



NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS
TRIBAL NATIONS LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT
112TH CONGRESS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
MARCH 6–8, 2012 • L'ENFANT PLAZA HOTEL • WASHINGTON, DC





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INVESTING IN A PROSPEROUS FUTURE FOR “OUR AMERICA”

In the January 2012 State of Indian Nations Address, NCAI President Jefferson Keel outlined the benefits of a sustained commitment between the federal government and tribal nations, highlighting the ways in which tribal governments can build a prosperous future for all Americans. “As the oldest governments in America, tribal nations understand what is required to overcome stark economic conditions. Perhaps more than any other time in history, our nations must stand together, empowered to make profound and permanent improvements in the lives of our people.”

The 2012 NCAI Executive Council Winter Session will be a time for tribal leaders to gather together in our nation’s capital to discuss ways in which tribes can continue to contribute to the success and prosperity of “Our America.” During our time together, we will engage with members of Congress and senior Administration officials to focus on the key legislative issues affecting tribes that the 112th Congress will be debating and considering in this session. Winter Session also provides an opportunity for tribal leaders and advocates to visit Congressional offices together to discuss current legislative issues of concern, ways in which the federal government can lower the current barriers to tribal progress, and how it can maintain the governmental flexibility necessary for tribal success.

MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Throughout the Executive Council Winter Session, NCAI’s Legislative Desk will be available to help provide resources to assist you in coordinating your Hill visits. NCAI strongly urges you to make appointments to visit your Senators and Representatives, as well as with members of Congress without tribes in their districts who could benefit from an opportunity to hear from tribes. If Indian Country is to be successful, it is absolutely vital that tribal leaders and advocates act now to educate and alert members of Congress about the key issues before us in the areas of appropriations, trust management, sovereignty protection, transportation, economic development, energy, health care, education, and many more.

There is perhaps no better time to do so than when we gather together in a powerful coalition with the goal of making our voices heard and bringing our issues to the highest-ranking officials of the federal government.

CAPITOL HILL VISITS

We have set aside Thursday, March 8, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. for Capitol Hill visits.



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MONDAY, MARCH 5 – PRE-MEETINGS

TIME	EVENT	ROOM
8:30–1:00	NCAI Executive Committee Board Meeting	Monet 4
9:00–Noon	VAWA Task Force The NCAI Task Force on Violence Against Women serves as a unified tribal voice opposed to violent crimes perpetrated against Native women. This meeting will focus primarily on the upcoming reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, but will also include international updates.	Monet 3
9:00-Noon	Native Vote: Tribal Leaders and 2012 Join the national Native Vote working group as we detail the 2012 Native Vote plan and share various tools to turn out the largest Native vote in history. As the country gets closer to the 2012 Presidential elections, it is vital to organize the Native Vote in Indian Country. Learn about tools that can help you educate and turn out your tribal members to participate in the 2012 election.	Monet 1
10:00–Noon	Youth Leaders and Capitol Hill – Engaging in the Legislative Process Decisions are made almost daily in Congress that affect the lives of Native youth. However, their voices are rarely heard in the process. This session will provide basic skills to assist Native youth in raising their voices and advocating for change that will affect their lives. Young leaders will receive training on the importance of legislative advocacy and examples of current legislative opportunities in which to engage.	Monet 2
10:00-5:00	NCAI Registration – Rules and Credentials	Grand Ballroom Foyer



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TIME	EVENT	ROOM
MONDAY cont.	PRE-MEETINGS	
11:30–1:00	Special Brown Bag Lunch Session: <i>Advocating Before the Administration and Congress</i> NCAI offers this annual training session for tribal leaders on Congress and the appropriations process. It will address the most important Congressional committees, how to target your meetings, and effective ways to prepare for and run a Congressional meeting. Additionally, the training will cover strategies for working effectively with the Administration.	Solarium
1:00–3:00	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Task Force Meeting The Temporary Assistance of Needy Families (TANF), a federal block grant that provides assistance and work opportunities to needy families, has been up for reauthorization since 2010. This meeting will introduce the NCAI taskforce dedicated to establishing tribal priorities for the upcoming reauthorization and identifying programmatic changes that will assist tribes and tribal TANF participants.	Renoir



