



W UNITED TRIBES TECHNICAL COLLEGE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER R

VOL. 6 NO. 2

JANUARY 20, 1997

Weekly Menu

Jan. 20 thru Jan. 24

DINNER

- Mon.-Poor Boy Sandwich w/Turkey and Ham, Potato Chips, Potato Salad, Assorted Fresh Fruit, 2% Milk
 Tue.- Taco Salad, Hamburger, Lettuce, Cheese, Tomatoes, Onions, Taco Sauce, Assorted Fresh Fruit, 2% Milk
 Wed.- Swedish Meatballs over Noodles, Vegetable, Salad, Dessert, 2% Milk
 Thu.- French Dip w/Au Jus, Salad Bar, Tossed Salad, Assorted Fresh Fruit, 2% Milk
 Fri.- Knoephle Soup, Breaded Chicken Filet, Mashed Potatoes, Creamed Gravy, Dinner Roll, Salad Bar, 2% Milk

Jan. 27th

- Mon.- Chuckwagon Stew, Baking Powder Biscuit, Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Relish Tray, 2% Milk

SUPPER

Jan. 20 thru Jan. 24

- Mon.- Braised Beef over Noodles, Vegetable, Salad, Fresh Fruit, 2% Milk
 Tue.- Bar-B-Que Chicken, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Dinner Roll, Salad, Dessert, 2% Milk
 Wed.- Hamburger On A Bun, Soup, Salad Bar, Milk Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable, Salad,
 Thu.- Dessert, 2% Milk
 Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Vegetable, Salad Bar,
 Fri.- Dessert, 2% Milk

Jan. 27th

- Bar-B-Que Ribs, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Salad,
 Mon.- Dessert, 2% Milk

STUDENT HEALTH

Attention Students

The following students must see Student Health Center to fill out medical forms:

Wayne Bettyloun	Gerald Bagola
Lori Bid Eagle	Rodney Lavallie
Antoine Gay	Leon Romero
Darlene Grey Bear	Jada Longie
Darrell Hawk Eagle	Jewelle Brown
Lottie Home Gun	Antoine Otter Robe, Jr.
Roger Joseph	Jøel Simon
Tiffany Joseph	Tara Claymore
Raymond Mallard	Kelly Hurley
Paul Spotted War Bonnet	Jerel St. John
Norma Tiokasin	Lionel Hare
Eric Watson	Alice Big Crow
Marcus Yellow Earrings	Deloris Diegel
Arnold Douglas	Deanna First
Mary Halverson	Jolene Lavallie
Joyce Pechtel	Kimberly Rhoades
Norma Two Bulls	Donna Walking Eagle
Susan Werre	Maryann Marcellais
Mary Ankerpont	Leland Brown Jr.
Herman Good Voice Flute	Faye Howard
Vivian Lone Fight	Donnette Medicine Horse
Delvin Wolf	Joan Yellow Wolf
Christopher McLaughlin	Myrtis Baker
Dustin Hale	

Information for the
Next Newsletter
no later than January 24th
to Arrow Graphics
Attn: Sandy Erickson



STUDENT HEALTH

New Cases Reported in North Dakota

Nine new HIV infections were reported to the North Dakota Department of Health during the fourth quarter of 1996, bringing the total number of infections reported for the year to 18, according to Pam Vukelic, health department HIV/AIDS Program Manager. Since reporting began in 1984, a total of 198 infections have been reported.

Eight of the new infections were reported in males; seven were white and two American Indian; two were in the 20-29 year-old age group; six in the 30-39 year-old age group and one in the 40-49 year-old age group.

Four of the new diagnosed individuals reported male-to-male sexual contact as their risk factor; one each reported heterosexual contact, injecting drug use, and injecting drug use with male-to-male sexual contact. In addition, one case is still under investigation and one case will be labeled "unknown" because it was not possible to conduct and interview with the infected person prior to death.

The HIV infection in six of these individuals has progressed to an AIDS diagnosis, bringing the total number of AIDS reported in North Dakota since 1985 to 65.



REMINDER . . .

