

Agenda

IHS Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee (TSGAC)

March 19 – 20, 2025

Location: Hilton Arlington National Landing 2399 Richmond Highway, Arlington, VA

ZOOM Information

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83198229977?pwd=cCtBbDARNm1BQnJqMVJ2NEFIZm9udz09>

Meeting ID: 831 9822 9977

Passcode: 331597

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025

1:30pm -- 2:30pm: Tribal Caucus

2:30pm -- 2:55pm: Roll Call

2:55pm -- 3:00pm: Opening Prayer

3:00pm -- 3:15pm: TSGAC Committee Business

- December 2024 minutes
- Nominations
 - Great Plains Area
 - Phoenix Area

3:15pm – 3:30pm: Opening Remarks

W. Ron Allen, Tribal Chairman/CEO, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe and Vice Chairman, TSGAC

P. Benjamin Smith, Acting Director, Indian Health Service (IHS)

3:30pm – 3:45pm: SGCETC Update

- 2025 Annual Self-Governance Conference

Jay Spaan, Executive Director, Self-Governance Communication & Education Tribal Consortium (SGCETC)

3:45pm – 4:00pm: Affordable Care Act/Indian Health Care Improvement Act (ACA/IHCIA) Update

This discussion will provide an update regarding ACA/IHCIA initiatives.

Cyndi Ferguson, SENSE Inc.

Elliott Milhollin, Partner, Hobbs Straus Dean & Walker

4:00pm – 5:00pm: Joint Venture Construction Program (JVCP) Update

The JVCP allows tribes to construct, acquire, or renovate health care facilities using non-IHS funds, which are then leased to the IHS at no cost for 20 years. In return, IHS requests funding from Congress to staff, operate, and maintain the facility. This program has been strengthening partnerships with tribes and expanding access to comprehensive, culturally appropriate health services for nearly 30 years. On December 27, 2024, the IHS announced a new solicitation for FY 2025. TSGAC will learn about the progress the IHS has made in its JVCP and receive an update on the regarding the solicitation for Phase 1 in 2025.

Steven Raynor, Director, Division of Facilities Planning and Construction, IHS

5:00pm: Recess

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025

9:00am – 9:15am: Opening Prayer
December 2024 Meeting Minutes
Introductions

9:15am – 9:45am: Office of Tribal Self-Governance (OTSG) Update
OTSG will provide an update to TSGAC.

Stacey Ecoffey, Deputy Director, Intergovernmental Affairs, IHS
Rena Macy, Acting Director, OTSG, IHS

9:45am – 10:15am: IHS Reorganization

The IHS Reorganization is a significant restructuring of the IHS aimed at improving and expanding federal health services for American Indians and Alaska Natives. Key aspects of the reorganization include:

- Establishment of new offices: The IHS has created the Office of Tribal and Urban Affairs and the Division of Urban Indian Affairs.
- Adoption of a "One IHS" model: This approach aims to strengthen relationships with Indian Tribes and Urban Indian Organizations (UIOs) by streamlining operations and enhancing communications.
- Focus on self-determination: The reorganization seeks to enhance business relationships with Indian Tribes through self-determination and self-governance.
- Intergovernmental partnerships: The restructuring aims to amplify the agency's work by cultivating partnerships and furthering external relationships.
- Modernization of ISDEAA support: The reorganization includes efforts to modernize how the agency supports Tribes pursuing Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA) opportunities.
- Education and training: The IHS plans to foster education and training throughout the entire system on how ISDEAA interfaces with daily work.
- Structural changes: The reorganization involves changes to the IHS Headquarters Office of the Director and the Intergovernmental Affairs functions.

This discussion will focus on the significant shift in the structure and approach of the IHS and potential impacts on how health services are delivered to American Indians and Alaska Natives. The IHS will update TSGAC on any decisions that have been made and what changes can be expected moving forward.

Stacey Ecoffey, Deputy Director, Intergovernmental Affairs, IHS

10:15am – 10:45am: IHS Strategic Plan

The IHS has recently released its Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2025-2029, which aims to strengthen health care service delivery for American Indians and Alaska Natives across the United States. This plan, developed with input from various stakeholders, including TSGAC, outlines the agency's priorities and goals for the next five years. The IHS will provide an overview of the strategic plan to TSGAC.

Michelle Boylan, Deputy Director, Quality Healthcare Enterprise Risk Management, IHS

10:45am – 11:30am: IHS Implementation of Executive Orders and Administrative Actions

Tribal Nations have concerns over several executive orders issued by the President and the possible impacts they may have on the Tribal health system. TSGAC will learn how the IHS is implementing the recent executive orders and what changes, if any, these orders have on the I/T/U health systems.

P. Benjamin Smith, Acting Director, IHS

11:30am – 1:00pm: Lunch / Executive Lunch

1:00pm – 2:00pm: Discussion with Acting IHS Director

During the open discussion, TSGAC members have an opportunity to raise issues or questions from their Area with IHS leadership.

*W. Ron Allen, Tribal Chairman/CEO, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe and Vice Chairman, TSGAC
P. Benjamin Smith, Acting Director, IHS*

2:00pm – 2:30pm: STAC Update

The new HHS Secretary Tribal Advisory Committee (STAC) met in late February. This discussion will provide an overview of that meeting and what priorities and initiatives the STAC plans to take up this term.

*Winn Davis, Congressional Relations Director, National Indian Health Board
W. Ron Allen, Tribal Chairman/CEO, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe and Vice Chairman, TSGAC
and STAC representatives on TSGAC*

2:30pm – 3:30pm: Budget Update & Contract Support Costs (CSC Discussion)

TSGAC will receive a budget update on the 2025 budget, be briefed on details pertaining to the President’s 2026 budget proposal (if available), receive a summary of the IHS Tribal Budget Formulation workgroup as they work on the 2027 budget priorities. TSGAC will also learn about the work regarding the Contract Support Cost considering the *Becerra v. San Carlos Apache Tribe* decision.

*Jillian Curtis, Director, Office of Finance and Accounting, IHS
Jennifer Webster, Oneida Nation Councilwoman and TSGAC CSC workgroup representatives*

3:30pm -- 4:00pm: Health IT Modernization Update

The IHS is currently undertaking a significant Health IT Modernization effort to replace its outdated Resource and Patient Management System (RPMS) with a new electronic health record (EHR) system called PATH EHR. This modernization initiative aims to improve healthcare delivery for American Indians and Alaska Natives across the country. The IHS will provide TSGAC with an update on current efforts and provide a timeline for when the new EHR system will be launched.

Mitchell Thornbrugh, Chief Information Officer & Director of the Office of Information Technology, IHS

4:00pm: Adjourn

Any TSGAC Technical Workgroup work will be handled via email