

**Journal #2758**

**from sdc**

**1.3.13**

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**[Why Idle No More Matters | Honor the Earth](#)**

**[www.honorearth.org](http://www.honorearth.org)**

By Winona LaDuke--As Attawapiskat Chief Theresa Spence enters her third week on a hunger strike outside the Canadian capital building, thousands of protesters in Los Angeles, London, Minneapolis and New York City, voice their support. Spence and the protesters of the Idle No More Movement, are drawi...

[William Kakegamic's photo](#)

**[Brown Brudder](#)**

John Condo

Yesterday at 4:55am near Sudbury, Ontario ·

This is a letter to the Editor from a retired Canadian Armed Forces officer. IDLE NO MORE!!!

Dear Editor,

For the past 3 weeks I have been following the Hunger Strike of Chief Theresa Spence and the aboriginal movement Idle No More.

To the dismay of our Aboriginal People's both in Canada and around the world, Stephen Harper continues to ignore the plight and dedication of the First Nations on Reserves across Canada.

As a former soldier, I recall 11 July 1990 when, under a Progressive Conservative government, the Canadian Forces were dispatched to Oka, Quebec due to a crisis. The crisis involved a private company building a golf course on Native land! That crisis lasted until 26 September 1990 and many of our soldiers felt sick to know our government pitted our military against Canadian citizens because private business tried to steal their land.

Jump ahead to the Fall of 2011, six months after receiving a fraudulent majority government, and Stephen Harper is starting his destruction of First Nations communities. After Chief Spence declared an emergency, Stephen Harper put a Third Party Manager in charge of Attawapiskat's finances and did everything possible to cover over the abuse that had been forced upon a community, many of it's citizens were living in tents and shacks. It should be noted that by early Spring, the Third Party Manager confirmed that there were no mistakes in funding and the community had spent the money properly, much to the horror of the Conservatives.

Fall of 2012, the Conservative Government passes Bill C-45, an omnibus budget bill that loosens the grip of Treaty Rights to Aboriginal Lands and Waterways, even though it can't be done without changing the Constitution. This means large corporations and mining companies can take away aboriginal lands, the aboriginal people would have to fight it in court before they could stop it. By the time it is stopped, the damage will have been done, kind of like having to sue a burglar but you can't stop them until it is heard in court. Imagine being in that position!

My Point: What I witness in Oka, Quebec in the Summer of 1990 will be comparable to a playground tussle between two kids compared to what will happen if Chief Spence dies. In Oka, there were Mohawk members from the USA who came across to fight with the Mohawk First Nations. Given the amount of coverage the Idle No More movement is getting and the many First Nation Bands involved from coast to coast to coast, the Conservative Government could find itself like General Custer at the Battle of the Little Big Horn.

Stephen Harper: Do the right thing, meet with Chief Spence and stop this childish game with another person's life! Your ancestors learnt from their stupidity when rebels burned their home in Nova Scotia (Christopher Harper) so get over yourself and be a man. Your government spent millions of dollars thanking our First Nations (albeit the 200 year old dead Warriors from the War of 1812) for helping win Canada from the American invasion. To turn around and do what you did this Fall is just a slap in the face of all First Nation and Aboriginal people's.

Robin Brentnall, CD  
Gambo, NFLD

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## [NMA class explores arrow-making](#)

Kids' Corner at the Nevada Museum of Art presents classes on Great Basin arrow-making on Jan. 12.

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**Joan (Freiburghouse) Bannan** - I'm the Application Manager for the AT&T Educational web site, **The Knowledge Network Explorer** (KNE) HYPERLINK "<http://www.kn.att.com>" <http://www.kn.att.com>. It's a web site that AT&T offers free in appreciation of educators where they can build web pages for their students using the Filamentality tool.

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## **Nevada Legislature Convenes February 4: Some emergent legislation that your tribal admin may want to monitor:**

[AB2](#)            26-175            Dec 19, 2012

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining

*Revises provisions governing the Land Use Planning Advisory Council. (BDR 26-175)*

[AB18](#)            35-363            Dec 19, 2012

Transportation

*Revises provisions governing the relinquishment of state highways to local governments and the relinquishment of local roads to the Department of Transportation. (BDR 35-363)*

[AB20](#)            50-321            Dec 19, 2012

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Mining

*Revises provisions governing agriculture. (BDR 50-321)*

[AB27](#)            23-335            Dec 20, 2012

Government Affairs

*Expands the category of personnel of the Department of Public Safety upon whom the powers of a peace officer are conferred. (BDR 23-335)*

[AB55](#)            15-337            Dec 20, 2012

Judiciary

*Imposes an additional penalty for an attempt or conspiracy to commit certain crimes against older or vulnerable persons. (BDR 15-337)*