The Student Health Center will be starting the weight loss contest on January 26. Persons interested can enter beginning January 22 through January 26. The entry fee is \$10.00 that must be paid by January 26. Prizes will be awarded to the winners of each category. Categories will be determined by age and gender. The contest will run from January 26th through March 21st.



JOB OPPORTUNITY . . .

HELP WANTED.

\$200 - \$500 WEEKLY

Mailing phone cards. No experience necessary.

**For more information send a self-addressed
stamped envelope to:**

Globe Communication

P.O. Box 5679

Hollywood, FL 33083

OFFICE TECHNOLOGY

Outstanding Academic Success Fall Term 1996

PRESIDENT'S LIST

CHASTITY CLAUSEN
DANELLE FITZPATRICK
TERRY LEE
FRANCINE NARUM
MOLLY TENDORE
MARSHALL DEMARCE
JASHAUN IRON
LAVOYCE LOUDNER
ATHEL PROVANCIAL
ANNIE WHITE EAGLE

VICE PRESIDENT'S LIST

SHARYL BUSH
DENISE CONKLIN
CASSANDRA GOGGLES
KIM LAMBERT
FAWN WHITE MOUNTAIN
YOLANDA YOUNG BIRD

- Learning Center -

All new and returning students are welcome to come to Room 119 of the Education Building. The Learning Center provides a student study area, offers tutoring in a wide variety of courses, and provides computers for general student usage. Our hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm plus three evenings a week. Evening hours will be from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. Evening hours begin this week and will be posted on the Learning Center door on a weekly basis.

Tutoring services are available to all UTTC students through the Learning Center. There will be no scheduled times during the week for tutoring and arrangements can be made to provide tutoring as needed. Stop by the center and check with Jennifer or Jane for more complete details.

If you are interested in word-processing (this



— PLACEMENT —

the quickest and easiest way to type papers), the center has Apple Works and Word Perfect available. Students who are not familiar with computers can learn the basics of Apple Works in one short session. To use either program however, it is necessary that you have your own data disk. If you don't have a disk, one can be purchased from the campus bookstore.

All students are welcome to come to the center during the day and evening hours. We ask that you please use the sign in sheet located on the front desk. If you stop by in the morning, you can even get a cup of coffee.

LearningCenter **Evening Hours** *for the week of* **January 20-24**

Tuesday, Jan. 21 - 4 to 8 pm
Wednesday, Jan. 22 - 4 to 8 pm
Thursday, Jan. 23 - 4 to 8 pm

UTTC Nursing To Be Represented in President Clinton's Inauguration Activities

There will be Nursing representatives – among others – in President Clinton's inauguration activities. Valdon St. John, second year nursing student, will be one of the dancers in the parade. Julie Cain, a nursing graduate of two years ago, and daughter, Sonja, will also be in the dancing group.

If we watch closely, maybe we'll see them on TV.

Congratulations All!

Submitted by Sister Kathryn Zimmer
Director, AASPN Program

A big welcome to all new and returning students from the placement office. Your stay here should be a fruit bearing experience getting you on to bigger and better things.

Late coming new students are required to come to the placement office to fill out data forms, cooperative education enrollment forms and to collect informative materials you need in order for us to help you plan your future employment. It would be appreciated if faculty would provide our office with a list of their in-coming new students.

Returning students need to come in and update their data cards and see if they are eligible for Cooperative Education Internships. Remember, you need work experience before you graduate to make your degree more valuable. Cooperative Education is a program designed to get the college student out into the work force before they graduate. Student who have work experience added to their degrees will more likely be hired by employers over student's who don't. A certificate or associate's degree isn't always enough today. The employers are looking for dependable, reliable people with **experience**. Your cooperative education experience will make a difference in finding the job you want, right away.

An aid program for agricultural workers known throughout the Midwest and making itself known here on campus is "Midwest Farm Workers Employment and Training, Inc." This program will provide an income while you attend school. The requirements are as follows: You need to have worked in the last 24 months in some form of agriculture, farm/ranch work. They will specify what is admissible under their qualifications when you apply. You need to have worked 12 months consecutively in agriculture and provide them with your income tax statements and W-2 forms. Farm Workers will pay \$4.00 for every hour you are in class if you qualify. Please report to our office to see if you qualify for this program. Information will be posted for Midwest Farm Worker Employment and Training on the Placement Bulletin Boards. Thank You!

