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Sage in one hand. Sweetgrass in the other. Tribal Reclamation

160th Anniversary Treaty Conference

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Sage in one hand. Sweetgrass in the other. TRIBAL RECLAMATION



160th Anniversary Treaty Conference

Mary Gibson is organizing this fundraiser to benefit Noowuh Knowledge Center.

Our organization recently started a new fundraising campaign for the 3rd annual Ruby Valley Treaty conference. The conference centers on the 1863 Ruby Valley Treaty of Peace and Friendship. We gather for 3 days to pay homage to our ancestors and to commemorate the treaty by sharing Western Shoshone history, language, storytelling, song and and dance. As a 501(c)(3) Certified Charity whose mission is to "educate, preserve, and protect the past, present, future culture, history and stories of the Shoshone and Great Basin Indians", we're very excited to involve our community in our latest fundraising efforts.

With these funds, our organization will be able to pay for honorariums and travel and lodging for cultural practitioners knowledgeable in Shoshone customs and traditions, a videographer and photographer for documenting the event, and lastly, the funds raised will be used for catering meals. This fundraising campaign will ensure that the Indigenous knowledge our elders hold and share at the conference is documented and transferred to the next generation who have been lost to our history, identity and heritage due to the effects of colonization and assimilation.

In order to meet our fundraising goal, it will truly take a village. Are you able to support this incredible cause? Any amount you can contribute will make a difference—even \$5. Our budget and donation request is as follows:

- 5 cultural consultants @ \$300.00 ea. x days = \$1,500.00
- 2 cultural consultant honorariums @ \$150.00 ea. x 1 day = \$300.00
- 1 videographer fee @ \$500.00 per day x 3 days = \$1,500.00
- 4 hotel rooms for 3 cultural consultants and 1 videographer = \$1,808.00
- 3 cultural consultants auto travel @ \$200.00 ea. = \$600.00
- 1 round trip airfare for videographer ABQ to ELKO = \$750.00
- Post production video and photo products = \$1,298.00
- Catering services for breakfast, lunch, dinner based on 100 people x 2 days = \$13,700.00
- Total \$21,456.00

We appreciate your consideration and hope that you will help Noowuh Knowledge Center acknowledge the 160th anniversary of the treaty by donating.

Aisha Aisha (thank you) Mary Gibson, Director, Noowuh Knowledge Center The Noowuh (Shoshone) Knowledge Center is hosting the 3rd Annual Ruby Valley Treaty Conference on September 29, 30, and October 1, 2023. It also the 160th anniversary of the treaty. We have a-ways to go regarding fundraising. We'd really like to hire a videographer/photographer to document this important and monumental event, and to provide meals for the conference attendees. Please consider donating. Any amount you can give is appreciated. The 3-day event is filled with discussions and activities centered on Shoshone culture and treaty history, cultural practices, and the political, social, legal and environmental concerns surrounding our treaty lands. Below is the link to the Go Fund Me appeal:

https://gofund.me/3437fe8d

NEW! Update your calendar & join us in St. Paul - Oct. 31 - Nov. 2, 2023!

The National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC), in partnership with HUD's Office of Office of Native American Programs American Programs (ONAP), is pleased to announce the final dates for the HUD ONAP National Tribal Housing Summit taking place on October 31 - November 2, 2023, at the InterContinental Riverfront in St. Paul, Minnesota.

This three-day learning and networking opportunity includes 60 breakout sessions, tradeshow, and community activities. Daily plenary sessions feature remarks from local and tribal leaders and talks by partners in housing and community development.

Final registration, hotel info, and an agenda-at-a-glance are located on the event website: https://cvent.me/ZKXnb0.

Who Should Attend?

Tribal housing board members, directors & administrators Tribal housing program staff & employees Tribal leaders Housing partners Federal, state, county representatives

Reasons to Attend:

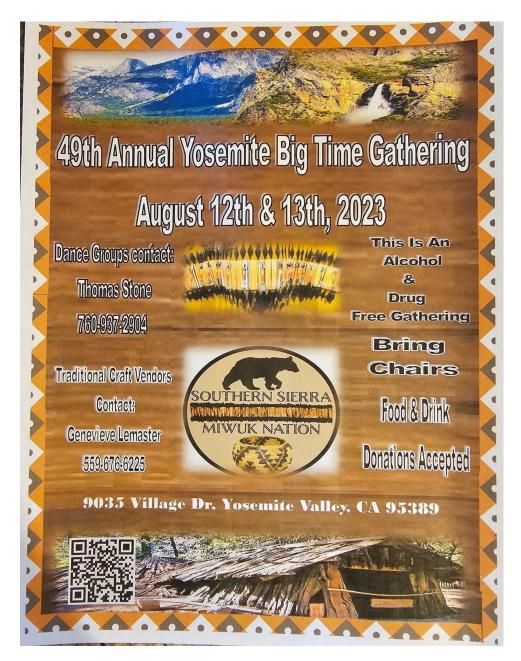
- Access to over 60 breakout sessions
- Network with fellow housing professionals Connect with national, state & local housing leaders
- -Participate in a local Community Engagement Activity Explore the area on a Healthy Walk

