

**Executive Director's Report for the Period
July 1, 2016 – October 31, 2016
Submitted by Sherry L. Rupert to Nevada Indian Commission Board**

Administrative

- I attended the Governor's October Full Cabinet Meeting. The September and November Cabinet Team Meetings were cancelled.
- The Legislative Session begins February 6, 2017 and ends June 5, 2017.
- Chris Gibbons has been hired as the Curator II for the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center, leaving a Program Officer I vacancy. The Department of Human Resource Management has yet to give the go ahead on recruitment of the Museum Director I position. Recruitment for the Program Officer I will begin in November.
- Chairman Arnold has been reappointed to the NIC for an additional three years. Commissioner Quasula is unable to continue on the Commission, leaving one vacancy and Commissioner Carpenter has been newly appointed by the Governor to the Nevada Athletic Commission. This leaves two general public vacancies on the Nevada Indian Commission. One name has been forwarded to the Governor's Office for consideration.
- Additional funding was approved at the August 23, 2016 IFC meeting for the following activities:
 - ✓ Expand and complete the Stewart Indian School Master Plan, to include an interpretive plan, marketing analysis/study and a business plan (BA 2600). Because we have an existing CIP for the Stewart Master Plan, these funds will be added to this CIP. This will be very helpful as we won't have to go through the regular process for contract approval. It will now fall under the CIP and the State Public Works Division will manage the project. H&K Architects is the contractor for the Master Plan and they have subcontracted with Management Museum Consultants (MMC) out of San Francisco for these new components.
 - ✓ Hire a contractor to complete the National Park Service National Historic Landmark application (BA 2600) – We are currently negotiating a contract with the America West Center, University of Utah and working to get on the January Board of Examiners agenda.
 - ✓ Purchase a new phone system for the NIC (BA 2600)
 - ✓ Remodel Building #4 (cottage behind our office) to house the Museum Director and Curator (BA 2601)
- The State Public Works Board met August 24, 2016 to hear presentations on state agency Capital Improvement Project (CIP) requests. The CIP the NIC has submitted for construction on the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center and Welcome Center is ranked #1 on the Historic Preservation listing. The request also includes a funding request for exhibit design, fabrication and installation.

Projects

- A Bi-State Traditional Ecological Knowledge Summit follow up meeting was held on August 10, 2016 at the Lee Vining Community Center. The meeting was used to decide whether this group felt it was important enough to continue to meet on a regular basis or have an annual summit, and how that would look. The group decided that they would form a committee to continue these important discussions that affect the tribal communities within the Bi-state and that the committee should be housed under the Nevada Indian Commission. An additional meeting was held on October 21, 2016 at the Walker River Paiute Tribe. The group decided on the name of Bi-State Tribal Conservation Natural Resource Committee. The next meeting of the group will take place in January 2017 in Reno, Nevada and will work to develop and adopt by-laws. I continue to report progress of the Bi-State Sage Grouse Executive Oversight Committee. Their last meeting was held on October 5, 2016.
- The Commission was invited to partner with the USDA Rural Economic Development to assist in planning a Western Tribal Economic Development Summit to take place in September at the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe's Fox Peak Cinemas in Fallon, NV. The Summit is meant to provide the Nevada Tribes information that will assist them with their economic development ventures. The NIC is assisting in development of a panel discussion on Tourism/Fishing/Hunting as Economic Development. The forum is scheduled for January 9-10, 2017 in Fallon, NV at the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe Fox Peak Cinemas.
- National Indian Education Association Convention, October 5-8, 2016, Reno, NV - The NIC and our Indian Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) partnered with the 2016 National Conference Planning Committee on planning for the 2016 National Indian Education Association (NIEA) Convention that was held in Reno October 5-8, 2016. Four members of the IEAC were appointed as subcommittee chairs of the National Conference Planning Committee:
 - Powwow Subcommittee – Fredina Drye-Romero, Nevada Department of Education
 - Volunteers Subcommittee – Lynn Manning John, Owyhee Combined School
 - Cultural Activities Subcommittee – Sherry L. Rupert, Nevada Indian Commission
 - Hospitality Subcommittee – Lori Pasqua, Pre-College Advisory, Washoe Tribe of Nevada & California

NIEA reported that the Reno Convention was the best attended in the last 5 years! The convention started with a familiarization tour to Pyramid Lake, guided by Ben Rupert. On the same day, the NIC staff and Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Education Program staffed a welcome table at the airport, giving them a personal welcome, information on local attractions and directions to the complimentary hotel shuttle. The Cultural Night was the first event, attracting over 600 attendees the evening before the convention start. The Powwow was held Friday evening and not only was well attended, but showcased a number of local arts and craft vendors. Overall, the convention was a great success and brought over 2,000 attendees to Nevada.

Another feather in Nevada's hat is that we now have a Nevada representative on the NIEA Board of Directors, Mrs. Fredina Drye-Romero! Congratulations, Fredina!

Presentations/Meetings/Miscellaneous

- National Indian and Native American Employment Convention, August 22, 2016, Peppermill Casino Resort, Reno, NV – I was invited to be the keynote for the convention of over 500 attendees to discuss tourism and the opportunities available to tribes.
- Participated in U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board subcommittee and Board meetings on October 4, 2016 and October 13, 2016.
- Attended the Veterans Service Commission meeting, September 22, 2016 – This quarterly meeting took place in Fernley, NV. The Nevada Veterans Services Commission consists of nine members of which five are appointed by the Governor. Three of those appointees must be members who are representatives of nationally recognized veterans' organizations and possess an honorable discharge from some branch of the military and naval service of the United States and two members who are representatives of the general public. The term of office of each member is 2 years and their duties are to advise the Director and Deputy Director of the Nevada Department of Veterans Services and to make recommendations to the Governor, the Legislature, the Executive Director and the Deputy Director regarding aid or benefits to veterans. I am in my second term.
- Attended the Governors' Interstate Indian Council (GIIC) Annual Assembly, October 9, 2016, Phoenix, AZ. Commissioner Williams also attended on a GIIC travel scholarship. This is annual meeting of the State Indian Affairs Officers nationwide.
- Stewart Indian School Presentations and Tours Provided:
 - July 25, 2016
 - ✓ Washoe Tribe Youth Group (30 attendees)
 - September 24, 2016
 - ✓ Dangberg Ranch Speaker Series (50 attendees)
 - October 10, 2016
 - ✓ Governor's Global Tourism Summit Media Fam (15 attendees)
 - October 20, 2016
 - ✓ Washoe Tribe Youth Mentor Program (15 attendees)
 - October 31, 2016
 - ✓ Mark Twain Elementary School for Nevada Day Series (118 attendees)
- Other Events Held at the Stewart Indian School:
 - ✓ KAIA Fit End of BRIK Event – October 8, 2016

Upcoming Events

- American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet and Silent Auction, November 19, 2016 – Governor’s Mansion, Carson City, NV
- Western Tribal Economic Development Forum, January 9-10, 2017 – Fox Peak Cinemas, Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe
- Tribal Legislative Forum, January 17, 2017 – Laxalt Building, Carson City, NV
- Nevada Tribes Legislative Day, February 14, 2017 – Legislative Building, Carson City, NV
- Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference, April 4-6, 2017 – Bristlecone Convention Center, Ely, NV