Vince Schanandore
Placement Counselor

VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION DISPLAYS

JANUARY 27 - 30, 1997

(Attention: Vocational Directors/Faculty)

The State Board of Vocational Technical Education has invited United Tribes Technical College among other colleges and High Schools throughout the state to take part in presenting their institution at the Great Hall in the Capital Building during the legislative sessions.

This exhibit will give all participating colleges and High Schools a chance to showcase to the legislative body what is taking place these days with students in the technical fields.

Karen Botine, the coordinator of the exhibit wants each institution to come up with an idea for an activity to make the exhibit more interesting to the legislators and on lookers.

My idea was to divide up the time (6 1/2 hours) during the day we were presenting (January 30, 1997) amongst all the vocations at UTTC. Each vocation could bring an activity, or visual icon representing their field for the span of time they were allotted.

The exhibit will start at 9:30 AM and end no later than 4:00 PM, January 30th, 1997. After coming back from my road trip the 22nd, I will be contacting and planning with all vocational directors who want to participate.

Please let me know what you think about this idea and give me some of your own input. You may start planning early if you wish. Shirley will be in while I am gone to answer your questions.

Thank You.

Vince Schanandore, Placement Counselor

PLACEMENT PRESENTATION ORIENTATION SPRING TERM 1997

I wish to extend a welcome to all new and returning students to United Tribes Technical College. Your time here should be very prosperous. The primary purpose of placement is to provide counseling on career planning and goals, and to find employment for you after graduation if you haven't already found it on your own. Also to find employment while you attend school here through Co-op Education internships offered through the year. Another service of the Placement Office is to provide higher education information, opportunities, and to inquire about these for students who want to go on to higher education.

The Placement Office is located on the main floor of the Education Building which is Building 31 & 32 on your campus map. On the main floor you will find the placement offices in rooms 124 & 126 which are occupied by the Placement Technician, Shirley Iron Road and myself. Shirley's extension is 226 and mine is 280. In the hall by our offices you will find binders containing Job Service announcements and job announcements from most of the Indian agencies around the nation. These supplements are updated on a daily basis.

In another part of the hall there is another rack containing higher education material along with journals, magazines and newspapers on career planning. We have about four bulletin boards in that same hall, two of which are placement bulletin boards that are used for local job announcements, national job announcements, internships, apprenticeships, fellowships and the like. Sometimes I will post job announcements on a department bulletin board dealing specifically with that particular field. For example if I get a job announcement that comes in for nursing, it might be posted in the nursing department as well as on the placement bulletin. Placement news and job announcements will be provided in UTTC's Weekly Newspaper at least once a month.

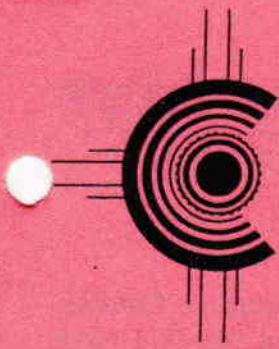
New students are required to come into the placement office to fill out data base forms. Cooperative Education enrollment forms and collect information materials that you need for us to help you plan your future. Faculty please provide this office with a list of the late students, this would be appreciated.

Returning students need to come in to update their data base cards and to see if they are eligible for Cooperative Education internship. Remember that you need work experience before you graduate to make your diploma more valuable. Cooperative Education is a program designed to get the college student out into the work force before they graduate. Students who have work experience added to their degrees will be hired by employers over students who don't. A certificate and or associate degree isn't enough these days. The employers are looking for **dependable, reliable people with EXPERIENCE.** Your Cooperative Education experience will make the difference in finding the job you want.

Please feel free to stop in and visit us, your future is important to us.

Thank You.