Extended Deadline Date for Call for Proposals

If you responded to the first Call for Proposal, please check your availability for the new event dates – October 31-November 2, 2023. Tribal housing leaders and professionals, subject matter experts, and housing partners are invited to answer the Call for Proposals and submit a workshop idea by July 31, 2023. Share your best practices and case studies in the following topic areas: crime prevention, asset building, culture and food sovereignty, homelessness, energy, empowering youth, community wellness, urban Indian housing, development, and federal partner updates.

Follow the CFP Guidelines to submit a proposal. For questions, contact Erla Sagg at esagg@naihc.net

Submit a proposal and find more info at: https://naihcweb.wufoo.com/forms/xnyi0pk06jgz69/



Toad's endangered listing forces Ormat, Interior to rethink proposed geothermal project

unr.edu

Mackay student team takes second place in national competition | University of Nevada, Reno The competition is focused on carbon management

The team, named "Biggest Little Lithium", is comprised of undergraduate students Alexia Carver, Trista McLaughlin and Ash Thompson, and graduate student Kamal Mousavi. The team was mentored by Department of Mining and Metallurgical Engineering Professor Ehsan Vahidi.

This time it's different? The rush to mine Indigenous lands.

Mark Trahant, ICT

Black Hills is seen from Black Elk Peak. (Photo by Makenzie Huber/South Dakota Searchlight)

WASHINGTON – This won't be an easy conversation: Can tribal nations love mining? Or at least accept mining as a necessary step in the creation of a clean economy? And can governments and international mining companies figure out how to respect and work fairly with Indigenous communities?

The conversation is weighted by history. The mining industry, and governments, have to sell the idea that, this time it's different. This time the industry will respect cultural and religious sites. This time the industry will clean up its own mess. This time it will reward tribal communities as owners instead of serving up resources as colonies.

Why would anyone believe that? Why should a tribe expect this time to be different?

"The question is how likely is it that we can hit a reset button, especially with the Indigenous populations because the history is not good," said former North Dakota Sen. Heidi Heitkamp. "The history from the very beginning, beginning with colonization and leading to exploitation ... And when you find minerals, say step aside, and you look at the Black Hills. No one had any interest in the Black Hills until they found gold and literally violated the Laramie Treaty. And you know, people don't wanna hear that, but that's the truth. And so what, what about today, would tell anyone that it was gonna be different?"

She said there has to be a realistic conversation about the energy transition and what that means to people.

This is particularly important with Indigenous communities because there is a history of lies from industry and the government. But now that's where the minerals are located.

"So how do we collectively in this country figure out how we're gonna create one policy? Well, I think we've gone a long way in this report to acknowledge the past, because you cannot fix this without acknowledgement of the past and reparations for the past," Heitkamp said. "That's the dirty little secret here. And the second thing that you have to do is to build trust."

Kate Finn, Osage, executive director of First Peoples Worldwide, said the only way to answer the question about why "this time is different" is a direct confrontation. "We have to acknowledge that consultation policies are not comprehensive enough to cover all of the risks of mining. We need to understand that those past patterns of engagement will repeat unless they are changed. So I think we have to understand that there's not going to be trust that mining is clean or that mining is for a good purpose."

One of those good purposes involves climate change and the urgent need for a transition away from fossil fuels. A White House briefing paper describes the problem:

"Critical minerals provide the building blocks for many modern technologies and are essential to our national security and economic prosperity. These minerals—such as rare earth elements, lithium, and cobalt—can be found in products from computers to household appliances. They are also key inputs in clean energy technologies like batteries, electric vehicles, wind turbines, and solar panels. As the world transitions to a clean energy economy, global demand for these critical minerals is set to skyrocket by 400-600 percent over the next several decades, and, for minerals such as lithium and graphite used in electric vehicle (EV) batteries, demand will increase by even more—as much as 4,000 percent. The U.S. is increasingly dependent on foreign sources for many of the processed versions of these minerals. Globally, China controls most of the market for processing and refining for cobalt, lithium, rare earths and other critical minerals."

Indigenous communities and lands are the key to this transition. This time it's different, perhaps, because tribal nations can either be essential producers or legal obstacles and irritants.

In June, the Aspen Institute in Washington released a series of findings and policy recommendations in the report, <u>A Critical Minerals Policy for the United States</u>.

