disease Reporting* (to help tribes, IHS, OPHD, NPAIHB, and local health departments work together effectively in disease control)

Drafts have been developed for each of these areas. Several tribes, Portland Area IHS, NPAIHB, and OPHD are reviewing these drafts. Different tribes have different needs; MOUs might look different from tribe to tribe. That's OK. By working together, we can develop agreements that meet everyone's needs.