Vince Schanandore, Placement Counselor



Council of Energy Resource Tribes

1999 Broadway, Suite 2600
Denver, Colorado 80202-5726
(303) 297-2378
Telefax (303) 296-5690

December 15, 1995

Executive Committee:

Caleb Shields
Chairman
Fort Peck
Vice Chairman
Pueblo of Laguna
Secretary
Salish and Kootenai
Treasurer
Chippewa Cree
Cheyenne-Arapaho
Fort Berthold
San Juan Pueblo
Southern Ute
Yakama

Executive Director:

A. David Lester

Hello!

Thank you for your interest in the CERT Comprehensive Education Program. We are busy organizing and recruiting for the 1996 TRIBES and Intern programs. Enclosed is information on our programs.

The CERT Scholars fund is provided to individuals who have successfully completed the CERT Comprehensive Education programs. The Tribal Resource Institute in Business, Engineering and Science (TRIBES) is an intensive math and science enrichment program for Indian high school students, offered in the summer immediately following graduation. In addition to TRIBES, CERT offers a summer internship program for Indian undergraduate and graduate students who are pursuing study in a variety of fields.

Alumnae of TRIBES and the Internship program are eligible for scholarship assistance during their undergraduate studies, and also as graduate students. Your name is on our data base to receive the enclosed materials. If you would like further information, please contact us at (303) 297-2378.

I look forward to hearing from you in the future regarding our education programs.

Sincerely,

Karen Sandoval-Mares

Karen Sandoval-Mares
Comprehensive Education Program Intern

Enclosures



FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

The Stores Building • 11917 Main Street • Fredericksburg, VA 22408
(540) 371-5615 • Fax (540) 371-3505

For Immediate Release
November 25, 1996

For Further Information Contact:
Lela Shepard at 540 /371-5615

GREAT LAKES TRIBES TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF NATIVE AMERICANS IN CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING TRADES

First Nations Development Institute Supports Apprenticeship Initiative to Raise the Skill and Income Level of Native Americans on Wisconsin's Twelve Reservations

FREDERICKSBURG, VA – The Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Apprenticeship Initiative of Lac Du Flambeau, Wisconsin has been awarded \$30,000 from First Nations Development Institute to expand its building and construction trades apprenticeship program to increase the number of Native American apprentices, journeymen, masters, managers, and instructors on Wisconsin's twelve reservations.

The Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Apprenticeship Initiative will extend a successful program that stimulates local reservation economies, provides jobs for tribal members, encourages traditional mentorship and leadership roles, and unites tribes by providing training and an apprenticeship program on each reservation through the Wisconsin Consortium of Indian controlled colleges. Existing programs have placed 25 students (apprentices) on jobs as carpenters and electricians where they receive on the job training and get paid for their classroom instruction.

The Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Apprenticeship Initiative will increase the number of experienced elders and Native business people as mentors, instructors and role models, and link employers and apprentices through a computer job bank. "Wisconsin tribes are spending millions of dollars annually on new construction and taking control of their financial capital. Now with the apprenticeship initiative, tribes are taking the opportunity and employing the knowledge of their elders and Native American businesspeople to make use of their best resources – their people and culture," said Rebecca L. Adamson (Cherokee), president and founder of First Nations.



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NATIVE AMERICAN ORGANIZATION MARKETS 'CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE' CONFLICT RESOLUTION SKILLS NATIONALLY

First Nations Development Institute Supports Indian Dispute Resolution Services' Efforts in Resolving Conflicts Among Tribes, States, and Federal Agencies

FREDERICKSBURG, VA – Indian Dispute Resolution Services, Inc. (IDRS) of Sacramento, California, has been awarded \$50,000 from First Nations Development Institute to increase IDRS' ability to market its conflict resolution services, negotiation and mediation which empower Native American communities and help facilitate the development of community and economic projects. IDRS' services combine traditional, cultural practices with contemporary decision making and conflict resolution skills and processes. First Nations' support will enable IDRS to increase its outreach to tribes, states, federal agencies and private interests to help resolve differences that delay economic growth in Indian Country.