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TIME	EVENT	ROOM
MONDAY cont.	PRE-MEETINGS	
1:00–3:00	Lessons from Our History: Pueblo of Laguna Years of federal, state and local government policy has impacted the way of life for many Native Americans across the country. Listen to and learn about the experiences the Pueblo of Laguna has endured over the years and the lessons they have gained from the various experiences. Most importantly, hear how the tribe's core values, workforce, and youth are playing a key role in how the tribe shapes its future. Join us for this thought-provoking and engaging journey.	Marquette
1:00–4:00	Consultation on HUD Housing Needs Study The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will hold a consultation meeting to update tribal leaders and seek input regarding the agency's Housing Needs Study.	Monet 1
1:00–4:00	Tribal Tax Parity This session will address two key issues: (1) Tobacco Taxation: The Smuggling Tobacco Prevention Act (STOP Act) threatens tribal sovereignty and critical tax revenues that fund tribal services. Our focus will be on developing proposed amendments to the STOP Act that will protect tribal rights and revenues. (2) Comprehensive Tribal Tax Parity: Congress will likely engage in a significant tax rewrite in 2013. To prepare, we would like to develop a comprehensive tribal tax parity bill that will address tribal tax issues such as tax exempt bond parity; general welfare benefits; pension plans; incentives for economic development, etc.	Monet 3



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TIME	EVENT	ROOM
MONDAY cont.	PRE-MEETINGS	
3:00-5:00	National Institutes of Health (NIH) Listening Session Agency leaders from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities of NIH will present the draft “National Institutes of Health Guidance on the Implementation of the HHS Tribal Consultation Policy” to tribal leaders as this document will facilitate implementation of the HHS Tribal Consultation Policy across the 27 Institutes and Centers that comprise the NIH and that coordinate decisions about research funding, data collection and storage policies, and researcher training, among others.	Monet 2
3:00-6:00	Federal Recognition Task Force The Federal Recognition Task Force will continue its work to address the Interior Department regulations governing the federal acknowledgement process. Since the 1970’s, NCAI has supported a federal process of recognition for Indian tribes that have maintained tribal relations from historical times. The current federal process has deteriorated with decades-long delays and questions about the fairness and integrity of the process.	Renoir



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YOUTH LEADERSHIP SCHEDULE – MONDAY, MARCH 5

TIME	EVENT	ROOM
9:00-10:00	Native Vote <i>See Pre-Meetings (above) for full description</i>	Monet 1
10:00-11:30	Youth Leaders and Capitol Hill <i>See Pre-Meetings (above) for full description</i>	Monet 2
11:30-1:00	Special Brown Bag Lunch Session <i>See Pre-Meetings (above) for full description</i>	Solarium
1:00-3:00	Lessons from our History: Pueblo of Laguna <i>See Pre-Meetings (above) for full description</i>	Marquette
3:00-5:00	Youth Commission Re-Cap	Renoir



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TUESDAY, MARCH 6

Time	Event	Room
7:30-5:00	NCAI Registration - Rules and Credentials	Grand Ballroom Foyer
8:30-Noon	1st General Assembly	Grand Ballroom
	Posting of Colors, Invocation	
	Call to Order Jefferson Keel, President, NCAI	
8:40-8:55	President's Address Jefferson Keel, President, NCAI	
8:55-9:15	Secretary Arne Duncan , Department of Education	
9:15-9:35	Dean Granholm , Vice President for Delivery and Post Office Operations, US Postal Service	
9:35-9:55	Secretary Kathleen Sebelius , Department of Health and Human Services	
9:55-10:15	Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	
10:35-10:55	Administrator Lisa Jackson , Environmental Protection Agency	
10:55-11:15	Aaron Klein , Department of the Treasury - Office of Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy	
11:15-11:30	Executive Director's Report Jacqueline Johnson Pata, Executive Director, NCAI	



