

The Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians announces staff

The Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) staff members with many years of professional experience are at work managing the financial responsibilities of the Indian Trust throughout the Great Plains and Eastern regions.

The new staff includes a Regional Trust Administrator to oversee trust matters, Fiduciary Trust Officers who serve as direct points of contact with individual and tribal account holders, and an Indian land surveyor to manage a long list of survey needs.

The Regional Trust Administrator is Jim James, a member of San Juan Pueblo, oversees Indian trust matters in the Great Plains and Eastern regions. James worked as an attorney for Indian Pueblo Legal Services, served as a tribal judge at the Jicarilla Apache Reservation, worked as a consultant to the U.S. Department of Justice, and spent four years working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

There are 10 Fiduciary Trust Officers working directly with Indian Trust beneficiaries in the Great Plains and Eastern regions.

Jim Cordry is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and has 21 years experience as a professional financial advisor. Cordry can be reached at (605) 856-4965, Rosebud Agency.

Dean Webb is a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and his experience includes 15 years with the BIA, eight years as a city manager, and many years in banking. Webb can be reached at (605) 226-7361, Aberdeen.

Paula Harrison is an attorney with extensive experience in trust and estate planning, mining man-

agement, and teaching. Harrison can be reached at (605) 867-1010, Pine Ridge.

Timothy Lake is a member of the Santee Sioux Nation of Nebraska, he has 25 years experience with BIA, including serving as Deputy Regional Director for Trust Services, and as a superintendent at two agencies. He has a degree in management and an MBA from the University of Sioux Falls. Lake can be reached at (605) 698-4906, Agency Village.

Thomas Young is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. He has worked for the BIA for 16 years primarily in the natural resources and real estate appraisal areas and has served in senior leadership positions with BIA. Young can be reached at (605) 341-4028, Rapid City.

Richard LaFromboise is an attorney with a specialty in Indian law and former Chairman of the Turtle Mountain Reservation of North Dakota. He also served as Chairman of the National Tribal Chairman's Association. LaFromboise can be reached at (701) 477-3828, Belcourt, N.D.

Edward Grant is a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, has 16 years of trust and administrative accounting experience in the BIA, and degrees from Bismarck State College and North Dakota State University. Grant can be reached at (701) 854-3419, Fort Yates, N.D.

Austin Gillette is a member of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara, has 24 years experience as an elected official in tribal government, including one term as Tribal Chairman. Gillette can be reached at (701) 627-4707, New

Town, N.D.

Herbert Sakalaucks has a master's degree in financial services and a bachelor's degree in economics. He has spent 13 years in investment securities and trust, and 16 years as a financial manager with the Department of Defense. Sakalaucks can be reached at (615) 564-6931, Nashville, Tenn.

Eileen McBride has a law degree, 16 years of corporate legal practice experience specializing in real estate and banking, and worked as a prosecutor for the Nebraska Attorney General's office. McBride can be reached at (402) 878-2411, Winnebago, Neb.

For the first time in the history of the Indian Trust, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), BIA, and OST have partnered to hire the first six (of 12) specialized surveyors to work exclusively with tribal governments, individual Indians, and BIA staff on long overdue survey issues. The Department of the Interior anticipates having the full staff of 12 Land Surveyors on board by the end of 2006.

The BLM Indian Land Surveyor for the Great Plains region is Gary Eldevik. Based in Aberdeen, Eldevik began working for the Federal government in 1976 at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He was registered as a land surveyor in the early 1980's, and has done extensive survey work with the tribes across the Great Plains.

For more information contact: Jerry Chavez, New Mexico (505) 796-3161. Full bios of individuals listed are available upon request.