

ANNOUNCING

Native Leadership Forum

Native Leadership and the Challenges Ahead

*“Protecting Sovereignty, Culture, Homelands and Resource Rights, and
Achieving Economic Self-sufficiency“*

January 9-11, 2006

Hilton Hawaiian Village
2065 Kalia Road, Honolulu, Hawaii

Sponsored By:

AMERICAN INDIAN RESOURCES INSTITUTE

In Cooperation With:

Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.

Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

First Alaskans Institute

Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Kamehameha Schools

Southern California Tribal Chairmen’s Association

Native American Rights Fund

United Tribes Technical College

Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement

Sealaska Corporation

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

(Additional organizations and communities to be added)

Native Leadership Forum

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Properly understood, modern American Indian history has been made by Indian leaders who seized the initiative, brought forth their grievances and proposed solutions, and, more often than not, accomplished the kind of progress they dared seek.

—from *Blood Struggle* (2005)
by Charles Wilkinson

Native America is in a time of transition. Native leaders who have fought to preserve the rights of Native people to self-determination and self-governance, and who have so effectively built upon the foundation of Native sovereignty forged by those who came before them, seek to assure that there will be a cadre of younger Native people who are prepared to assume the responsibilities of leadership in the twenty-first century. The outstanding Native leaders of our time embrace and reflect the values of the Native communities that they serve. These leaders understand that it is only with roots firmly implanted in the history and the culture that inform Native values will the tree of leadership grow tall and be able to withstand the strong winds that historically have buffeted the fates of Native people.

The purposes of the *Native Leadership Forum* are: (1) to bring together concerned Native people to think about and discuss the future of sovereignty and governance, culture and traditions, homelands and resource rights, as well as the quality of life generally in Native communities; (2) to initiate a discussion about shaping a Native-driven agenda that is credible and workable; and (3) to discuss the importance of developing the next generation of Native leaders. A distinguished group of Native leaders and law and policy experts has been assembled to set the framework at the *Native Leadership Forum* for initiating an open dialogue about the future for indigenous societies, as well as the value in fostering a culture of collaboration between Native leaders. Members of the Hawaii congressional delegation, members of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, and key state government representatives also will be invited to address forum participants.

P R O G R A M

Sunday, January 8, 2006

4:30 p.m. to Welcoming Reception & Registration
6:30 p.m.

Monday, January 9, 2006

7:00 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:00 a.m. Welcoming Remarks, Forum Overview, and Introductions

Moderators:

Richard Trudell, *Executive Director*, American Indian Resources Institute
Wilson K. Pipestem, *Managing Partner*, Ietan Consulting, LLC, Washington, DC

Session I

(8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

***The Heart and Soul of Native Communities: Envisioning a Future based on
our Shared Values and Strengths, our Cultures and Traditions, and our Homelands***

While America's indigenous Native people come from diverse backgrounds—from regions that vary as dramatically from one to another as the Arctic Circle differs from the tropical climes of the Pacific Islands—our challenges are not so different: protecting the fundamental rights that our brave ancestors fought so tirelessly to establish; striving to achieve a greater measure of economic self-sufficiency for our people; preserving Native languages and cultural ways; striking a path to a brighter future for our children through greater access to quality educational opportunities, healthcare and adequate housing; erecting the leadership platform of integrity, honesty and knowledge upon which future generations will be proud to stand. All are lode stars that guide today's Native leaders.

Presentations & Discussion

PRESENTERS: **Byron Mallott**, *Executive Director*, First Alaskans Institute, Anchorage, AK—

“The Vision—The Path to Leadership”

Nainoa Thompson, *Trustee*, Kamehameha Schools, Honolulu, HI—

“Malama Aina—A shared Generational Responsibility”

Billy Frank, Jr., *Chairman*, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, Olympia,

WA—**“Preserving our Natural World—It is Our Way as Native People,**

It is Who We Are, It is Our Legacy to Future Generations”

John E. Echohawk, *Executive Director*, Native American Rights Fund, Boulder,

CO—**“Protecting Our Sovereignty and Our Ways of Life”**

Youth Perspective (*Participant to be invited*)

OPEN DIALOGUE

12:45 p.m. Lunch (w/speaker)

(Optional afternoon Meetings & Activities for each day will be included in the Final Program)

5:00 p.m. Reception

7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, January 10, 2006

7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:00 a.m. Opening Remarks

Session II
(8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

Native Communities: Understanding Our Past, Contemplating Our Future

While some of our most revered ancestors seem to have been born with the character that made them great leaders, more often, leadership is like a plant that must be carefully tended. It must be steeped in an understanding of what has come before and how challenges were met and overcome. Leadership must be imbued with the values of thoughtfulness, bravery, integrity, and justice, and guided by a vision of the future that is sensitive to the impact that today's actions will have on generations to come.

