

Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project

SOVEREIGN NATIONS

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"The first Salmon Ceremony at Village Point, Lummi Island."

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OBSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES REAPPEAR

By W. Ron Allen Chairman, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

The Self-Governance Demonstration Project is moving forward with measurable progress. As we approach the seventh year of this historic venture, participating Tribes have played an important part in shaping and advancing the "new partnership" between American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes and the United States. The Project now encompasses 30 Tribes with a total estimated budget of \$100 million to be transferred from the BIA to Self-Governance Tribes. A Technical Amendment Bill to improve Project implementation has been introduced by Congress and permanent legislation has been drafted for Tribal review and consideration. Tribal governments have demonstrated their ability and creativity in re-designing programs and reallocating financial resources based on internal priorities and management efficiencies. Our successes, as well as our failures, have provided us the opportunity to grow and develop greater control over Tribal operations. Self-Governance is about change. Self-Governance is

here to stay. Self-Governance supports are the federal funding mechanisms of the future.

These successes have been achieved by facing the many obstacles and opposition that have surfaced throughout this Demonstration Project. We have viewed these confrontations and hurdles as inevitable signs of necessary progressive change. However, we have recently been faced with a serious situation which puts this pioneering initiative at risk for all Self-Governance Tribes. Due to the incompetency of Bureau budget personnel, a \$17 million shortfall exists in Contract Support for Fiscal Year 1993. This is not the first time the BIA budget planning process has produced forecasting errors. The list of BIA budget "mistakes" is long and repetitive. The real horror, however, lies in the fact that Tribal programs are being raided (again!) to make up for these errors. In exploring options to meet this shortage, BIA personnel have proposed seizing \$1 million from Self-Governance funds as part of their solution. This direct sabotage on Self-Governance monies is ludicrous, manipulative, and destructive to our Tribal governments and to the most important Indian Affairs initiative in decades.

Indian Tribes have been subject to this paternalistic treatment for hundreds of years. History has shown that these federal bureaucrats are far more interested in building and sustaining their own careers than in assisting Tribes make Self-Determination a reality. This current BIA budget shortage is reflective of a more real obstacle in which career bureaucrats are continuing to exercise control over Indian affairs. If it weren't for Indian Tribes and our Treaties, there would be no Indian Affairs bureaucracy. Yet Tribal budgets and programs continue to bail out BIA mistakes. This is not the future we have envisioned.

This BIA budget adjustment using Tribally-designated funds underscores the fact that the Tribes' key problem is not convincing and hoping that the newly elected and appointed leaders will support and advance Tribal initiatives and objectives; but rather it is forcing career bureaucrats to stop meddling and undermining Tribal operational foundations.

This recent raid of a highly prioritized project of Congress and the Tribes is a prime example of the on-going bureaucratic realities



William Ron Allen

that we must stop if this Self-Governance concept is to achieve stability and reliability.

We are faced with the challenge of once again demonstrating our capabilities to protect Tribal interests. The Self-Governance concept provides us that opportunity. Tribal progress in this project is critical, and the support of the Clinton Administration is crucial in securing a meaningful Self-Governance future for all Tribes to consider. Continued destructive, unilateral bureaucratic actions, as evidenced through these recent BIA policies and practices, must end.

Communications between Tribes and other government officials, as to our goals and the facts of a self-serving bureaucracy, is an eternal part of the Demonstration Project implementation process. As Tribal leaders, we have recognized these responsibilities; our constant vigil and action is still essential. It is with hope, hard work, and high expectations that we can further this "government-to-government" relationship throughout this Administration, and into subsequent Administrations, for the mutual benefit of both governmental parties.

Some year soon, Tribes will receive stable, predictable budgets and the bureaucracy's ability to strip away critically-needed Tribal programs at a moment's notice will be stopped. Some year soon, the bureaucracies serving Indian Country will get the message that the budget shell game at Tribal expense will no longer be tolerated. Some year soon, our Tribal governments, administration and service delivery capabilities, and internally managed progress, will receive the centuries overdue respect and support.

SOVEREIGN NATIONS

SOVEREIGN NATIONS is a monthly publication of the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project. The purpose of the publication is to disseminate accurate information about Self-Governance. Complimentary subscriptions are available through the Communication & Education Project. Materials contained herein can be reproduced, with proper credits. Appropriate editorial contributions and correspondence are welcome.