[AB56](#)            40-336            Dec 20, 2012

Health and Human Services

*Increases the penalty for the first offense of unlawfully selling a controlled substance to a minor. (BDR 40-336)*

[AB57](#)            18-373            Dec 20, 2012

Government Affairs

*Revises provision governing the biennial report of the activities of the Nevada Equal Rights Commission. (BDR 18-373)*

[AB58](#) 37-303 Dec 20, 2012

Government Affairs

*Revises various provisions relating to veterans. (BDR 37-303)*

[AB60](#) 7-217 Dec 20, 2012

Judiciary

*Establishes requirements for solicitation of charitable contributions by nonprofit corporations and other charitable organizations. (BDR 7-217)*

[SB2](#) 20-174 Dec 19, 2012

Government Affairs

*Grants power to local governments to perform certain acts or duties which are not prohibited or limited by statute. (BDR 20-174) See especially Section 17 ~3*

[SB8](#) 32-300 Dec 19, 2012

Revenue and Economic Development

*Clarifies the wholesale price upon which the tax on certain tobacco products is calculated. (BDR 32-300)*

[SB11](#) 45-347 Dec 19, 2012

Natural Resources

*Prohibits the possession in Nevada of wildlife that was acquired, hunted, taken or transported in violation of a law or regulation of another state or country. (BDR 45-347)*

[SB23](#) 19-288 Dec 20, 2012

Government Affairs

*Establishes "Nevada Tribes Legislative Day" as a day of observance. (BDR 19-288)*

[SB31](#) 5-385 Dec 20, 2012

Judiciary

*Provides for the sharing of information regarding certain children among child welfare agencies, schools, courts, probation departments and treatment providers. (BDR 5-385)*

[SB48](#) 18-289 Dec 20, 2012

Revenue and Economic Development

*Revises the composition of the Commission on Tourism. (BDR 18-289)*

[SB50](#) 32-257 Dec 20, 2012

Revenue and Economic Development

*Revises provisions governing the annual determination of population of towns, townships, cities and counties. (BDR 32-257)*

[SB58](#)            34-396            Dec 20, 2012  
Education  
*Revises provisions relating to distance education. (BDR 34-396)*

[SB59](#)            34-397            Dec 20, 2012  
Education  
*Eliminates a restriction on times during which a charter school may use school buildings owned by a school district. (BDR 34-397)*

**BDRS that may become bills to watch:**

**562 - Senator Manendo**  
Revises provisions relating to empowering parents to improve K-12 public education.

**48-578 Legislative Commission (NRS 218E.150)**  
Abolishes the Columbia Basin Interstate Compact Commission of the State of Nevada.

**586- Senator Hammond**  
Makes various changes relating to hunting.

**589 - Senator Settelmeyer**  
Makes various changes relating to wildlife.

**594 - Assemblyman Ellison**  
Joint Requester: Senator Goicoechea  
Addresses various issues relating to the management of public lands in the State of Nevada.

**608 - Assemblywoman Swank**  
Revises provisions governing graffiti offenses on protected sites in this State.

**617 - Assemblywoman Fiore**  
Revises provisions governing the truancy of pupils.

**620- Senator Segerblom**  
Makes various changes concerning mines and mining claims.

**631 - Senator Goicoechea**  
Includes participation by local governments in monitoring, management and mitigation of water resources.

**Senator Settelmeyer**  
SJR: Claims sovereignty under the Tenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.  
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**Worms Produce Another Kind of Gold for Growers**  
By [JIM ROBBINS](#)            NYT            December 31, 2012

SONOMA, Calif. — Under rows of old chicken sheds, Jack Chambers has built an empire of huge metal boxes filled with cattle manure and millions of wriggling red worms.

“My buddies all had planes and boats,” said Mr. Chambers, 60, a former airline pilot. “I have a worm farm.”

Mr. Chambers’s two decades of investment in what he calls an “underground movement” may be paying off. New research suggests that the product whose manufacture he helped pioneer, a worm-created soil additive called vermicompost, offers an array of benefits for plants — helping them grow with more vigor, and making them more resistant to disease and insects, than those grown with other types of composts and fertilizers.

The earthworm’s digestive process, it turns out, “is a really nice incubator for microorganisms,” said Norman Q. Arancon, an assistant professor of horticulture at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

And these microbes, which multiply rapidly when they are excreted, alter the ecosystem of the soil. Some make nitrogen more available to plant roots, accounting for the increased growth. The high diversity and numbers of microbes outperform those in the soil that cause disease.

By contrast, Dr. Arancon said, soil that has been heavily exposed to synthetic fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides lacks microbial richness and diversity, qualities that can be restored naturally by adding the microbes from worms.

Some experts and entrepreneurs hope earthworms can also help with another problem: the growing piles of animal waste from dairy farms and other agricultural operations.