IDRS' workshops and technical services center around helping Native American communities develop their own capacities to collaborate and resolve conflicts. Non-adversarial conflict resolution methods are becoming a very popular and less costly option to court room litigation. IDRS is working with Native communities to develop positive working partnerships with neighboring communities. "IDRS' use of culturally appropriate conflict resolution skills -- traditional cultural values with modern techniques -- empower and equip Native Americans. By negotiating among one another, state and federal agencies, and private business partners, Native Americans will create economic opportunities for their communities and control their assets," said Rebecca L. Adamson (Cherokee), president and founder of First Nations.

IDRS was established in 1990 by a consortium of national and regional Native organizations and is a fully operational Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) organization. Since 1990, over 1,800 Native Americans have been trained in problem-solving and decision-making techniques. For additional information, please call 540/371-5615. ###



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WISCONSIN TRIBE TO EXPAND NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY

First Nations Development Institute Supports Menominee Tribal Enterprises to Ensure Economic Future

FREDERICKSBURG, VA -- Menominee Tribal Enterprises (MTE), the business arm of the Menominee Tribe of Keshena, Wisconsin, has been awarded \$30,000 from First Nations Development Institute to expand the product lines of its nationally recognized sustainable yield timber operation. First Nations' support will enable MTE to increase its production and internal management capacity to manufacture parts for windows, doors, flooring, and do-it yourself furniture while continuing to strengthen community control of its forests without endangering the natural resources.

The Menominee Tribe maintains its spiritual connection to the forest, protecting resources from over-consumption, and identifying new ways to meet the economic demands of the community. "For over 100 years, the Menominee people have harvested the forest and its resources to meet the needs of the people, while simultaneously ensuring a cultural resource. This grant will help the tribe expand its self-sufficiency and self-determination while preserving cultural traditions and beliefs," said Rebecca L. Adamson (Cherokee), president and founder of First Nations.

The sustainable yield timber program was initiated by tribal members in 1856. Rather than sell off their resources or divide the reservation into plots, the Menominee kept their forests intact, creating an island of timber surrounded by farmland. Guided by their elders' words, the Menominee people have managed the forest so successfully that today there is a greater volume of saleable timber on the reservation than when it was established in 1854.



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Lela Shepard at 540 /371-5615

VIRGINIA TRIBE FIGHTING TO PROTECT TRADITIONAL WAY OF LIFE ALONG MATTAPONI RIVER

First Nations Development Institute Supports Efforts to Ensure Economic Future for Mattaponi Tribe

FREDERICKSBURG, VA – The Mattaponi Heritage Foundation, an organization of the Mattaponi Indian Tribe of King William County, Virginia, has been granted \$5,000 from First Nations Development Institute to increase community awareness and organize around efforts to stop the development of the proposed King William County Reservoir Project. The proposed reservoir project would have harmful effects upon the traditional economy of the Mattaponi people, their plans to expand a successful shad fish hatchery, and future economic development options along the river.

The proposed reservoir project is an agreement between the city of Newport News and King William County to flood a 2,220 acre area adjacent to the Mattaponi Indian Reservation and sell the water to residents of Newport News, James City County, Williamsburg, and the lower Peninsula of Virginia.

The proposed reservoir project would prevent the Tribe from expanding a shad fish hatchery. Higher saliency levels of the river would reduce the existing shad population which is a significant food source for the Mattaponi people

The project also would flood 112 sacred Native American sites, 524 acres of vegetative nontidal wetlands, and take water directly from the Mattaponi River – from which the tribe



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December 6, 1996

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Lela Shepard at 540 /371-5615

NATIVE ALASKAN VILLAGES LOOKING TOWARD TRADITIONAL WAYS TO SUPPORT FAMILIES

First Nations Development Institute Supports Athabascan Villages in Effort to Control Local Economies Based on their Cultures

FREDERICKSBURG, VA -- The Council of Athabascan Tribal Governments (CATG) of Fort Yukon, Alaska has been awarded \$450,000 over three years from First Nations Development Institute to enhance a traditional natural resource management program and increase the control of ten tribal communities in the Yukon Flats Region over their economies.