Self-Governance is a Tribally-driven initiative intended to provide Tribal governments more control over their own destinies. The project fosters the shaping of a "new partnership" between Tribal governments and the government of the United States. We believe that excellence in related communication and education is fundamental to the achievement of these goals.

Note to contributors/editors:

We encourage your input, but cannot guarantee acceptance due to time and space constraints inherent in the publication of this newsletter.

For information, please write to:
Maureen Kinley, Coordinator
Communication & Education
Self-Governance Demonstration Project
c/o Lummi Indian Business Council
2616 Kwina Road
Bellingham, WA 98226
Phone (206) 738-2301
Fax (206) 647-6298

Correction: Last month's edition of Sovereign Nations was inadvertently published with a May, rather than June, dateline.

FOCUS ON THE LUMMI NATION

As one of the first Tribes involved in the Self-Governance Demonstration Project, the Lummi Indian Nation would like to share its experiences regarding the opportunities and challenges of the process.

In an effort to help others benefit from the Lummi experience, SOVEREIGN NATIONS recently presented Raynette Finkbonner, Self-Governance Coordinator for the Tribe, a list of questions. Following are the questions and her responses:

Question: What are the most notable ways that the Self-Governance process has affected the Tribe?

Finkbonner: The process has let the Tribe create innovative approaches in redesigning programs to better meet our community needs. It has expanded the decision-making authority of the Tribal government the establishment of Tribal priorities and the allocation of resources to meet those priorities. We have a good budget ordinance and we have better fiscal accountability. We have involvement and input from the Tribal community in our budget process and the establishment of Tribal priorities. The flexibility we now have in reprogramming Tribal funds has provided for the expansion of the JOM tutoring program to all Lummi students. It led to the establishment of a Tribal Business Assistance Center, a Tribal Cultural Department and a Tribal Youth Program.

Because of the Self-Governance Process, we have been able to provide financial support for, Tribal Council Budget Committee, our Tribal Education Commission, our Seniors' Program, our Veterans' Office and our Local Volunteer Fire Department. We are better able to meet the need of our people through our Scholarship Program, Tribal Court, Law and Order, Natural Resources, Forestry and HIP.

Tribal staff now report to and are accountable to the Lummi Indian Business Council, and the people that they serve. More people than ever before are now involved and have input in Tribal government. Greater numbers of people now vote in the Tribal election process.

Question: Who at the Tribe has benefited the most from the process?

Finkbonner: The youth probably more than anyone because of the expansion of the JOM tutoring program, the scholarship program, and the establishment of a Youth program.

Secondly, the Tribal electorate in general because of their new opportunities for input into the Tribal decision making process.

Question: What have been some of the hurdles the Tribe has had to overcome in implementing the process?

Finkbonner: Our biggest obstacle has been the federal bureaucracy. They have an ingrained and layered bureaucracy that has had over 100 years of experience in paternalism. On a regular and daily basis we have had to overcome and work towards changing the bureaucracy. We continuously encounter resistance and we found a distinct desire to maintain the status quo. Thus, they have demonstrated an inability to change. We are not trying to eliminate any federal bureaucracy - we are seeking to change our working relationship with those entities to that of protection of our treaty rights and upholding the United States trust responsibility.

Along these same lines we have found within most layers of the bureaucracy a lack of creativity. We have found a system that is still wanting to try and work in the same system that has been investigated year after year, and administration after administration - the BIA is now documenting that, throughout history, the BIA has mismanaged Indian Affairs. In some instances we still receive our Self-Governance funding under the old 638 process. The intent of the project has been to streamline some of those processes, not to make them more complicated. Lummi OSG staff continue to work with the OSG and the BIA on changing some of those antiquated processes and mechanisms.

Within the Tribal community and within the Tribal organizational structure, the rapid pace of change has caused some frustrations. But, we overcome these hurdles by continuous ongoing and extensive communication and education within all of the Tribal government and within our community. People develop a fear of change when they don't understand or have all of the information they need. We are still in a transitional phase due to the fact that we have operated an organization in the past that relied on federal direction and supervision. We are striving to establish a truly functional and operational Tribal government based upon what we identify will work best for the Lummi Tribal community. We need to be able to move from the constant struggle to implement what has been negotiated to a position where we can be innovative at home for our own people.