"Environmental and social issues are an essential component of the critical minerals puzzle," the report said. "A failure to balance efforts to streamline supply with these considerations will not only result in harm and injustice to local communities, but will also jeopardize supply growth as projects are subject to legal challenges and mining companies lose their social license to operate."

That phrase, social license, is where the conversation could fall apart.

"The mining industry has a long history of failing to respect community interests, including not consulting locals, breaking agreements, destroying sacred sites, and forcing displacements," Aspen said.

The result is that Indigenous communities have been "disproportionately impacted" and that includes a failure to share in the economic reward from mining.

The key point: "Without a social license to operate, mines will struggle to receive permits, raise capital, and bring minerals to market, and the United States will not realize its full potential for domestic production." And in this case a failure of domestic production has significant consequences for a warming world.

The Aspen Institute's task force makes two major recommendations: That mining projects embrace Free, Prior and Informed Consent (or FPIC) and that Congress should make sure that tribes have the financial resources and technical expertise to evaluate projects.

The very idea of Free, Prior and Informed Consent is too often unclear, Aspen found, while there is often rhetorical support from mining companies for consultation, there is less support for real consent and "whether it should constitute a veto."

The task force said one attractive alternative is to make FPIC a binding concept for tribal nations that are geographically adjacent to mining projects. A second, less stringent standard, could be

used for tribes further away that still have significant environmental and cultural ties to an area. "In both cases, the process of consultation would be required, augmented by clearer standards and guidelines from Congress on the timelines and scope for the consultation process."

Then as the Aspen report points out even without a clear standard for FPIC when tribal nations are opposed to a project they can effectively prevent project approval for decades. "A clearer understanding of what it means to withhold consent, as well as who possesses the ability to do so, will expedite the process," the Aspen report said.

Indeed, on the very day the report was being released in Washington, a coalition of tribes in Nevada continued their opposition to a <u>lithium mine at Thacker Pass</u>.

"Lithium mines and this whole push for renewable energy — the agenda of the Green New Deal — is what I like to call green colonialism," said Darinda Hinkey. She is a citizen of the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe and a leader of a group known as People of Red Mountain. "It's going to directly affect my people, my culture, my religion, my tradition."



Chart from Aspen Institute report: A Critical Minerals Policy for the United States

The Biden administration dismissed Indigenous concerns about the project and there was no attempt at Free, Prior and Informed Consent.

The Aspen report said Congress needs to clarify and enforce the rights of Indigenous people when it comes to mining.

"The Task Force recommends clarifying that Free, Prior, and Informed Consent—in the sense of consent being a requirement for progress—applies to Tribal Nations directly impacted by critical mineral development; best efforts to achieve consent should also be sought from Tribal Nations which can only claim to be affected indirectly by such development. In both cases, consultations are essential."

"The Task Force's recommendations—around permitting reform, Free Prior and Informed Consent, and Tribal Nation project equity—will help boost U.S. critical mineral supply in a manner that is economically, environmentally, and socially responsible and innovative. Even still, the United States will be unable to bring new projects online as quickly as is needed to meet future needs or completely eliminate dependence on China for refining and processing supply chains," the report said.

A second recommendation from the Aspen task force is a call for Congress to fund technical and financial resources for tribes as they evaluate and consider mining projects, including ownership. Aspen cites the work of the First Nations Major Projects Coalition, 27 nations that have joined together to access capital and technical expertise.

The goal would be for tribal nations to be full partners, even owners, giving them a seat at the table for making decisions about what is developed. "Congress can help ensure that Tribal Nations are more meaningfully invested in these projects by providing concessional financing

and loan guarantees to Tribal Nations that are interested in obtaining equity in critical mineral projects," the task force wrote.

Rethinking tribal partnerships, building technical expertise

"They're bringing those experts to First Nations and helping them review and really be a part of the project," said Collette Brown-Rodriguez, Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribe. She is the director of community and tribal relations for Avantus, a renewable energy company, and serves on Apollo Silver Company's board of directors. She said that some of that dynamic is unique to Canada's First Nations but the concept could be useful in the states. There is a reluctance to talk about mining, including from tribal leaders, because of the industry's history and practices. And, on top of that, tribal leaders are more concerned about basic needs, housing, food, and social issues.

"And we're trying to bring this very complex, whether it's renewable energy or mining projects," she said, But the tribes "don't have engineers. They don't have a hydrologist. They don't have the specialized people to really give them good feedback. So then, what ends up happening in the mining space is that we tend to hit the easy button."

And mining decisions are incredibly complex.

"It's all supply chain economics. And that's kind of why I went back to get my MBA. Because I love mining, and I love renewable energy, but I wanted to understand how the world works with all these different commodities," Brown-Rodriguez said,

She sees this as similar to people buying food in a grocery store and not knowing or thinking about where the animals come from. It's the same for everyday products that include rare earth minerals from cell phones, to computers. "It's really fascinating to kind of see how this is all playing around the world. And how it impacts Indigenous people."