By managing natural resources, obtaining local control over federal and state programs, and operating them based on cultural traditions and belief systems, CATG helps tribal communities determine the structure of their subsistence and related economies. The many ventures that are being developed or discussed include: a Native controlled tourism program, a telecommunications network to connect each village, a regional economic development learning institute, and a rustic furniture and log home business based on the sustainable use of timber.

"Tribes, like states, want local control over their federal programs. With tribes, the issue is more than just local control but cultural control -- so that programs reflect Native cultures and belief systems. CATG is a successful example of tribes working together to take control of their economies based on how they view and determine community problems and assets," said Rebecca L. Adamson (Cherokee), president and founder of First Nations.

CATG was created in 1985 by ten Native villages in the Yukon Flats Region of interior Alaska. CATG's goal is to create a locally controlled and culturally responsive economy for the region. In 1994, with help from a First Nations' grant, CATG initiated the development of a comprehensive natural resource management plan that incorporates traditional uses and beliefs of



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Press Release

December 20, 1996

ZUNI ENTREPRENEURIAL ENTERPRISES BECOMES THE NATION'S ONLY TRIBALLY CONTROLLED REGIONAL RECYCLING EFFORT

First Nations Development Institute Supports Zuni Efforts to Provide Modern Means for Returning to Traditional Environmental Practice and Increase Employment

FREDERICKSBURG, VA -- Zuni Entrepreneurial Enterprises, Inc. (ZEE) of Zuni, New Mexico has been awarded \$203,000 over three years from First Nations Development Institute to expand its reservation-based recycling program to include the city of Gallup, McKinley County, and 9 sites within the Navajo Nation. With this expansion, ZEE is now the only tribally controlled regional recycling effort in the country.

ZEE collects cardboard, newspapers, glass and aluminum from homes, schools, hospitals and collection centers throughout the Zuni and Navajo Reservations. ZEE employs many disabled tribal members, creating an income and activity which instills a sense of purpose, community and pride.

"ZEE's recycling program goes to the core of Native American cultures. Native Americans have always 'recycled', using every part of every animal and plant to its fullest extent. The program will provide Native American communities with a model for returning to this traditional practice, and by creating employment opportunities, the program allows Native Americans to take control of their economies and resources," said Rebecca L. Adamson (Cherokee), president and founder of First Nations.

The Zuni recycling program was created in 1990 by the Pueblo of Zuni and Zuni Entrepreneurial Enterprises (ZEE) to address the need for a comprehensive solid waste management system as well as provide employment for disabled tribal members. ZEE is also involved in food concession, grocery, and convenience store operations.

For additional information about the award or about First Nations' programs, please call

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NAVAJO LANDOWNERS TO CREATE INHERITANCE LAW

First Nations Development Institute Supports Navajo Landowners' Efforts to Regain Cultural and Economic Control Over Land

FREDERICKSBURG, VA – Navajo Landowners Rights Project (NLRP) of Crownpoint, New Mexico has been awarded \$30,000 from First Nations Development Institute to increase Navajo landowners' capacity to use their land for economic and cultural purposes. First Nations' grant will allow NLRP to develop a draft Navajo Allotment Probate Code, based on Navajo inheritance traditions which will supersede New Mexico, Utah, and Arizona inheritance laws. By developing their own code based on modern law and economics, but keeping with traditional Navajo common law, NLRP will develop a more equitable and effective tool for Navajo people to use when creating financial opportunities from their land, passing land to heirs, and protecting the land in accordance with traditional cultural practices.

NLRP educates Navajo landowners about current land allotment law, helps them negotiate land leases, and facilitates communication between landowners and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). "By educating allotment owners about their rights and setting a framework to exercise those rights with the development of the Navajo Allotment Probate Code, NLRP allows Navajo people the opportunity to use and protect the land according to their culture," said Rebecca L. Adamson, president and founder of First Nations Development Institute.

In the early 1900's, some 4,000 Navajos were 'given' allotments of 160 acres of land each by the federal government. Allotees can not lease, sell, give away or bequeath land without BIA approval. It is estimated that some 30,000 Navajos own 4,500 allotments covering more than 717,000 acres of land. The multiple owners per allotment has made it very difficult for the landowners to gain rights of way for water, roads, electric hook-ups, build homes, graze livestock, or gather herbs and minerals. The 1984 Indian Land Consolidation Act Amendments allow tribes to replace state inheritance laws by passing its own allotment probate code.

