

Nevada Indian Commission Executive Director Report

January 29, 2024

BUDGET

Nevada Indian Commission - 2600

Legislative Approved Budget = \$20,991,447*

Available Balance = \$10,349,299

Stewart Indian School Cultural Center - 2601

Legislative Approved Budget = \$428,677

Available Balance = \$203,744

Gift Fund

FY2023 Balance = \$57,545

**Includes \$20 million for ARPA subgrants, \$245,585 for administration fees of those grants, \$110,064 for opioid prevention coordinator. NIC budget includes 75% funding from General Fund and \$89,833 funding from NDTCA. SISCCM budget includes 38% funding from General Fund and \$267,618 from NDTCA.*

NOTABLES

- Nevada Recovery Funds / American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) applications approved and deliver of \$714,000 pending to three Tribal Nations (Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Winnemucca Indian Colony, and Walker River Paiute Tribe). Five applications pending approval from GFO. Three applications returned for revisions, and NIC assisting 18 other Tribes with application. New deadline for application submission, Thursday, February 29, 2024
- Helped facilitate collaboration between Silver State Health Insurance Exchange and Tribal Health Directors regarding health coverage for non-insured Tribal citizens, paid by Tribal governments to save healthcare costs; On-line application currently being built
- In September 2023, Nevada Indian Commission assigned new Governor's Office team leads: Tim Robb and Chase McNamara
- Launched civic engagement taskforce to address election services and legislature system to support statewide, nonpartisan focus on Native American matters; Commissioners Tiger, Wadsworth and Emm attended the event, September 20-22, 2023

STAFFING

- June 12, 2023 Valerie Seukteoma (Washoe) resigned as AA III to join US Postal Service
- December 15, 2023 offered SISCC&M Curator II/Education Coordinator; Offer rejected due to insufficient salary
- January 8, 2024 Maradan Moyle (Northern Paiute) reassigned from DOC to NIC as AA III
- Continuing search for health and human services management analyst, opioid prevention coordinator; & curator II/education coordinator

STANDING MEETINGS

- Governor's Cabinet (last on January 17, 2024)
- National Delegation Staffers, Senator Jacky Rosen (last on August 23, 2023)
- Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (last on December 28, 2023)

STANDING MEETINGS (continued)

- Tribal Health Directors (September 14, 2023)
- Governors' Interstate Indian Council (November 29, 2023)
- Western Governors' Association State-Tribal Liaison Network (October 18, 2023)
- Nevada Smart from the Start Energy & Infrastructure Consortium (September 25, 2023)

MEDIA COVERAGE

[The Art of Ben Aleck Honors Career of Indigenous Numu \(Northern Paiute\) Artist and Educator](#)

Rebecca Eckland, August 1, 2023

[Yerington Teen, Family to Host Remembrance Run For The Third, Final time](#)

Maria Palma, KUNR Public Radio, August 10, 2023

[Portion of I-15 Renamed Under NDOT Program](#)

Mick Akers, Las Vegas Review-Journal, September 11, 2023

[‘It encourages me’: Tribal Educational Center Aims to Close Achievement Gaps](#)

Jessica Hill, Las Vegas Review-Journal, September 15, 2023

[Places We’ve Been: Never to Be Forgotten](#)

Clay Hall, Reno Type, September 25, 2023

[Proclamations: A Day in Honor of Chairman Arlan Melendez](#)

Nevada Governor Joe Lombardo @nv.gov, October 21, 2023

[Sometimes Overlooked By Campaigns, Native Voters Could Decide Major Elections in 2024](#)

Ximena Bustillo, PBS Morning Edition, November 21, 2023

[Arlan D. Melendez Retires After 32 years as Chairman of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony](#)

Maria Palma, KUNR Public Radio, November 27, 2023

[‘Servant of the People’: Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Chair Retires After 31 years](#)

Carly Sauvageau, The Nevada Independent, December 22, 2023

[A Lifetime of Service: Arlan Melendez Retires After Decades at Helm of the RSIC](#)

Frank X. Mullen, Reno News & Review, December 27, 2023

PRESENTATIONS / WELCOMES

- Northern Nevada International Center (NNIC)
“Combating Government Corruption”
August 18, 2023 at Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum
- 69th Annual Education Law Association
“Marginality and Mattering: Historical and Contemporary Issues in Education Law”
October 26, 2023 at Nugget Casino Resort, Sparks, Nev.