Question: Where does the Tribe go from here, with respect to the Self-Governance process?

Finkbonner: The Lummi Nation is excited and we look forward to the future with new vision for

our Tribal community. Our vision is to reaffirm the government-to-government relationship with the United States; to move forward in the future towards self-sufficiency, politically, socially, culturally, and economically; to becoming a community that is proactive rather than reactive, based on our plans for the future, and to create a capable, functional Tribal government for the benefit of our people. Self-Governance allows us to dream and plan for our vision of the future. Most importantly, through Self-Governance, these plans, dreams, and visions can become realities, today! We are planning to move into IHS as soon as possible. We look forward toward the project becoming permanent and expanding to all other federal agencies. Our experience has proven that, through Self-Governance, positive changes can occur within our community for our Tribal people. Tribal governments know what the solutions are to our problems and through Self-Governance, we have begun to implement those solutions. They are working and helping.

There is a statement in the Redbook that sums up Self-Governance and the Future for the Lummi Nation:

"Self-Governance does not equal sovereignty; but Self-Governance can provide the administrative freedom and the framework for Tribes to make decisions as sovereigns. Only through Tribal decisions, exercised with responsibility, will sovereignty come closer to reality.

If we continue to allow others such as the federal bureaucracies, to make decisions on our behalf, individually or collectively, we will perpetuate the dependency of Tribes and continue to empower the United States as guardian. We must aggressively and responsibly assert our own role as the key policy-maker on Indian Affairs. The stronger we become individually as Tribes, the more powerful we collectively grow, and the better we will be able to serve our future generations and again become truly self-governing, sovereign Indian Nations."

Question: Any additional comments?

Finkbonner: Self-Governance is not the answer to all of our Tribal problems, issues, and concerns. Self-Governance may not be for all Indian Nations. But for the Lummi Nation, it is our road to the future and the next step toward true sovereignty. The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project is of Tribal design and it is a Tribally-driven initiative. For the first time in over 100 years we as the Lummi Indian Nation will begin determining our own success and failures.

HOUSE FY94 INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS CONTINUES TO SUPPORT SELF-GOVERNANCE

The House Interior and Related agencies Appropriations Subcommittee under the direction of Chairman Sidney Yates continues to support the Self-Governance Demonstration Project in Fiscal Year 1994 in recently completed action. The Subcommittee restored \$70,000 to the Interior Department's Office of Self-Governance and added \$3 million to the IHS budget to fund shortfalls. The Committee directed the BIA to support base budgets to fund shortfalls. The Committee directed the BIA to support base budgets for Self-Governance Tribes, expressed frustrations at the slow pace of BIA restructuring with new policy on shortfalls, and advised that inflation adjustments afforded the BIA should also be provided to Self-Governance Tribes.

The Committee report language on the BIA stated the following:

The Committee is aware that one of the first-tier Self-Governance compact Tribes, Mille Lacs, inadvertently received a reduction in shortfall funding in Fiscal Year 1993 due to the establishment of base funding level for four other first-tier Tribes. In addition, the Southeast Alaska signatory Tribes also received a reduction in shortfall funding for the same reason. The Committee directs the Bureau to provide stable base budgets for the Mille Lacs, the Southeast Alaska Tribes, and any other participants in the Self-Governance Demonstration who request the establishment of a stable base budget in Fiscal Year 1994. This base budget shall be funded from the funds provided to the Bureau, and the designated 1994 shortfall funds should be distributed to the remaining Tribes. However, if the Director of the Office of Self-Governance determines that taking the entire amount of Fiscal Year 1994 base funding from BIA programs will adversely affect non-participating Tribes, then Fiscal Year 1994 supplemental funding should be used. Savings from any BIA restructuring shall be used to replace (during 1994) the amount needed from shortfall funding.