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Time	Event	Room
11:30-11:50	Kimberly Teehee , Senior Policy Advisor for Native American Affairs, The White House	
Noon-1:30	Lunch Recess	
Noon-1:00	Press Briefing	Monet 1
1:30–5:00	2nd General Assembly	Grand Ballroom
	Call to Order Juana Majel-Dixon, First Vice-President, NCAI	
1:50–2:10	Congressman Dale Kildee (D-MI)	
2:10–3:30	Messages from Members of Congress and Key Administration Officials	
3:30–5:00	NCAI Constitution & By-Laws – Tribal Leader Discussion During the 2012 Annual Convention, NCAI will consider Constitution and By-Law changes. This tribal leader discussion will provide an update and time for discussion of the work of the committee preparing for the Convention and to reflect on our history, mission, and purpose.	
7:00–10:00	14th Annual NCAI Leadership Awards Dinner (Traditional Attire Encouraged)	



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YOUTH LEADERSHIP SCHEDULE – TUESDAY, MARCH 6

TIME	EVENT	ROOM
8:30-Noon	1 st General Assembly	Grand Ballroom
9:30-11:30	White House Tour - <i>By invitation only</i>	
Noon-1:30	Lunch on your own	
1:30-5:00	2 nd General Assembly	Grand Ballroom
5:00-5:30	Youth Commission Re-Cap	Renoir
6:30-8:30	14 th Annual Leadership Awards Banquet (Traditional Attire Encouraged)	Grand Ballroom



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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

Time	Event	Room
8:30–5:00	NCAI Registration - Rules and Credentials	Grand Ballroom Foyer
8:30–12:00	3rd General Assembly	Grand Ballroom
	Call to Order Edward K. Thomas, Recording Secretary, NCAI	
8:40–9:00	Congressman Xavier Becerra (D-CA)	
9:00–9:20	Secretary Shaun Donovan , Department of Housing and Urban Development	
9:20–9:40	Secretary Hilda Solis , Department of Labor	
9:40–10:00	Larry Echo Hawk , Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior	
10:00–10:20	Congresswoman Betty McCollum (D-MN)	
10:20–10:40	Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) , House Democratic Leader	
10:40–11:00	Senator Mark Begich (D-AK)	
11:00–11:20	Senator Tom Udall (D-NM)	
11:30–11:50	Secretary Janet Napolitano , Department of Homeland Security	
Noon –1:30	Lunch Recess	



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Time	Event	Room
1:30– 5:00	4th General Assembly	Grand Ballroom
	Call to Order W. Ron Allen, Treasurer, NCAI	
1:40–2:00	Former Senator Byron Dorgan	
2:00–2:20	Secretary Tom Vilsack , Department of Agriculture	
2:20–2:30	Messages from Members of Congress and Key Administration Officials	
2:30–2:50	Administrator William Craig Fugate , Federal Emergency Management Agency	
2:50–3:05	Messages from Members of Congress and Key Administration Officials	
3:05–3:20	Dr. Robert Petzel , Under Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs	
3:20–3:40	John Berry , Director, Office of Personnel Management	
3:40–4:20	Messages from Members of Congress and Key Administration Officials	
4:20–4:40	Senator Daniel Akaka (D-HI)	
4:40–5:00	Tribal Leaders Discussion	
5:00	Adjournment	
6:30–8:30	Capitol Hill Legislative Reception Co-Hosted by NCAI and the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI)	NMAI 4th & Independence Street SW



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YOUTH LEADERSHIP SCHEDULE – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