NLRP was created in 1994 as part of DNA - People's Legal Service. In 1996, with help from a First Nations' grant, NLRP became an independent organization governed by Navajo landowners seeking to gain control of their land, so that they can sustainably manage and protect it for the future. Recently, NLRP filed an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court supporting the allotment owners' argument in *Youpee v. Babbitt*.

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COALITION OF TRIBES HOPING TO TAKE LEAD IN BISON INDUSTRY, EXPANDING HERDS INTO VIABLE BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

First Nations Development Institute Supports InterTribal Bison Cooperative's Efforts to Ensure Economic and Cultural Benefits from Bison

FREDERICKSBURG, VA -- InterTribal Bison Cooperative (ITBC) of Rapid City, South Dakota has been awarded \$50,000 from First Nations Development Institute to provide assistance to ITBC member tribes on how to manage bison herds for cultural and business purposes. As buffalo meat becomes a more popular low-fat, high protein food and as tourism programs develop, ITBC is helping tribes take the lead in the new bison industry. First Nations' grant will allow ITBC to assist member tribes as they develop their bison programs into self-sufficient enterprises.

.. ITBC's programs are diversifying local tribal economies as bison meat sales, tannery operations, by-product artwork and tourism become increasingly popular. With First Nations' grant, ITBC will implement a technical assistance program for its member tribes, help them develop business plans, and cultivate tribal bison programs into viable businesses. "Today, tribes are seeking control of their assets: natural resources, land, financial capital and their very culture. ITBC's programs help tribes regain this control by creating economic opportunities, healthier ecosystems, and bolstering tribal culture as bison are raised in a holistic, environmentally-friendly approach and treasured as a sacred part of tribal life," said Rebecca L. Adamson, president and founder of First Nations Development Institute.

ITBC was formed in 1991 to help decrease tribes' reliance upon federal funds and create Native controlled economies by helping tribes locate, transport, and increase buffalo herds on the reservation. ITBC has 39 member tribes that own over 8,000 buffalo. In 1994, ITBC was awarded its first grant from First Nations to develop a model marketing plan to be used by member tribes. For additional information about the award or about First Nations' programs, please call 540/371-5615. ###

For Immediate Release
December 20, 1996

For further information contact:
Lela Shepard at 540 /371-5615

CALIFORNIA TRIBES TO EXPAND NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HOUSING INITIATIVES

First Nations Development Institute Supports Northern Circle's Innovative Efforts to Ensure Affordable Housing to California Indians

FREDERICKSBURG, VA -- Northern Circle Indian Housing Authority based in Ukiah, California, a collaboration among 13 California tribes to create better and more affordable housing for tribal members in five northern California counties, has been awarded \$30,000 from First Nations Development Institute to expand Northern Circle's nationally recognized housing initiatives. First Nations' support will enable Northern Circle to expand its first time home buyer's program and implement a revolving loan fund to break traditional credit and down payment barriers facing Native American home buyers. This is the second grant to Northern Circle for this effort.

Northern Circle's philosophy is that Native Americans need to create their own housing opportunities given their unique problems in acquiring sources of capital for reservation development. While most of Northern Circle's work has been with federally financed housing, it has become committed to developing innovative ways, such as a revolving loan fund, a lease-to-purchase program, and investigating partnerships with private financial institutions and local banks, to allow greater community control over housing decisions and creating more housing opportunities for Native families in Northern California.

"As Northern Circle continues to help Native families build assets through home ownership in a way consistent with their social, cultural and economic values, they will also be building the financial stability and strength of these communities," said Rebecca L. Adamson (Cherokee), president and founder of First Nations.

Since 1980, Northern Circle has developed, constructed, and managed over 305 homes on 8 different rancherias. In October, Northern Circle won the 1996 Sustained Excellence Award from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for its outstanding overall performance for at least two consecutive years. For additional information about the award or about First Nations' programs, please call 540/371-5615. ###