The committee is concerned that, despite related directives, little if any BIA restructuring has occurred as a result of the negotiation of Self-Governance compacts and annual funding agreements with Tribes during the past three years. As a result, Tribes have not realized savings from the BIA reorganization that was supposed to accompany their

negotiation of a transfer of responsibilities and funds from the BIA (1) to make additional funds available to a particular BIA organization level to address the finding of the director of the Self-Governance that, based on clear and convincing evidence, the provision of a negotiated Tribal share under a Self-Governance compact will have an adverse effect on other Tribes served by that organizational level, provided that Such additional funds will be made available from the shortfall or supplemental funding account for only one year, and in successive years shall be met from funds and resources directly derived from Bureau restructuring and downsizing at the particular organizational level affected, and, (2) to meet the ongoing, additional funding needs of Tribes assuming the increased responsibilities and obligations inherent in Self-Governance agreements.

The Self-Governance Tribes should share in the inflating adjustments included in the Bureau's budget.

The Interior Appropriations Subcommittee also gave instructions to the IHS on shortfall distributions, directed that the IHS Office of Self-Governance should be staffed with permanent employees, and provided bill language to ensure that there are no Fiscal Year limits on funds available to Self-Governance Tribes and that Federal Tort Claims coverage extends to Compact Tribes. Specifically, the IHS report language states:

The Committee recommends an increase of \$3,000,000 for Self-Governance to

fund shortfalls in compact funding. In some cases there cannot be a direct transfer of funds from IHS to the Tribes to fund Self-Governance compacts without jeopardizing the support provided by IHS to other Tribes. The increase recommended by the Committee is intended to cover transfer funding shortfalls. To the maximum extent possible, compacts should be funded through the transfer of funds from IHS operations and staffing.

The Committee is concerned by the slow pace of IHS in establishing and staffing the Self-Governance office. The IHS should ensure that this office is fully staffed with permanent employees dedicated to the Self-Governance program.

BILL LANGUAGE - The Committee has recommended bill language to ensure that Self-Governance compact funds remain available to the Tribes without Fiscal Year limitations. Language is also recommended under title III, general provisions, to ensure Federal Tort Claims Act protection is extended to Tribal employees under Self-Governance compacts.

The full House of Representatives was to vote on the Fiscal Year 1994 Interior appropriations after returning from Independence holiday recess on July 13. The Senate Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee will mark-up its version of the Fiscal Year 1994 appropriations for the Interior Department and IHS in late July.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT

INSPECTOR GENERAL TO EXAMINE SELF-GOVERNANCE

The Interior Department's Office of the Inspector General will begin audit of the Self-Governance Demonstration Project in August 1993. According to the Inspector General's Office, the audit "will include visits to the Bureau of Indian Affairs headquarters office in Washington, D.C. and selected area and agency offices. The audit may also require visits to selected Tribal offices." As to the audit scope and objective, the study "will be to determine whether the Bureau's Self-Governance Demonstration Project is conducted efficiently, effectively and economically. Specifically, we will determine whether (1) Bureau contracted with compact Tribes and (2) other Tribes and individual Indians were adversely affected when positions were contracted by Self-Governance Demonstration Project Tribes." Self-Governance Tribe's funding prioritization and management is not expected to be a major issue in the routine investigation.

McCain AND BABBITT ON SELF-GOVERNANCE



Senator McCain



Governance Demonstration Project is due to expire in a few years. I will be introducing legislation later this year to make this Project a permanent program for the Department. Do you think Self-Governance authority should be extended to other federal departments and programs providing assistance to Indian Country? If so, should this be done gradually or at once?

Babbitt: The Department has not conducted an analysis or formulated a position on whether or not the Self-Governance Demonstration Project should be expanded to other federal departments. Before any position is taken, other affected federal departments should be actively consulted.

McCain: While Self-Governance negotiations have resulted in significant transfers of funds from BIA area and agency offices to Tribal agreements, the previous Administration generally held that BIA Central Office funds are immune from similar negotiations and transfers. Do you intend to instruct BIA to make all Central Office funds available to Tribal negotiations in the same manner that is now used at the BIA area and agency levels?

Babbitt: Work has been under way for the past six months to create and implement a streamlined process to ensure that Interior's funding obligations are fulfilled in FY 1994. A new step will be to have Self-Governance funds held and obligated in a single central office account rather than having the funds allocated and obligated at the various area offices as in past years.