TIME	EVENT	ROOM
7:30-8:30	NCAI Youth Leadership Breakfast	Renoir
8:30-Noon	3rd General Assembly	Grand Ballroom
9:00-10:30	Center for Native American Youth <i>The Center for Native American Youth will join the NCAI Youth Commission to provide a brief review of the Center's first year and continue the dialogue on the serious challenges and impactful successes young people are facing in Indian Country. To expand those efforts, the Center invites Christian Peele, the Director of the White House Internship Program to share information about this amazing internship opportunity for Native youth.</i>	Renoir
Noon-1:30	Lunch on your own	
1:30-5:00	4th General Assembly	Grand Ballroom
5:00-5:30	Youth Commission Re-Cap	Renoir
6:30-8:30	Capitol Hill Reception Co-Hosted by NCAI and the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI)	NMAI 4th & Independence Street SW



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OTHER MEETINGS & EVENTS IN WASHINGTON, DC (NOT HOSTED BY NCAI)

Date & Time	Event	Location
Monday March 5 & Tuesday March 6 9:00-5:00	Administration on Children and Families Tribal Consultation RSVP: Kimberly Romine kimberly_romine@acf.hhs.gov	Renaissance Hotel 999 9 th Street NW Washington , DC 20001
Tuesday March 6 8:00	Breakfast for Congressman Mike Simpson RSVP to Shelly Roy (703) 470-1389 or shellyroy1@verizon.net	Capitol Hill Club 300 First Street, S.E. Washington, D.C.
Tuesday March 6 Noon–1:30	Supporting Each Other - Honoring Lunch 17 th Annual National Indian Women's "Supporting Each Other – Honoring Lunch" RSVP: Julie Johnson Julie2008@centurytel.net or (360) 640-0222	Solarium
Tuesday March 6 Noon	Congressman Martin Heinrich for Senate Luncheon RSVP to Sara Conrad at sara@theconradgroup.org or at (202) 543-8556	Monet 3
Tuesday March 6 5:30–7:00	Center for Native American Youth One Year Anniversary Former US Senator Byron Dorgan invites you to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the Center for Native American Youth (http://www.cnay.org/) Honorary Host Committee includes Majority Leader Harry Reid, Senator Lisa Murkowski, Senator Tom Udall, Congressman Tim Walz, and NMAI Director Kevin Gover. RSVP to cnayrsvp@aspeninst.org or 202-736-2905	Monet 3 & 4
Tuesday March 6 5:00–7:00	Congressman Frank Pallone Reception RSVP to liz@pallonefornewjersey.com	Club Room



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Date & Time	Event	Location
Wednesday March 7 Noon	Tribal Leaders Listening Session with Secretary Napolitano <i>For tribal leaders and their designated personnel.</i> For additional information contact NCAI Deputy Director Robert Holden rholden@ncai.org	Monet 4
Wednesday March 7 5:00–6:00	Formal Reception Honoring Congressman Don Young Hosted by Alaska Federation of Natives – for more details contact Gladys Charles gcharles@nativefederation.org	
Wednesday March 7 5:00–6:30	Fundraising Reception for the Congressional campaign of Chairman Derek Bailey RSVP to Matthew Felan at 804-347-6840	Solarium
Wednesday March 7 5:30–6:30	Democratic Leader's Reception <i>RSVP required to attend</i> RSVP to Lauren Pardi at 202-485-3532 or pardi@dccc.org	Monet 3 & 4
Wednesday March 7 9:00–5:00	Tribal Leader Resource Day with the Department of Health and Human Services	Hubert H. Humphrey Building 200 Independence Ave. SW Washington, DC



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Date & Time	Event	Location
Thursday March 8 9:00-2:30	Tribal Employer Participation in the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program The Office of Personnel Management is hosting a full-day of informational sessions. This event provides an opportunity for Tribal Benefit Officers and human resources personnel to gain valuable insights into the administration of the FEHB Program and conducting an Initial Enrollment Opportunity for tribal employees. For more information contact: tribalprograms@opm.gov	Office of Personnel Management; 1900 E St NW, Washington, DC
Thursday March 8 & Friday March 9 9:00–5:00	14th Annual US Department of Health and Human Services Tribal Budget Consultation	Hubert H. Humphrey Building 200 Independence Ave. SW Washington, DC