- 7th Annual Nevada Youth Homeless Summit
“Intersectionality of public/private partnerships from southern, northern, rural, Tribal representatives for housing and services, fundraising, policy, and systems” and
“Exploration of opportunities, challenges, similarities and differences by regional leaders”
November 8, 2023 at Smith Center for the Performing Arts, Las Vegas
- Conference of the Americas For International Education
“How a 134-Year Old Federal Education Policy Still Impacts Native Learners Today”
November 7, 2023 at Mirage Resort, Las Vegas
- 2023 American Planning Association Nevada Chapter Annual State Conference
“Nevada’s Native American and Indigenous Communities: Exploring Tribal Sovereignty in the Context of Community and Economic Development”
October 17, 2023 at Tahoe Blue Event Center; Stateline, Nevada
- Nevada department of Education Brown Bag Speaker Series
“How a 134-Year Old Federal Education Policy Still Impacts Native Learners Today”
November 14, 2023 via Virtual Presentation
- Hosted Nevada Lt. Governor Stavros Anthony and State Assembly Minority Leader PK O’Neill
January 8, 2024 at the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum
- Northern Nevada International Center/International Visitor Leadership Program
“Human and Civil Rights Advocacy and Awareness Outcomes in Native Communities”
January 19, 2024 at the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center & Museum

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH EVENTS HELD THROUGHOUT NOVEMBER 2023

- Developed, circulated daily social media posts about new laws impacting our Tribal Nations
- Clark County Board of Commissioners changed lights for Fabulous Las Vegas Welcome Sign
- "Key to the Strip" presented to Tribal Chairs; organized by Native Voters Alliance Nevada
- UNLV issues Proclamation declaring Indigenous Peoples' Day
- San Manuel Gaming and Hospitality Authority|Palms + UNLV Diversity hosted reception/film screening “Imagining The Indian” at Brenden Theatres inside Palms Casino Resort
- Stewart Indian School Cultural Center travelling exhibit debuted at Lilly Museum at the UNR
- Moderated After Screening Discussion “Stewart Indian School: Home of the Braves”
Lilly Museum at University of Nevada
- PBS Reno Screening of Native America, “New Worlds” at UNR at Wells Fargo Auditorium
- Orange Shirt Day and Walk at University of Nevada
- University of Nevada Women’s Basketball Game Featuring RSIC Pow Wow Dancers
- Sawabemuhano / Good Medicine Heritage Month Celebration

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS / ONGOING PROJECTS

- Olympic Gold Medalist Billy Mills provided keynote for 3rd Remembrance Run which honored children who survived Indian boarding schools (August 13, 2023)
- Represented Governor Lombardo at Reno-Sparks Indian Colony’s Chairman Arlan Melendez’s retirement gala (October 21, 2023)

- Participated in NDOT Think Tank Forum on infrastructure future for State (November 11, 2023)
- Attended Native Organizers Alliance Retreat to finalize community survey collection strategies and develop civic engagement plan (December 11-14, 2023)
- Represented Governor Lombardo during United States Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra's visit to Reno-Sparks Tribal Health Center to address health care costs, access in Tribal communities (December 15, 2023)

OTHER OUTREACH

- Connected UNLV Anthropology Professor with Tribal Historic Preservation Officer re: NAGPRA
- Attended Open House for Guinn Center (October 26, 2023)
- Meeting w/ US Census Tribal Relations Specialist (August 29, 2023)
- Meeting w/ Tribal Health Directors, UNLV School of Public Health Team (September 14, 2023)
- Organized Meeting between Bureau of Indian Affairs, Nevada Public Safety, and Governor's Office senior staff about MOU for fire, major crimes law enforcement assistance (November 15)
- Represented the Nevada Indian Commission at Services for fallen Pyramid Lake Tribal Police Officer Anthony Francone (September 9, 2023)
- Represented the Nevada Indian Commission at NDOT Ceremony for installation of names on Nevada Highways for fallen BIA Officers Jack Lee Spencer Sr., and Creighton Travis Spencer (September 11, 2023)