

January 24, 2021
**Nevada Indian Commission
Executive Director Report**

BUDGET

Nevada Indian Commission - 2600
FY2022 Starting Balance = \$ 352,074
Current balance = \$ 210,597

Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum - 2601
FY2022 Starting Balance = \$ 295,952
Current Balance = \$ 127,505

Gift Fund

FY2022 Starting Balance = \$ 187,760
Expended = \$ 10,107

Totals as of 01/18/22 - The funding for NIC budget is 75% General Fund and 25% Transfer from Tourism. - The funding for SISCC&M budget is 38% General Fund and 62% Transfer from Tourism.

COVID-19

- As is happening throughout the state and nation, our reservations are experiencing spikes in the latest COVID variant. The majority of our Nations are reporting similar numbers of active cases as they did during their peak last December. However, hospitalizations are not as high. During the last monthly Tribal Health Directors' meeting, leadership reported regular testing and vaccinations, plus exhausted staff.
- After the holidays, Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum resumed regular hours with strict safety protocols including limiting the number of visitors at one time.
- Through the Nevada State Health, the NIC has ordered home test kits for the Cultural Center, in-person meetings, and the Father's Day Pow Wow.

NATIVE VOTE

- In partnership with the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) and All Voting Is Local, a Nevada Tribal Leaders Guide to Voter Services is being distributed to Native American communities. (see appendix)

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) & US ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION FUNDS

- The NIC and the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), has partnered with University of Nevada-Reno to hold the Nevada Native American Community and Economic Development Planning Summit will be held at UNR on Feb 14-15. (see appendix)
- Our 27 Tribal Nations will have an opportunity to review the ARPA grant application process and to develop or build on five-year plan.
- Regional and County Economic Development Authorities, private enterprises as well as State and City business enterprise professionals have been invited to explore cross collaboration with our Tribal Nations for ARPA funding.
- With the unpredictability of COVID as well as winter weather, includes a virtual option.

US SECRETARY OF INTERIOR INITIATIVE INTO INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS

- The National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) announced that Deborah Parker (Tulalip Tribes) has been appointed Chief Executive Officer and Samuel Torres, (Mexica/Nahua) as Deputy Chief Executive Officer. Parker was instrumental in NABS signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of the Interior to mutually share research to support the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative (Initiative). Torres has visited the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Museum.
- NIC has January 26 meeting to follow up on Governor's letter to US Interior Secretary Deb Haaland asking for the Stewart Indian School attendance records which were seized by BIA in 1980 when the school closed.

INDIAN EDUCATION

- The NIC has successfully co-applied for a Title IIA grant. With this \$15,000 funding, *Elevating Tribal Languages*. This initiative will serve to revitalize Tribal languages. Tribal language speakers will be recruited, prepared, and trained toward the goal of promoting, enriching, and enhancing activities and strategies to deepen knowledge for American Indian educators, and ultimately advance education for American Indian students (see appendix).

NEVADA INDIAN COMMISSION STAFFING

- Admin III will be starting in mid-February. Five interviews for the NIC Program Officer are being arranged.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS / ONGOING PROJECTS

- * Continuing communicate with Nevada Administration, and Buildings and Grounds Director regarding bat hazard in building #1, #3, plus skunks living under building #3
- * Assigned contact in Governor's Office: Madeline Burak, Director of Community Outreach & Constituent Affairs
- * Planning meeting with Governor's Policy Advisor (January 18) to address 2023 Legislative Session and future budget building. Discussion included Tuition waiver to include Native American learners living attending Nevada High Schools, without state residency; 100% general fund monies for NIC budgets
- * Brainstorming session with Silver State Exchange team regarding secondary insurance for Tribal citizens
- * During Jan. 11 Nevada State Board on Geographic Names first hearing of proposed name Gridley Peak in Lander County, supported Yomba Shoshone Chair's suggestion not to move a generalized name forward, and encouraged Yomba Shoshone Nation to formally propose a traditional Shoshone name for the landmark.

STANDING MEETINGS

- * Governor's Cabinet
- * Tribal Food Task Force Calls
- * National Delegation Staffers (Senator Catherine Cortez-Mastos and Senator Jacky Rosen)
- * Naval Air Station-Fallon Withdrawal Updates
- * Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN)
- * Internal Executive Branch on Lithium Topics
- * University of Nevada NAGPRA Working Group
- * Weekly meeting with Governor's Office Liaison

01/18/22_ 7 pm