

Native Vote ATNI Committee Notes May 2010

Native Vote ATNI Mission:

Our vote and our voice makes a difference in Indian Country.

We are Native American's First. Our allegiance is to our Tribal Nations foremost. To bring out our Native Voice by registering and voting in every election. Native Vote is a grassroots effort and is here to educate, activate and empower all Native people.

Goals:

Native Voice: Our vote and our voice makes a difference in Indian Country.

To Educate, Activate and Empower Tribal People

To Engage our Native Youth in Government Policies and Voting Rights

To Identify who and where our eligible voters are located

Vision:

There is a need for an organization to get out the Native Vote on an annual basis. It is important for tribal people to vote in every election, not only their tribal elections but federal, state and local elections as well. Native Vote supports and encourages Native American men and women to run for elected office and participate in the political process in any way they can.

Native Vote is open to all who share the common goal of increasing the Native Vote, educating the public on Native issues, and encouraging Native candidates to run for office.

Tasks

- A) ATNI urges Tribal Nations to take the following steps to get organized annually for elections:
 - 1) Designate a Native Vote Coordinator
 - 2) Designate a Native Vote Election Protection Coordinator
 - 3) Send Tribal Coordinators to Native Vote Training
- B) Federal legislative updates – Important races & tribal friendly candidates (Who are our friends in DC?)
- C) Tribes Political Contributions – Tribes must use these funds to get “the most bang out of their buck”.
- D) How to run a tribal election & keep doing your day to day duties
- E) Assist with voting to ensure bylaws are being followed during ATNI elections
- F) Set up to receive Candidate Profiles
- G) Commit resources to candidates and issues

H) Tribes can pay for candidates commercials, direct mailings, (Independent Expenditures)

Associates

- A) NCAI – Native Vote Committee
- B) Civil Rights Commission
- C) 2010 Census
- D) Native Vote WA
- E) Wellstone Action
- F) National Democratic Party