

Annual State of Indian Nations address to kick off NCAI winter session

WASHINGTON – On Feb. 12, National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) President Jefferson Keel will deliver the 2018 State of Indian Nations (SOIN) address, which will be followed by the Executive Council Winter Session (ECWS).

Broadcast live from Knight Studios at the Newseum in Washington, D.C., Keel’s address will outline the goals of Tribal nations and their leaders, the opportunities for success and advancement of Native peoples, and the priorities for our nation-to-nation relationship with the United States.

Directly following SOIN, ECWS will kick off. Held at the Capital Hilton in Washington, D.C., the conference will explore key issues facing American Indian communities while providing tactical solutions primarily through legislative and policy planning and advocacy with the administration and Congress.

The event features Tribal leaders and more than 20 speakers from the White

House, government agencies and Congress, including:

- Ryan Zinke, Secretary, Department of the Interior
- David Shulkin, Secretary, Department of Veteran Affairs
- Deputy Attorney General Rod J. Rosenstein, Department of Justice
- Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (CA)
- Sen. Heidi Heitkamp (ND)
- Rep. Tom O’Halloran (AZ)
- Sen. Jeff Merkley (OR)
- Rep. Derrick Kilmer (WA)
- Rep. Don Young (AK)
- Sen. Tom Udall (NM)
- Rep. Norma Torres (CA)

- Rep. Jack Bergman (MI)
- Rep. Steve Pearce (NM)
- Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (NV)
- Sen. Lisa Murkowski (AK)

About the State of Indian Nations

Each year, the president of the National Congress of American Indians presents the State of Indian Nations address to members of Congress, government officials, Tribal leaders and citizens, and the American public.

The speech outlines the goals of Tribal leaders, the opportunities for success and advancement of Native peoples, and priorities to advance our nation-to-nation relationship with the United States.

For more information, visit ncai.org/about-ncai/state-of-indian-nations.

About NCAI

Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians is the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the country.

NCAI advocates on behalf of Tribal governments and communities, promoting strong Tribal-federal government-to-government policies and promoting a better understanding among the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native governments, people and rights.

For more information, visit ncai.org.

Change in Siletz Clinic check-in times

The Siletz Clinic asks all patients with appointments to check in 15 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time. This allows for any necessary paperwork to be completed prior to your appointment with your provider.

Thank you!

For more information about the Siletz Tribe, please visit ctsi.nsn.us.



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abuse who, historically, have lacked access to supportive services.

StrongHearts advocates are trained to navigate each caller’s abuse situation with a deep understanding of Tribal communities, culture and tradition.

“We are honored by those reaching out because we know Native people really do face unique barriers to safety and justice in their communities,” said Lori Jump (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians), StrongHearts assistant director. “In many cases, a victim of domestic violence may feel like there’s nowhere left to turn to for help. Our goal is to provide a safe space for Native survivors where they can reach out for help anonymously and safely.”

The StrongHearts Native Helpline was created to respond to the epidemic of domestic violence and dating violence in Tribal communities. According to a recent study by the National Institute of Justice, more than one in two Native women and one in three Native men have experienced physical violence by intimate partners in their lifetime.

Through StrongHearts, trained advocates offer callers emotional support,

assistance with safety planning, information and education, and referrals to culturally specific resources. Callers after hours will have the option to connect with the National Domestic Violence Hotline or to call back on the next business day.

“Domestic violence is one of the biggest public safety issues in Tribal communities, yet so many Native survivors aren’t getting the culturally supportive services they so desperately need,” said Caroline LaPorte (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians), StrongHearts senior Native affairs policy advisor. “Our advocates help fill the gap by listening to and responding to the complex needs of our callers, but the need for more resources is clear.”

About the StrongHearts Native Helpline

Created by and built to serve Tribal communities across the United States, the StrongHearts Native Helpline, a project of the National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center, the National Domestic Violence Hotline and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Program, is a culturally appropriate, anonymous, confidential and no-cost service dedicated

to serving American Indian survivors of domestic violence and dating violence, along with their concerned family members and friends.

By dialing 1-844-7NATIVE (1-844-762-8483) Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. CST, callers can connect,

at no cost, one-on-one with knowledgeable StrongHearts advocates who can provide lifesaving tools and immediate support to enable survivors to find safety and live lives free of abuse.

Learn more about the StrongHearts Native Helpline at strongheartshelpline.org.

Siletz News Letters Policy

Siletz News, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, is published once a month. Our editorial policy encourages input from readers about stories printed in Siletz News and other Tribal issues.

All letters must include the author’s signature, address, and phone number in order to be considered for publication. Siletz News reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and length, and to refuse publication of any letter or any part of a letter that may contain profane language, libelous statements, personal attacks or unsubstantiated statements.

Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Siletz News, Tribal employees, or Tribal Council.

Please type or write legibly. Letters longer than 450 words may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142.

Please note: The general manager of the Siletz Tribe is the editor-in-chief of Siletz News.

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