McCain: While the federal statute now requires all Interior Department programs to be made available negotiations to a Self-Governance Tribe's agreement, to date no funds other than BIA funds have been placed in a Self-Governance agreement. What steps will you take to see that all programs, services, activities, and functions of all levels of the Department are made available in negotiations to Self-Governance Tribes?

Babbitt: Upon notification by a Self-Governance Tribe that it desires to include particular Interior Department Indian programs in a Self-Governance funding agreement, the Office of Self-Governance (OSG) will contact the appropriate departmental officials, who will be required to coordinate and

Secretary Babbitt



cooperate to ensure that the particular Indian programs become a part of the negotiation process and are included in the Self-Governance funding agreement

McCain: Decades of commissions, reports, and studies have recommended but produced no meaningful change in BIA operations despite strong call of Tribal governments to either transfer or move BIA funds and activities to the Reservation level. Do you view the BIA downsizing and restructuring that is required by Self-Governance negotiations a way to accomplish actual and meaningful reorganization of the BIA?

Babbitt: Yes. The restructuring required by the Self-Governance Demonstration Project in conjunction with the reorganization efforts of the Joint Tribal/BIA/DOI advisory Task Force on Bureau of Indian Affairs reorganization will provide meaningful reorganization of the BIA.

McCain: Interior Self-Governance Compacts with Tribes contain provisions calling for the expedited waiver, by the Secretary, of federal regulations which a participating Tribe has identified obstruct effective implementation of its own program and priorities. What steps will you take to ensure that Interior's Self-Governance regulation waiver approvals are expedited on a priority basis to reflect the congressional intention that this project be implemented by Interior as an experiment and demonstration?

Babbitt: The Office of Self-Governance has established an expedited waiver process for Tribes in the Self-Governance Project, which includes assisting Tribes in preparing the documentation required to support a waiver request. Then a timely finding probably can be made that the waiver is in the best interest of the affected Indians. To date, there have only been a limited number of requests received from the Self-Governance Tribes.

Editors Note: This column takes a slightly different track this month. The questions are asked by U.S. Senator John McCain. R-Arizona, acting in his capacity as Vice Chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. The responses are by Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt.

McCain: In 1988, I introduced legislation which extended the authorization for the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project. This project allows funds which were previously spent for some Tribes by the BIA to be placed in the hands of the Tribes to spend according to their won Tribal priorities and methods. This Project was premised on a government-to-government relationship between each participating Tribe and the United States. In your view, what are the successes of this Self-Governance Demonstration Project and what future does it have within your overall Indian policy agenda?

Babbitt: Some successes of the Self-Governance Demonstration Project are that the Project has:

- improved quality and quantity of service available to Tribal members;
- allowed Tribes to quickly adapt to changing needs and circumstances by modifying programs;
- allowed Tribes to consolidate and more effectively utilize resources across programs; and
- encouraged and facilitated the use of long-range planning in Tribal programs

The Department supports the Self-Governance Demonstration Project and the government-to-government premise upon which it is based. At this time, no decision has been made regarding what part this demonstration project will play in the Department's overall Indian policy.

McCain: Statutory authority for the Self-

DEVELOPMENT OF SELF-GOVERNANCE

Editors Note: Last month, SOVEREIGN NATION'S described the beginnings of Tribal Self-Governance in the first of a series of historic articles. Many of the concepts embodied in the process were traced back thousands of years and readers were brought to the first year's implementation of the contemporary Self-Governance program. This month, we look into how the establishment of the Office of Self-Governance and other Tribal and federal actions began to clear the way for additional Tribes to become involved in the process. We are also pleased to provide an updated listing of Self-Governance Tribes and their contacts.

In the first three years of the Self-Governance Demonstration Project the BIA did not develop any plans for the Project implementation phase, despite repeated Congressional directives for the agency to perform budget research and prepare for organizational restructuring. The BIA agency, area, and central offices did not communicate with the participating Tribes regarding the Project future and their roles. After the first Self-Governance Compacts/Agreements were negotiated, the BIA Central Office staff were assigned Self-Governance responsibilities in the Office of Self-Determination. As the Bureau continued to treat Self-Governance as an administrative nuisance, the Tribes sought the establishment of an independent Office of Self-Governance.

