

*Working Agenda*

**Tribal Leaders Strategy Meeting on Priorities for 2009**

**Hosted by NCAI and NIGA**

**Monday, January 19, 2009 - 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. with lunch served**

**Hyatt Regency Crystal City**

2799 Jefferson Davis Highway

Arlington, Virginia 22202

(Please RSVP to April Hale at [ahale@ncai.org](mailto:ahale@ncai.org) so that we can confirm the lunch numbers)

Purpose: The Obama-Biden Administration and 111<sup>th</sup> Congress will offer many opportunities for tribes to improve federal policies, and tribal leaders are eager to address a broad range of national, regional and tribal-specific issues. It is important that tribal leaders come together to identify our shared priorities so that valuable time is not wasted, and to avoid reactive policymaking in response to litigation and controversies. The new Administration and Congress will need a coherent strategy to improve federal Indian policy.

Our goal for this strategy session is for tribal leaders to develop two things: (1) a set of priorities for 2009 where we can find success; and (2) clear recommendations on the qualifications of key appointees in the new Administration. The following is a draft agenda.

1. **WELCOME** – *NCAI President Joe Garcia and NIGA Chairman Ernie Stevens, Jr.*
2. **DISCUSSIONS WITH TRANSITION TEAM REPRESENTATIVE (TBD)**  
*Suggested invitees: Wikipan Garriott; John Echohawk; Robert Anderson; Keith Harper; Mary Smith; Mary McNeil; Yvette Roubideaux*
3. **DISCUSSIONS WITH KEY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS (*invited- or their designees*)**
  - i. Chair and Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
  - ii. Chair and Ranking Member, House Natural Resources Committee
  - iii. Chair and Ranking Member, Senate Finance Committee
  - iv. Co-Chairs, House Native American Caucus
4. **GENERAL OVERVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 111TH CONGRESS**
5. **ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES DISCUSSION** *Jackie Johnson Pata and Mark Van Norman*
  - i. Trust reform
  - ii. Labor
  - iii. Pension
  - iv. Law Enforcement
6. **BREAK FOR SEPARATE NCAI/NIGA BOARD MEETINGS**
7. **ADJOURN**