

COMMITTEE REPORT

EDUCATION COMMITTEE Committee Name

Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
Wildhorse Resort and Casino,
Pendleton, Oregon, on September 21 – 25, 2014

DISCUSSION

September 22, 2014 – There were 30 individuals who attended the Education Committee meeting at 3:15-5:30 pm.

- A. Opening and Introduction of Mission and Goals – Patsy opened the meeting with individuals introducing themselves.
- B. Umatilla Tribes Education Overview – Ramona Halcomb, the Umatilla Tribes Education Director, provided an overview of the tribes education programs. She returned to the tribe to become the education director last year.
- C. Education Northwest Overview – Pahyllis Ault, Matthew Eide and Diana Oxley provided an overview of the Indian Education initiative with Education Northwest. Through the U.S Department of Education funding, the service area includes the states of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana where there are significant numbers of Native students. The purpose of the presentation was to also seek individuals from the northwest tribes interested in collaborating on a Tribal Education Alliance (TEA) with a focus on research, best practices and cultural responsiveness. Several individuals signed up and a follow up will be held with the TEA committee before the next ATNI meeting.
- D. Apple representative provided a short presentation about their new language application initiative and are willing to work with Indian Country on their products.
- E. Native American Rights Funds representatives provided a status report on the National Native Boarding School Healing Coalition which was spearheaded by the ATNI tribes. In addition, a short presentation was provided on the Dispute Resolution curriculum available on line through NARF.
- F. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Overview (SAMHSA) – The Indian Tribal Training and Technical Center (ITTC) staff provided an overview of their five year contract with SAMHSA to provide technical support to Indian Country. The staff also provided contact information for Indian Country to access the center to address substance abuse issues in their communities. Follow up with the Center will be forthcoming.
- G. ATNI Resolutions – Two resolutions were submitted during the meeting.

September 23, 2014 - There were 22 individuals who attended the Education Committee meeting at 1:20-3:18 pm.

- H. Suquamish Tribe Education Compact Overview – Leonard Forsman provided an overview of his tribes response to the Washington State HB 1134 in developing the tribes own school. There was much collaboration conducted with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to be able to gain approval to open a middle school this fall.

- I. Washington State University Overview – Barbara Aston and Robbie Paul introduced the goal for Washington State University to improve access to health care by proposing a new Medical School to produce more primary care doctors for underserved communities to specifically include tribes in the Pacific Northwest.
- J. Northwest Indian College Overview – Greg Masten provided a power point as an update on the progress of the college and the recent fund-raising goals being achieved. During the winter ATNI at the Silver Reef Resort in Lummi, the college held an Opening of the Salish Sea Institute.
- K. Central Washington University Overview – President Gaudino provided an overview of the college’s Native initiatives on campus. In addition, he also shared the proposal to develop and construct a Native Gathering Center on campus for students. In completing his presentation, the college staff provided Central Washington University blankets for all Education Committee attendees.
- L. University of Washington Update – Ross Braine, UW Tribal Liaison provided an power point on the work of the UW Native American Advisory Board (NAAB) and also introduced two of the NAAB members present, Patsy Whitefoot and Greg Masten. He also provided an update on the construction of the House of Knowledge and announced the Opening House for March 12, 2015 at 11:00 am which will coincide with the Tribal Leaders Summit, as well. Ross also pointed out that the Yakama Nation was the second largest donor with \$100,000 for the construction of the facility. In addition, there have been 504 Yakama Nation students who have graduated from UW. The House of Knowledge became a reality with the \$6.2 million raised during the state’s recession.
- M. ATNI Resolutions - Four resolutions were submitted during the meeting.

ADOPTED AND RECOMMENDED TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Resolution # & Title:

- 1. Support the Creation of a Tribal/Federal Task Force to Study the Funding Constraints of the Bureau of Indian Education and Formulate Next Steps**

Motion to approve the resolution was made by Cindy Webster-Martinson with a second by Robbie Paul. The Resolution was approved.

Resolution # & Title:

- 2. Support Amending the Government Performance and Results Act Measures Utilized by the Office of Indian Education.**

Motion to approve the resolution was made by Leonard Forsman with a second by Robbie Paul. The Resolution was approved.

Resolution # & Title:

- 3. Improving Access to Health Care**

Motion to approve the resolution was made by Cindy Webster-Martinson with a second by Yolanda Bisbee. The Resolution was approved.

Resolution # & Title:

- 4. Support to Promote the Education of Migratory Children accountable for Native Students**

Motion to approve the resolution was made by Cindy Webster-Martinson with a second by Lillie Butler. The Resolution was approved.

Resolution # & Title:

5. Haskell Indian Nations University Feasibility Study

Motion to approve the resolution was made by Cindy Webster-Martinson with a second by Yoland Bisbee. The resolution was approved.

Resolution # & Title:

6. Support the Development of the Central Washington University Native Gathering Center Project.

Motion to approve the resolution was made by Cindy Webster-Martinson with a second by Lillie Butler. The resolution was approved.

COMMITTEE - TABLED

Resolution # & Title:

Minutes/Report submitted by: Patricia Whitefoot
Committee Chair