

VA Office of Tribal Government Relations

Western Region Conference – Northern Quest
Resort & Casino, Spokane, WA

April 10-11, 2012



Conference Objectives:

The goal of these meetings is to invite tribal leadership from within the Western Region (OR, WA, ID, NV, CA, AK), as well as, other federal and state partners who work with American Indians and Alaska Native Veterans for services and benefits to collaborate, educate, and network to better serve this population.

Specifically, OTGR's goals are to:

- 1) Increase Veteran access to healthcare and benefits;
- 2) Economic Sustainability:
 - a. Increase utilization of Native American Direct Home Loan Program
 - b. Increase utilization of Post 9/11 GI Bill
 - c. Increase utilization of Vocational Rehabilitation Program
 - d. Increase access to Compensation and Pension
 - e. Increase access to federal employment opportunities
 - f. Facilitate greater involvement by tribes and Native American Veterans in small business development and federal contracting opportunities
- 3) Tribal Consultation

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Tribal Government Relations
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420**

Target Audience: Tribal Veterans and those who serve or care for Veterans in Indian Country.



Conference Agenda

April 10-11, 2012

TUESDAY, April 10, 2012

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| Healthcare | Break out session specific to healthcare topics |
| Housing/Homelessness | Break out session specific to housing and homeless topics |
| Tribal Veteran Representatives (TVR) | Break out session specific to TVR topics |

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| 7:30 am - 4:00 pm | Registration throughout the day - Kalispel Ballroom Please take individual breaks throughout the day as needed. | | | |
| 8:15 am - 8:45 am | Exhibits Open | Opening Ceremonies: Welcome Address: Steve Gill, Administrator, WA State Dept of Veterans Affairs Post Colors: Kalispel Color Guard Invocation & Welcoming Remarks: Shirley Sandoval, Elder, Kalispel Tribe | | |
| 8:45 am - 9:15 am | | Overview of OTGR / Goals for Meeting: Stephanie Birdwell, Director, Office of Tribal Government Relations Terry Bentley, OTGR Western Region Specialist | | |
| 9:15 am - 9:45 am | | Success Story -Yurok Tribe-\$3.3M Grant for Veterans Cemetery on Indian Trust Land: Buffy McQuillen, Yurok Tribe Howard Orr, Project Manager, National Cemetery Administration, Washington, DC | | |
| 9:45 am - 10:30 am | | VA 101 Healthcare - Eligibility, Enrollment & Billing Overview: Travis Tougaw, CBO Purchased Care Program Specialist, Denver, CO Stephanie Birdwell, Director Office of Tribal Government Relations | | |
| 10:30 am - 11:00 am | | E-Benefits Program & VBA Vocational Rehabilitation Program: Jim Vance, Director, Veterans Benefits Administration, Boise Regional Office Nancy Fisher, VBA Voc Rehab Program | | |
| 11:00 am - 11:40 am | | Understanding American Indian Worldviews: A Beginning in Welcoming Home Our People Annette Squetimkin-Anquoe, MA - Seattle Indian Health Board | | |
| 11:40 am - 12:00 pm | | Congressional Updates: Kristina Reeves, Statewide Veterans Constituency Coordinator with U.S. Senator Patty Murray's Office | | |
| 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm | | Lunch Break Afternoon Workshops (see specific agenda's on pages 3-5) | | |
| 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm | | Healthcare (Kalispel Ballroom) | Housing / Homelessness (Kalispel North) | Tribal Veteran Representatives (Kalispel South) |
| 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm | | Evening Reception / Entertainment by Frog Island Singers - Kalispel Ballroom | | |

Co-sponsored by the following:



The Suquamish Tribe, Suquamish, WA



WA State Department of Veterans Affairs



OR Department of Veterans Affairs



Kalispel Tribe of Indians

WEDNESDAY, April 11, 2012

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|--------------------|--|---|--|
| 8:00 am - 12:00 pm | Registration - Kalispel Ballroom | | |
| 8:30 am - 12:00 pm | Continue Workshops (see specific agenda's on pages 3-5) | | |
| 8:30 am - 12:00 pm | Healthcare (Kalispel Ballroom) | Housing / Homelessness (Kalispel North) | Tribal Veteran Representatives (Kalispel South) |
| 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm | Lunch Break | | |
| 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm | Facilitators of Breakout Sessions Provide an Update/Overview to General Assembly | | |
| 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm | Exhibits Open | Listening Session with Tribes and other Attendees Question & Answer with Panel Members: Stephanie Birdwell, Director, VA Office of Tribal Government Relations Michael Fisher, VISN20 Deputy Network Director Dean Seyler, Director, Portland Area Indian Health Service Jim Vance, Director, Veterans Benefits Administration, Boise Regional Office Howard Orr, National Cemetery Administration, Washington, DC Jim Willis, Director, Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs John Lee, Director, Washington Department of Veterans Affairs David Brasuell, Administrator, Idaho Department of Veterans Affairs Frank Cordero, Former TVR for Lummi Nation | |
| 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm | | Advantages of Veteran Owned and Native Owned Small Business: Daucey Brewington, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, Seattle, WA Nancy Fisher, VBA Vocational Rehabilitation Program | |
| 4 : 0 0 p m | | Closing Ceremony/Retire Flags/Closing Prayer | |
| 4:15 pm - 5:00 pm | | VHA, VBA, NCA experts available for individual one-on-one questions and answers | |

