**TO: [IHS Area]**

**FROM: [Name of TSGAC Member], Indian Health Service Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee (IHS-TSGAC) and [Name of Technical Workgroup Member], TSGAC Technical Workgroup Representative(s)**

**Subject: 2017 July IHS Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting Summary**

The Indian Health Service’s (IHS) Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee (TSGAC) met July 18-19, 2017 in Washington, D.C. to

Below is a brief summary of the discussions as well as follow-up actions from the meeting. A detailed summary of the meeting will soon be available on the SGCE website, [www.tribalselfgov.org](http://www.tribalselfgov.org).

**Discussion Summary:**

**Congressional and Legislative Office Update:**

Congressional staff members from the Senate and House met with TSGAC Tribal Leadership to discuss concerns regarding the recently introduced Restoring Accountability in the IHS Act of 2017. Leaders reviewed some of the concerns described in the [SGCETC testimony](https://www.tribalselfgov.org/priorities/testimony-letters/) submitted to the Senate and House Committees with jurisdiction over the legislation. Leaders also received updates from the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) regarding the necessary renewal of the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI). NIHB explained that there is strong support for the renewal, but that a legislative vehicle for the renewal was necessary to keep things moving. Tribes can find information about the SDPI renewal and download resources to support Indian Country’s requests [here](https://www.nihb.org/sdpi/index.php).

**Office of Tribal Self-Governance Update (OTSG):**

OTSG provided a brief update regarding recent Self-Governance Training for Tribal and Federal Employees. The Office is still considering updating the Headquarters Programs, Services, Functions, and Activities (PSFAs) Manual and will initiate work to updated the Agency Lead Negotiator Handbook to reflect new policies and processes IHS has put into place since its initial development.

**Office of Environmental Health and Engineering (OEH&E):**

The Facilities Appropriation Advisory Board (FAAB) Chairman, Dr. Grimm, reported that FAAB submitted the required Congressional report to estimate the facilities need across the Nation. The Report included a $14.7 billion request for facilities based on information received from a Tribal survey and opportunities for expanded authorities. In addition to the update from Dr. Grimm, TSGAC Leadership learned from Mr. Hartz, Director of OEH&E, that they plan to update and re-issue the Sanitation Deficiency System Guidelines in September.

**Office of Information Technology (OIT)**

TSGAC leadership discussed the Veterans Administration (VA) shift away from the Resource and Patient Management System (RPMS) and how OIT is planning to continue to support or replace RPMS. CAPT Rives, OIT Director, shared that VA anticipates it will take them 8-10 years to transition from VISTA (the Electronic Health Records system supported at VA) to a Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS) system. Though IHS is working to respond to this future change, TSGAC learned that in the meantime OIT will continue to provide support and work to make enhancements to improve data interoperability and record accessibility. IHS will continue to accept comments and recommendations regarding this transition until the end of the August. Comments may be submitted to [consultation@ihs.gov](mailto:consultation@ihs.gov).

**Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) Implementation Update**

The workgroup providing assistance to Tribes on implementation of the ACA has assembled a tool for Tribes who are interested in exploring their options under the Tribal Sponsorship Program. The tool is available on the Self-Governance website [here](http://www.tribalselfgov.org/health-reform/health-q-a/tribal-sponsorship-fast-track-key-tasks/).

**Actions and Requests from the Committee:**

* Register and book your rooms for the upcoming TSGAC quarterly meeting, October 24-25, 2017 [here](https://aws.passkey.com/e/16402802).
* Pre-register for the Tribal Self-Governance Strategy Session, September 6-7, 2017 in Uncasville, CT [here](https://www.tribalselfgov.org/events/event/self-governance-strategy-session/).
* Mark your calendars for the 2017 and 2018 Self-Governance meetings noted below.

You can download materials from the July 18-19 meeting [here](https://www.tribalselfgov.org/events/event/tsgacsgac-3rd-quarter-advisory-committee-meeting-17/).

If you have any questions or issues you would like TSGAC to consider at the next quarterly meeting, please contact Melanie Fourkiller at [mfourkiller@choctawnation.com](mailto:mfourkiller@choctawnation.com) on or before.

Thank you!

2017 Self-Governance Calendar

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| **Date** | **Meeting** | **Location** |
| September 6-7 | Tribal Self-Governance Strategy Session | Mohegan Sun  Uncasville, CT |
| October 23 | IHS TSGAC and DSTAC Joint Meeting | Department of Health and Human Services  Washington, D.C. |
| October 24-25 | IHS TSGAC Quarterly Meeting | Embassy Suites – DC Convention Center |
| October 25-26 | DOI SGAC Quarterly Meeting |

Self-Governance 2018 Calendar of Events

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| **Date** | **Meeting** | **Location** |
| January 23-24 | DOI SGAC Quarterly Meeting | Embassy Suites – DC Convention Center |
| January 24-25 | IHS TSGAC Quarterly Meeting |
| March 27-28 | DOI SGAC Quarterly Meeting | Embassy Suites – DC Convention Center |
| March 28-29 | IHS TSGAC Quarterly Meeting |
| April 22-26 | Annual Tribal Self-Governance Consultation Conference | Albuquerque Convention Center  Albuquerque, NM |
| July 17-18 | DOI SGAC Quarterly Meeting | Embassy Suites – DC Convention Center |
| July 18-19 | IHS TSGAC Quarterly Meeting |
| September 5-6 | Tribal Self-Governance Strategy Session | TBD |
| October 2-3 | DOI SGAC Quarterly Meeting | Embassy Suites – DC Convention Center |
| October 3-4 | IHS TSGAC Quarterly Meeting |