ADDRESS: **Hon. Mark Bennett**, *Attorney General*, State of Hawaii

Presentations & Discussion

PRESENTERS: **Charles Wilkinson**, *Distinguished University Professor & Moses Lasky Professor of Law*, University of Colorado School of Law, Boulder, CO—
“Lessons Learned: Law and Policy Successes and Setbacks of the Past Half Century”
Patricia M. Zell, Zell & Cox Law, P.C., Washington, DC—**“Shaping a Future in the Context of Contemporary Challenges: For Native People, Does Success Really Beget Success?”**
Hon. Deron Marquez, *Chairman*, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, Patton, CA—**“Laying the Groundwork for Future Prosperity”**
Youth Perspective (*Participant to be invited*)

OPEN DIALOGUE

12:45 p.m. Lunch (w/speaker)

Wednesday, January 11, 2006

7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:00 a.m. Opening Remarks

Session III
(8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

Shaping a Native Agenda for the Next Decade and Beyond

History instructs us that in times of great challenges to their common ways of life, Native people have come together and stood together. This may well be one of those times. Native Hawaiians seek a recognized right to self-determination and self-governance. Powerful foes employ negative characterizations of dynamics in Indian Country as a foil to attempt to defeat Native efforts. Alaska Native corporations strive to fulfill the economic promises of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, but are currently confronted with a backlash by those who believe in the scarcity rather than abundance of economic opportunity for all. American Indian tribal governments exercise their sovereignty to maintain and protect their homelands, to provide for their citizens, to preserve natural resources, and to establish a strong foundation for sustained economic growth and security in an atmosphere of increasingly hostile and ill-informed assaults on their sovereignty. How do Native leaders chart a course for the twenty-first century that honors and incorporates the values and the ways of their elders while still addressing the contemporary obstacles that appear to block the road to a brighter future for their people?

ADDRESS: **Hon. Daniel K. Inouye**, *Ranking Member*, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and *Member*, Committee on Indian Affairs, United States Senate

Presentations & Discussion

PRESENTERS: **Hon. Haunani Apoliona**, *Chairperson of the Board of Trustees*, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Honolulu, HI—“**Self-Determination: Our Time has Come, Our Time is Now**”
Hon. Albert Kookesh, *Senator*, Alaska State Legislature; *Chairman*, Board of Directors, Sealaska Corporation; and *Co-Chair*, Board of Directors, Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.—“**Knowledge-Based Economies: Adapting International Models for Domestic Economic Growth in Rural Alaska**”
Susan M. Williams, *Williams & Works, P.A.*, Albuquerque, NM—“**Empowering Tribes for Governance in the 21st Century**”
Youth Perspective (*Participant to be invited*)

OPEN DIALOGUE

12:30 a.m. **Closing Remarks**

END OF FORUM

6:00 p.m. **Reception & Dinner**

General Information

MEETING LOCATION & REGISTRATION: The meeting location is the Hilton Hawaiian Village, 2005 Kalia Road, Honolulu, HI. The Registration Fee is \$595 and includes receptions, daily continental breakfast, break refreshments, luncheons, a dinner, and meeting materials. The Registration Form should be mailed or faxed in advance.

AIR TRAVEL: In order to take advantage of lower fares available with advance purchase, participants are encouraged to make their airline reservations as soon as possible.

LODGING ACCOMMODATIONS: Participants are responsible for their own lodging expenses and hotel reservations. A block of rooms is being held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village until December 16, 2005 at the single rate of \$129 per night and the double rate of \$149, plus 11.41% tax. Group rates will be offered, based on availability, to attendees three days before and three days after the forum dates. Reservations made after December 16, 2005 will be accepted on a space-and-rate-availability basis. To make reservations, call 1-808-949-4321 or 1-800-HILTONS (1-800-445-8667). When making your reservation, inform the hotel that you will be attending the American Indian Resources Institute's *Native Leadership Forum*.

FURTHER INFORMATION: Please direct inquiries concerning the *Native Leadership Forum* to the American Indian Resources Institute at (209) 460-0924 (phone), (209) 460-0934 (fax), or dicktrudell@hotmail.com.

Registration Form

Native Leadership Forum
Honolulu, Hawaii - January 9-11, 2006

Name _____

Title/Position _____

Tribe/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

E-Mail _____

*Return completed Registration Form with
check or money order, or charge card information, to:*

American Indian Resources Institute
P.O. Box 21286, Oakland, CA 94620
Fax Number: 209-460-0934

Method of Payment:

Check or Money Order Enclosed VISA Master Card

Name as it appears on Credit Card

Card Number

Expiration Date

Signature