[Worm Power](#), a company in Avon, N.Y., transforms 10 million pounds of manure from a single dairy herd each year — about 40 percent of the cattle’s output — into 2.5 million pounds of vermicompost. Tom Herlihy, a former municipal waste engineer who founded the company in 2003, says it has raised more than \$6 million in venture capital and \$2 million in grants for research, much of it at Cornell University.

Here in Northern California, Mr. Chambers’s [Sonoma Valley Worm Farm](#) produces about half a million pounds of similar compost, an amount he plans to increase in the spring. He loads a long metal bin with cow manure and 300,000 to 400,000 *Eisenia fetida*, or red wigglers — weighing 300 to 400 pounds. In their wake, the worms leave cattle waste that has been processed into rich and crumbly castings that look like fine peat moss.

It takes six months for a vermicompost bed to become fully mature, by which time a million worms roam the manure. Mr. Chambers continues to add two yards of manure and harvest one yard of worm compost weekly. The finished product is shaved, an inch at a time, off the bottom of the bin. An established bed can go on this way for years.

Both operations pre-compost their manure before they fork it over to the worms. That means piling it up and allowing it to get naturally hot enough to kill unwanted seeds and pathogens like *E. coli*.

The properties of worm compost are different from fertilizer or manure. “It’s interesting and complicated,” said Rhonda Sherman, an extension specialist at North Carolina State University who has taught vermicomposting around the world for more than 30 years and who holds an [annual conference](#) on the subject.

“Certain plants might react well to vermicompost from dairy manure,” she said, “and other plants might react better to food-waste vermicompost.” That has led to “boutique composting,” with different blends for different kinds of plants.

A West Coast company, [California Soils](#), uses worms to break down cardboard waste fibers that are too short to be recycled. The glue used to bind the paper serves as an important source of nitrogen for the worms. “It’s a really good product for nut farmers and stone fruit farmers,” Mitch Davis, a company spokesman, said of the compost, adding that it also helps control nutgall, a fungal disease that afflicts walnut trees.

Worms were said to be Darwin’s favorite organism, and for good reason: it seems they can break down most anything. Studies have shown they can detoxify soil with cadmium, lead and other heavy metals.

Another product made from worm waste is a concentrate, sometimes called tea, that Mr. Chambers extracts using an aerator. Dr. Arancon said even a 1 percent solution of the extract had the same properties as vermicompost.

At Cornell, Eric Nelson, a plant pathologist, is studying how compost suppresses disease. Worm Power’s product, he says, does a better job than traditional compost, perhaps because the worm compost is highly uniform. “The key is understanding why these microbes do what they do,” Dr. Nelson said. Then, perhaps, the mechanism can be enhanced, he said.

The worm compost is considered valuable enough to fetch almost 10 times the price of other composts.

Still, the industry suffers from image problems. “It’s hard to bring it out of the ‘It’s cute to have a worm box in my backyard’ approach and put it on par with other strategies for waste management,” said Allison Jack, who earned her doctorate by studying vermicompost at Cornell and is now teaching at Prescott College in Arizona.

The quality of products varies widely, and because there are no industry standards, anyone can call a product vermicompost.

For a time, the worm business was a haven for swindlers. Companies would sell worms to growers, who were told they could raise more worms and produce vermicompost, which they could then sell back. Some of these offers turned out to be [Ponzi schemes](#).

Still, the properties of vermicompost have long been recognized by growers. [Jeff Dawson, the curator of gardens](#) at the Round Pond Estate winery in the Napa Valley, swears by Mr. Chambers’s castings, which he has used for more than a decade.

“A cup or half a cup in the hole as we plant each vine increases the vine’s ability to establish itself at a much faster pace,” Mr. Dawson said. “And it creates a healthier plant.”

This being California, some of Mr. Chambers’s customers are [medical marijuana](#) growers, and he likes the way growers do business. “They hand you cash,” he said.

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***Carolyn Harry wrote: Very simply, dad died to teach us to live. He brought us back to ceremony and prayer. Dad did everything for us, but his final gift takes care of our next seven generations.. As said by an elder last week, the more Indian we become, the more human we are. Our dad gave his life so we, his grandchildren, and great grandchildren can be human. :)***

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The Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management Nevada will hold a joint meeting of its **three Resource Advisory Councils** at John Ascuaga’s Nugget, 1100 Nugget Avenue in Sparks, on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1.

The meeting is open to the public, and a public comment period will be available.

The Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin RAC, the Northeastern Great Basin RAC and the Mojave-Southern Great Basin RAC each have 15 members that represent a variety of public land interests. The Nevada RACs advise the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM Nevada state director, on planning and management issues associated with public land management in Nevada.

An agenda will be posted two weeks before the meeting at [www.blm.gov/nv](http://www.blm.gov/nv).