At the request of the Tribes, Congress provided funding for an Office of Self-Governance, to be established in the Interior Department's Office of the Secretary in Fiscal Year 1991. Secretary Lujan established a Self-Governance Policy Council in August of 1990 comprised of representatives from the Solicitor's and the Secretary's Offices, headed by the Assistant Secretary

for Indian Affairs, Dr. Eddie Brown. This council provides high level departmental policy guidance and decisions necessary for the Demonstration Project to create change in the bureaucracy. The Office of Self-Governance began operations in January, 1991, with William Lavell as the first director.

President Bush, in his June 14, 1991 statement "Reaffirming the Government-to-Government relationship between the Federal Government and Tribal Governments," joined the advocates for Self-Governance by stating:

"An Office of Self-Governance has been established in the Department of the Interior and given the responsibility of working with Tribes to craft creative ways of transferring decision-making powers over Tribes."

The Office of Self-Governance significantly improved the Department of the Interior's performance and attitude toward the Self-Governance Demonstration Project. It did not take long for Tribes across the country to decide to participate in the process.

Yet, it took BIA until 1992 to include a request for Self-Governance funding in its budget Justification. The \$3 million budget request was for Tribal expenses relative to planning, negotiations, project implementation and shortfalls. The Secretary requested \$700,000 to continue the role of the Office of Self-Governance and its operations.

As we approach Fiscal Year 1994, however, there is still no significant change in the BIA structure. Self-Governance has reached a point, in terms of the number of Tribes negotiating compacts, that reorganization and restructuring of the BIA in response to Self-Governance is inevitable.

As a Demonstration Project, Self-Governance was only authorized for five years in P.L. 100-

472, Title III. Other Tribes have requested the opportunity to participate in Self-Governance. The original Tribes also felt more time was needed to test the concept, including forcing bureaucratic reorganization and restructuring within the BIA, prior to developing permanent legislation.

Reauthorization legislation with strong bipartisan support in the key committees unanimously passed in the first session of the 102nd Congress; "The Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project Act", was signed into law December 4, 1991, by President Bush. Public Law 102-184 extends the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project for three years through Fiscal Year 1996, and increases the number of Tribes to 30, to improve both Tribal and geographic diversity. Extending and expanding the Project for three more years will allow the Project to generate better information over time for Congressional and Tribal review and assessment. If Self-Governance proves to be a successful alternative, then the Tribes and Congress would develop permanent legislation based on actual Tribal experiences.

Statement of William Lavell, Director of the Office of Self-Governance in the Department of the Interior:

"I'm a very strong defender of Tribal sovereignty and Tribal governmental power. The U.S., when it needed to, made a whole series of deals with the Indians. We made a series of deals, we ought to live up to them. Tribal governments say they can govern their lands, let's let them (have the opportunity)."

Next month, SOVEREIGN NATIONS will conclude this series of articles with a look into the further development of the Self-Governance Demonstration Project, and prospects for the future.

MORE POWER TO THE TRIBES

By Bill Richardson
The New York Times 7/7/93

The nation tunes into Indian issues only when there is a crisis like the mysterious illness plaguing the Navajo reservation in Arizona. Or when Donald Trump files lawsuit to stop Indian gaming. Or when a movie like "Dances with Wolves" attracts movie star lamenting the plight of our reservations.

Indian reservations are among the poorest areas in the United States: 93,000 Indians are homeless or have inadequate housing, according to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Of the 1.8 million Native Americans, 603,000 live below the poverty line.

Unemployment on the reservations has always exceeded 50 percent nationally and sometimes reaches more than 80 percent. Indians have the highest rates of diabetes and tuberculosis and the lowest life expectancy.

Those troubles have a long history, but in recent years there has been one

obvious culprit: the wasteful and patriarchal Bureau of Indian Affairs, which in large measures has held back Tribes from helping themselves. Although Indian Tribes are sovereign, many Tribal governmental activities are mired in the federal bureaucracy.