The Aspen report also recommends that Congress address the issue of demand.

"Congress must make it easier to extract and process critical minerals domestically by legislating a place-based approach to critical mineral permitting and by setting timelines on project adjudication," the report said. "At the same time, Congress needs to encourage measures to reduce the demand for critical minerals, such as investing more in technology for substitutes and recycling."

The demand issue is critical. There are not enough minerals on the planet to replace every internal combustion engine with an electric vehicle. The expectations about change – and reduction – have to be a part of the solution.

"If we don't increase mining, what are the options that get us to clean energy at scale? I think we have to look at all of the different technologies and all of the different solutions to climate change," said Kate Finn. "Mining and transition mineral mining isn't the only way and green technology isn't the only way to solve climate change. It's just one way. So I think we have to look at different ways of de-growth of the economy, different ways of building supply chains. I

think we have to look at all of those solutions instead of pretending that only mining and only clean energy solutions are the only way."

Indeed without substantive change in consumer behavior, the demand equation is staggering.

"The forecast increases in demand from clean energy technologies, layered onto more stable existing demand trends, imply steep growth in total demand for many critical minerals. Consulting firm McKinsey estimates that lithium production, for example, will need to increase by more than 700 percent from 2020-2030 for the world to achieve its 1.5°C climate goals. Cobalt, neodymium, and nickel are estimated to require around 100 percent increases in supply over the same timeline.Rapid demand growth also applies to high-volume markets.

S&P Global projects that copper demand will almost double from 2021 to 2035, with annual demand expected to rise by an extraordinary 24 million metric tons."

Finn said the narrative about solar panels, EVs, etc., is a "good and useful conversation, but it's not the only conversation.

"What we need is a wider look at the whole issue. And one thing I would say to this issue of urgency is not to look at green technology as the only issue because if we look at green technology as the only solution, then yes, it's quite an urgent problem to solve. And climate change has its own urgency. But what we really need to look at is all of the solutions together, who is at the table, and how Indigenous leadership and how Indigenous solutions can be part of each one of those solutions sets."

The danger is that without a new paradigm the idea of green colonialism will become the norm.

"It often comes up, can't we increase critical transition mineral mining in order to get these solutions and then we'll come back and then we'll look at FPIC and then we'll look at Indigenous peoples. That's never been the pattern," said Finn. "Indigenous peoples have never have never been part of the conversation ... So now we need to get there, and I would say most of these technologies will take more than 10 years to come to scale. So if we start now to operationalize FPIC, to operationalize consent regimes, and to involve tribal leaders, we will be much farther in 10 years than we have been in the last hundred."

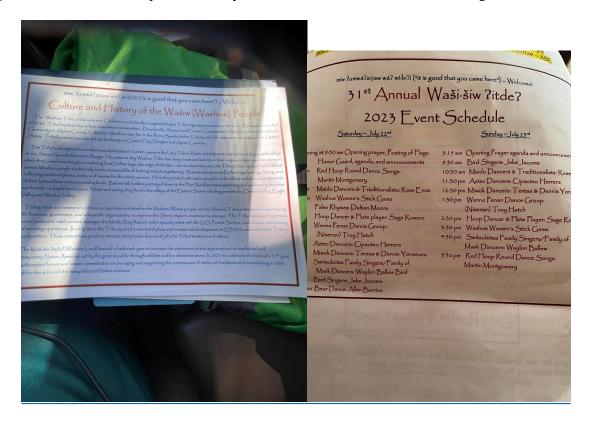
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https://www.nevadacurrent.com/2023/07/14/this-time-its-different-the-rush-to-mine-indigenous-lands/ (to see the pics)

Geoff Ellis

The Creator, knows the Wasiw as the original stewards of Da aw aga (the edge of the lake) long before the Bible was established.

The Tribes aboriginal ties to our homelands extend 10,000+ years in the Lake Tahoe Basin and adjacent east and west slopes and valleys of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range.



Native cultures are not interchangeable.

Every single Native culture is distinct and unique, though many share similarities, and lumping them together is ridiculous. And while some practices are pan-Indian, the vast majority are not.

Kokopelli isn't "Native American," He's Hopi.

Dreamcatchers aren't "Native American," they're Oiibwe.

War bonnets aren't "Native American," they're Plains Indian.

Wendigoag aren't "Native American," they're Algonquian.

Totem poles aren't "Native American," they're Northwest Coastal Indian.

Skinwalkers aren't "Native American," they're

Stop homogenizing our cultures. Every Native culture is beautiful and unique and deserves to be treated that way.