Individuals who plan to attend and need further information about the meeting or need special assistance such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations can contact Chris Rose at 775-861-6480 or email: [crose@blm.gov](mailto:crose@blm.gov).

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**ELY** — The federal Bureau of Land Management has begun work on a \$4.8 million facility in eastern Nevada to store tons of native seeds for use rehabilitating and restoring ecosystems in the Great Basin and Mojave Desert.

The Ely Times [reported](#) the nearly 17,000-square-foot **Ely Seed Warehouse** will be built east of the White Pine County Industrial Park.

Construction is expected take several months.

It’s paid for with funds from federal land sales under the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act.

Officials said the building will be capable of dry-storing 800,000 pounds of seeds and cold-storing another 100,000 pounds.

BLM National Seed Coordinator Paul Krabacher said cold storage is especially important for sagebrush seed, which is harvested in late fall and early winter.



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## **Native Seed Search: More Cool Corn**

Market farmer and naturalist Anthony Boutard joins us from Oregon to discuss the wonder and beauty of corn in America. His new book *Beautiful Corn* weaves together this unique plant's contribution to our culture, its distinctive biology and the practical information needed to grow and enjoy it at home. Anthony will be a special guest at Grain School this year, teaching the challenges and rewards of growing heritage grains.

**Thursday, January 10**                      **6 - 8 pm**                      **Free**  
@ NS/S Conservation Center              3584 E. River Road                      Tucson

## **Medicine As Close As Your Backyard**

Learn the magic of our native flora and their abilities to heal everything from allergies and asthma to gallstones and bee stings. In this fascinating talk, Sonoran herbalist John Slattery of Desert Tortoise Botanicals will focus on three native perennial plants and their vast medicinal uses. You will learn how to cultivate these plants and turn them into medicine in your very own kitchen.

Native Seeds/SEARCH Salons happen every third Monday of the month, now at the NS/S Conservation Center. Bring your juiciest ideas and appetite for mind-watering conversations.

**Monday, January 21, 2012**                      **6 - 8 pm**                      **Free**  
@ NS/S Conservation Center                      3584 E. River Road                      Tucson

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## **National Native Museum Training Program (NNMTP) Update**

### **NATHPO Announces Two New Online Courses**

#### **"Introduction to Museum Security"**

Instructor: Stevan P. Layne

Price: \$150

**February 4 through March 1, 2013**

Description:

World events continually remind us just how important security is. The FBI and Interpol databases record thefts from small rural museums and world renowned art collections. The prevalence of collections lost to theft is brought home to us with regular sensational newspaper stories. And then there are the internal thefts, fires, and collection vandalism that also result in loss. Security must be a priority for every museum, regardless of size. Introduction to Museum Security teaches basic, practical approaches to protecting against threats such as theft, vandalism, violent acts, natural disasters, fire and environmental hazards. Topics include selecting security systems, determining security needs and how to build affordable security systems. Screening, hiring, firing, workplace violence, policies and procedures and emergency management planning are covered as well.

For more information and to apply online, go to:

<http://www.nathpo.org/NNMTP/IntroMuseumSecurity.html>

## **"Basics of Collections Management and Native American Military Collections"**

Instructor: Peggy Shaller

Price: \$150

**March 4 - 29, 2013**

Description:

Most museum collections drive the public functions and activities of the cultural institution. Collections management is the physical and intellectual management of these items and plays a critical role in the museum's operation. In this course we will examine how information is collected and recorded for each object brought into the collection - a process called registration. Good paper records are essential before entering information into a database. Learn how database information is recorded and the formats for information retrieved from a database. We will also examine the policies that govern what is brought into the collection, including the most important piece of institutional policy -- the museum mission statement. In an effort to serve the unique needs of tribal museums, this course also includes a section to address an underserved area of collections in tribal museums -- Native American military objects. We will look at some of the things to keep in mind when dealing with, collecting, caring for, and displaying objects resulting from veteran's military service in the US Armed Forces. Military items may include uniforms, wartime awards and designations, photographs, weapons, and sensitive items which may require special handling.

For more information and to apply online, go to:

<http://www.nathpo.org/NNMTP/CollectionsManagement.html>

Logistics:

\* Participants work through sections on their own. Materials and resources include online literature, slide lectures and dialogue between students and instructors through online forums. The course is limited to 20 participants.

\* Students must be staff at a tribal institution and meet NATHPO qualifications. This course is subsidized by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through a grant awarded to NATHPO.

\* Northern States Conservation Center is aiding this initiative by providing online courses in 2013.

\* Registration fee for each course: \$150

\* Questions? Please contact NATHPO at (202) 628-8476 or send an email message to [bambi@nathpo.org](mailto:bambi@nathpo.org)

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