It is time to junk or radically transform the bureau, which has a central office in Washington and more than 100 other offices scattered around the country. We need a system under which the money goes directly to the reservation rather than to an inflated bureaucracy. Perhaps the most egregious example of the bureau's mind boggling inefficiency is its mismanagement of nearly \$2 billion in funds belonging to Indian people and Tribes who have no say in how their money is handled. Since 1820, the Government has held Tribal funds in trust and it was not until 1968 that it even began investing the funds belonging to Indian people and Tribes who have no say in how their money is

(continued on page 8)

SELF-GOVERNANCE TRIBES

TRIBE	CHAIRMAN	SG COORDINATOR	ADDRESS	PHONE #	FAX #
FIRST TIER TRIBES					
Hoopa Valley Tribe	Dale Rising	Danny Jordan	P.O. Box 1348 (HI 96, Neighborhood Facility Bldg) Hoopa, California 95546	916-625-4211	916-625-4594
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	William Ron Allen	Cydl Holmes	1033 Old Blyne Highway Sequim, Washington 98382	206-683-1109	206-681-4693
Lummi Indian Nation	Henry Caggy	Rayette Finkbonner	2616 Kwina Road Bellingham, Washington 98226	206-647-6223	206-647-6289
Quinault Indian Nation	Joe DeLaCruz	Lynda Jolly	P.O. Box 189 (112 W. Quin Street) Tahola, Washington 98587	206-276-8211	206-276-8201
Absentee Shawnee Tribe	Dr. John Edwards	Dwayne Hughes	2025 S. Gordon Cooper Drive Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801	405-276-8211	405-273-4533
Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians	Marge Anderson	Karen Ekstrom	HCR 67 Box 194 Onamia, Minnesota 56359	612-532-4181	612-532-4209
Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma	Wilma Mankiller	Patrick Ragsdale	P.O. Box 948 (3.5 miles South Tahlequah, HI 62) Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74465	918-458-0671	918-456-6485
SECOND TIER TRIBES					
Port Gamble S'Klallam	Gerals Jones	Rick Decoteau	P.O. box 280 (31912 Little Boston Rd. NE Kingston Kingston Washington 98346	206-297-2646	206-297-7097
Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Tribe	James Paiva	Edith Maning	P.O. Box 219 Owyhee, Nevada 89832	703-757-3211	206-757-2219
Tlingit & Haida Tribes of Alaska	Edward K Thomas	Richard Stein	320 W. Willoughby Avenue, Suite 300 Juneau, Alaska 99801	907-586-1432	907-586-8970
Ely Shoshone Tribe	Jerry Charles	Peter Ford	16 Hosone Circle Ely, Nevada 89301	702-289-3013	702-289-3156
Makah Tribe	Donald Johnson	Matt Kilapa	P.O. Box 115 (Makah Tribal Center) Neah Bay, Washington 98357	206-645-2201	206-645-2033
Sac & Fox Nation	Elmer Manitowa	Eugene Tyner-Dawson	Route 2, Box 264 Stroud, Oklahoma 74079	918-968-3526	918-968-3837
Siletz Tribe	Delores Figsley	Nelson Witt	P.O. Box 549 (402 Park Way) Siletz, Oregon 97380	800-922-1399	503-444-2307
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	Jerry Millett		P.O. Box 140068 (688 Crystal Springs Boulevard) Duckwater, Nevada 89314	702-863-0227	702-863-0301
Kawerak, Inc.	Loretta Ballard	Dan Deane	P.O. Box 948 (Seppala and C Street) Nome, Alaska 99762	907-443-5231	907-443-3708
THIRD TIER TRIBES					
Lower Elwha	Carla Elofson		1666 Lower Elwha Road Port Angeles, Washington 98362	206-452-8471	206-452-4848
Swinomish	Rober Joe, Sr.	Brian Wilbur	P.O. Box 817 LaConner, Washington 98257	206-466-3163	206-466-4067
Grand Traverse	Joseph C. Raphael	John Bussey	Route 1 Box 135 Sutton Bay, Minnesota 49682	616-271-3538	616-271-4861
FOURTH TIER TRIBES					
Pueblo of Santa Clara	Walter Detheno		P.O. Box 580 (Kee St., Neighborhood Facility) Española, New Mexico 87532	505-753-7326	505-753-8988
Ramah Navaho Chapter	Martha Garcia		Route 2, Box 13 (BIA Road 125, Chapter House) Ramah, New Mexico 87321	505-775-3533	505-775-3538
Rocky Boy's Chippewa Creek	Rocky Stump, Sr.		Rocky Boy Route, Box 544 Box Elder, Minnesota 55921	406-395-4421	406-395-4497
Tanana Chiefs Conference	Dennis Charley		122 First Avenue, Main Office Fairbanks, Alaska 99701	907-452-8251	
Leech Lake Band	Daniel Grown	Dick Wolf	RR# Box 100 (Highway 2, N.E. of stoplights) Cass Lake, Minnesota 56633	281-335-8354	218-335-8309
Ojibwa Tribe	Richard Hill		P.O. Box 365 (N. 7210 Seimary Rd.) Ojibwa, Wisconsin 54155	415-869-2722	415-869-2194
Chickasaw Nation	Bill Anotubby	Zane Browning	P.O. Box 1548 (520 E. Arlington) Ada, Oklahoma 74820	405-436-2603	405-436-4287
Muscogee (Creek)	Bill Fife		P.O. Box 580 (HI 75, Route 56) Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447	918-756-8700	918-756-3340
Salt River Pima-Maricopa	Ivan Makil		Route 1, Box 216 (10005 E. Osborne St.) Scottsdale, Arizona 85256-9722	602-941-7277	602-949-2909
Confederated Tribes of Salish & Kootenai (Flathead)	Michael T. Pablo		Box 278 Pablo, Montana 59855	406-675-2700	406-675-2805
Squaxin Island	David Lopeman	Mike Peters	SE 70, Squaxin Lane Shelton, Washington 98584	206-426-9781	206-426-3971