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WA State Department of Veterans Affairs



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Kalispel Tribe of Indians

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS:

Northern Quest Resort & Casino, Phone: 877-871-6772, press #4 for reservations - \$87 for single occupancy/\$97 double occupancy - 0% state sales tax, \$2 per room night tourism promotion assessment and a 1.9% city of Airway Heights lodging fee. Rooms are reserved under: "US Department of Veterans Affairs/Office of Tribal Government Relations" Website: www.NorthernQuest.com (see property map and conference room layout below). Shuttle transportation is available from the nearest airport (Spokane International Airport) to hotel - approximately 5



Property Map Mar 2011.pdf



ConfSpecsBack.pdf

minutes from airport. For shuttle services, please call 877-871-6772.

TUESDAY, April 10, 2012 - Healthcare Workshop
Conference Room - Kalispel Ballroom

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|-------------------|--|
| 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Healthcare WORKSHOP |
| 1:00 pm - 1:15 pm | Terry Bentley, OTGR Western Region - Co-Facilitator Jodie Waters, VISN 20 Planner/Rural Consultant - Co-Facilitator Round Table Introductions |
| 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm | Insight into VA & VA/IHS MOU: Stephanie Birdwell, Director, Office of Tribal Government Relations Dean Seyler, Portland Area IHS Director Travis Tougaw, CBO Purchased Care Program Specialist, Denver, CO |
| 2:15 pm - 3:15 pm | Recognizing Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Trans-Generational PTSD Effective Tools for Managing PTSD: Quinn S. Bastian, PhD, Chief Mental Health |
| 3:15 pm - 3:45 pm | OEF/OIF/OND Reintegration: Jennifer Allison-Oord, OEF/OIF/OND Transition Patient Advocate for Spokane/Walla Walla VHA & Annie DeAndrea, Transition Assistance Advisor, Joint Services Support, WA National Guard |
| 3:45 pm - 4:15 pm | Telemedicine within VHA: Joseph Ronzio, DHSc, CPHIMS, SMHIMSS, VISN20 Telehealth Coordinator |

TUESDAY, April 10, 2012 - Housing / Homelessness Workshop
Conference Room - Kalispel North

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|-------------------|---|
| 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Housing / Homelessness WORKSHOP |
| 1:00 pm - 1:15 pm | Frank Cordero, Suquamish Tribe - Co-Facilitator John Davis, VHA Spokane, WA - Co-Facilitator Round Table Introductions |
| 1:15 pm - 1:45 pm | VHA Caregiver Support: Drea Gonzales, LICSW, Caregiver Services Coordinator, VHA Spokane, WA |
| 1:45 pm - 2:15 pm | HUD: HUD/VASH & Section 184 Financing Iris Friday, Section 184 Coordinator, NW Office of Native Programs |
| 2:15 pm - 3:15 pm | Native American Veteran Direct Loan Program: Pat Arnold, Assistant Loan Guaranty Officer, Denver Loan Center & Bill Haines, Senior Loan Specialist, Denver Regional Loan Center |
| 3:15 pm - 3:45 pm | Employment/Job Training: Compensated Work Therapy Program/Vocational Rehabilitation Program Bud Dickey, Vocational Rehab Specialist, VHA Roseburg, OR |
| 3:45 pm - 4:15 pm | Prevention Services: National Call Center for Homeless Veterans, Healthcare for Re-Entry, Veteran Justice Outreach Program, Supportive Services for Veterans Families Program, Veterans Homelessness Prevention Demonstration Program John Davis, VHA Spokane, WA |
| 4:15 pm - 4:30 pm | VHA Housing Support Programs: Resources for Perm/Temp Housing, On-going Case Mgmt & Treatment Services for Homeless Veterans: HUD/VASH, Grant Per Diem Program, and Supported Housing John Davis, VHA Spokane, WA |

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| 4:30 pm - 5:00 pm | Treatment Services: Healthcare for Homeless Veterans, Veteran Stand Downs, Homeless Veterans Dental Program, Domiciliary Care/Homeless Veterans, Drop in Centers John Davis, VHA Spokane, WA |
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**TUESDAY, April 10, 2012 - Tribal Veterans Representatives
Conference Room - Kalispel South**

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|-------------------|--|
| 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Tribal Veteran Representatives (TVR) WORKSHOP |
| 1:00 pm - 1:15 pm | Luckie Joe Boyd, TVR, Suquamish Tribe, Co-Facilitator Jim Vance, Boise VBA Regional Director - Co-Facilitator Round Table Introductions |
| 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm | Social Security Administration (SSA) 101: Andrea Herbolt, Public Affairs Specialist, SSA, Seattle Regional Ofc |
| 2:15 pm - 2:45 pm | VA 101 Healthcare - Eligibility/Enrollment/Billing Overview: Travis Tougaw, CBO Purchased Care Program Specialist, Denver, CO |
| 2:45 pm - 3:15 pm | Blind Rehabilitation Program/Visual Impairment Services: Don Felthouse, VHA American Lake, WA Suzanne Bennatt, VHA Spokane, WA |
| 3:15 pm - 3:30 pm | How to Request a Headstone, Marker, Medallion: George Allen, Director, Willamette National Cemetery, Portland, OR & Howard Orr, NCA, Washington, DC |
| 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm | Vet Center Programs & Services: Mary DeLateur, LICSW, Spokane Vet Center & Curley Lawson, MSW Intern, Spokane Vet Center |
| 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm | Overview of Submitting a Veterans Benefit Claim & Appeal Claims: Luckie Joe Boyd, TVR, Suquamish Tribe & Jim Vance, Boise VBA Regional Director |
| 4:30 pm - 5:00 pm | Establishing a Network of TVR's/How to Establish a TVR Program: Luckie Joe Boyd, TVR, Suquamish Tribe |

**WEDNESDAY, April 11, 2012 - Healthcare Workshop
Conference Room - Kalispel Ballroom**

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|---------------------|---|
| 8:30 am - 12:00 pm | HEALTHCARE WORKSHOP |
| 8:30 am - 8:45 pm | Terry Bentley, OTGR Western Region - Co-Facilitator Jodie Waters, VISN 20 Planner/Rural Consultant - Co-Facilitator Round Table Introductions |
| 8:45 am - 9:15 am | Suicide Prevention: David Dickinson, MA, Regional Manager, SAMHSA & Quinn S. Bastian, PhD, Chief Mental Health, VHA Spokane, WA |
| 9:15 am - 9:45 am | Women Veterans: Julie Liss, RN, VHA Spokane, WA |
| 9:45 am - 10:15 am | Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): David Dickson, MA, Regional Administrator, Region X, SAMHSA |
| 10:15 am - 10:30 am | My Healthe Vet: Alan McCarther, My Healthe Vet Coordinator, VHA Spokane, WA |
| 10:30 am - 11:30 am | Substance Use Disorders/Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Programs: David Dickinson, MA, Regional Administrator, Region X, SAMHSA & Paul Nicolai, MEd/P, CPP, Coordinator Substance Abuse Program, VHA Spokane, WA |

**WEDNESDAY, April 11, 2012 - Housing / Homelessness Workshop
Conference Room - Kalispel North**

| | |
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| 8:30 am - 12:00 pm | Housing / Homelessness WORKSHOP |
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| 11:30 am - 11:45 am | <p>VHA Housing Support Programs: Resources for Permanent or Temporary Housing, On-going Case Management and Treatment Services for Homeless Veterans: HUD/VASH, Grant Per Diem Program, and Supported Housing John Davis, VHA Spokane, WA</p> |
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Conference Room - Kalispel South**

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| 8:30 am - 12:00 pm | <p>Tribal Veteran Representatives (TVR) WORKSHOP</p> |
| 8:30 am - 8:45 pm | <p>Luckie Joe Boyd, TVR, Suquamish Tribe, Co-Facilitator Jim Vance, Boise VBA Regional Director - Co-Facilitator Round Table Introductions</p> |
| 8:45 am - 9:15 am | <p>VA 101 - Enrollment/Eligibility/Billing Overview: Travis Tougaw, CBO Purchased Care Program Specialist, Denver, CO</p> |
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| 10:15 am - -10:45 am | <p>Blind Rehabilitation Program/Visual Impairment Services: Don Felthouse, VHA American Lake, WA Suzanne Bennett, VHA Spokane, WA</p> |
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| 11:45 pm - 12:00 pm | <p>Establishing a Network of TVR's/How to Establish a TVR Program: Luckie Joe Boyd, TVR, Suquamish Tribe</p> |