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handled. Since 1820, the Government has held Tribal funds in trust, and it was not until 1968 that it even began investing the funds.

Today, according to the General Accounting Office, the bureau has a poor accounting system, weak internal controls and badly trained staff. Though it functions as a bank, the bureau has no regular audits and cannot say how much money is in the accounts.

Revenue from oil and gas royalties on Indian lands, grazing fees and other income isn't directly distributed to the Tribes or individuals. Instead, it is deposited in a variety of bank accounts that the bureau has not been able to reconcile. In the last two years, Congress has pressed for an audit of the accounts, but business goes on as usual.

A creative new approach that encourages Tribes to take control of their own futures would also get them out from under the bureau. It is a bold experimental project, started in 1988, in which 36 Tribes bypass the bureau and enter into Self-Governance compacts with the Interior Secretary. Instead of the bureau providing services to the reservation, the Tribes participating in the experiment establish their own spending priorities with the Secretary. This kind of Tribal self-determination will not only save the taxpayers money, it will give the Tribes more autonomy. Congress needs to encourage such initiatives and will be drafting legislation to make the project permanent, so that it will be an option for all Tribes.

Indians should be given this means to attract investment on reservations: tax incentive, enterprise zones and development banks. Indian gaming, only 3 percent of the gaming industry nationwide, is a \$6 billion industry in Indian America and has successfully reduced unemployment on many reservations and made some Tribes self-sufficient.

Why must the government help Indians at all? Besides the obvious moral obligation, there is a legal responsibility. Since the founding of

the country, the U.S. has promised to uphold the rights of Indian Tribes, and became the trustee of Indian lands and resources. The U.S. vowed that Indians would be housed, educated and provided with decent health care. We have failed on nearly every count, and every one of the more than 300 treaties with Tribes has been broken.

When federal and state agencies were searching for the cause of the epidemic that began on the Navajo Reservation, they had the wisdom to listen to the Tribal medicine men, who pointed to a key food source that attracts rats, the probable carriers of disease. So it is with Indian policy. Only the Tribal perspective holds the cure to the lingering injustices and poverty in Indian country.

ADA DEER APPOINTED

Ada Deer, Menominee Tribal member, has been appointed Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs. Following are some of her remarks given during her confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs:

I enthusiastically endorse greater self-determination for Indian Tribes and the protection of treaty rights. Like many people in Indian Country and in Congress, I am excited about the Department of the Interior's Self-Governance Demonstration Project. It is designed to empower Tribes by allocating federal resources and responsibilities to those Tribal governments willing to assume them.

As Secretary Babbitt has noted, "We must accelerate the trend toward Self-Governance so that we can reshape our role from paternal guardians to active engaged partners."



Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project **SOVEREIGN NATIONS**

Lummi Indian Business Council
2616 Kwina Road
Bellingham, WA 98226