Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

Youth-outreach session on Feb. 11 at University of Washington's Samuel E. Kelly Center

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WASHINGTON – The Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform will hold its next public meeting Feb. 12-13, 2013, Seattle, Wash. The meeting will be preceded by a public youth-outreach session the evening of Feb. 11.

"The Department of the Interior has a very important role to play in administering the federal trust responsibility, and the Commission is looking forward to discussing with the public how we can work together on ways to improve the Department's management of Indian trust lands and assets," said Commission Chair Fawn Sharp.

Commission members will hear from invited speakers on the management and administration of probate and real estate services administered through compacts and contracts; the management and administration of natural resources held in trust; and trust reform, including other trust models and the trust relationship. At the youth-outreach session, they will hear from young adults and students about their ideas and recommendations for improving the Department's performance and services to Indian trust beneficiaries.

Members of the public who wish to attend in person, as well as those wishing to participate via teleconference or webinar, should RSVP to trustcommission@ios.doi.gov by Feb. 8, 2013. Visit http://www.doi.gov/cobell/commission/index.cfm for more information about the Commission's work and the Feb. 11-13 events.

The Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform was established by Secretary Salazar in 2011 to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the Department's management and administration of nearly $4 billion in American Indian trust assets over two years and to offer recommendations on improvements in the future. Building on progress made with the historic Cobell Settlement, the Commission will help to establish a new era of trust administration: one that stresses responsive, accountable, transparent, and customer-friendly management of these substantial funds and assets. All of the Commission's meetings are open to the public.

WHO

DOI Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform Members:
• Fawn Sharp (Quinault), Chair
• Tex G. Hall (Three Affiliated Tribes), Member
• Stacy Leeds (Cherokee Nation), Member
• Dr. Peterson Zah (Navajo Nation), Member
• Robert Anderson (Minnesota Chippewa Tribe-Boise Forte Band), Member Lizzie Marsters, Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary and Designated Federal Officer for the Commission, DOI Kevin K. Washburn, Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, DOI

WHAT	Public meeting of the DOI Secretarial Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform, preceded by a public youth-outreach session for young adults and students.
WHEN	**Monday, Feb. 11 to Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2013 (local time)** February 11 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.: Public youth-outreach session February 12 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.: Public meeting February 13 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.: Public meeting
WHERE	**Public Youth-Outreach Session** University of Washington, Samuel E. Kelly Ethnic Cultural Center, Unity Ballroom, 3931 Brooklyn Ave. N.E. [across from parking lot], Seattle, Wash. 98195-5650; Phone: 206-616-6056. **Public Meeting** Hilton Seattle Airport & Conference Center, 17620 International Blvd., Seattle, Wash. 98188-4001; Phone: 206-244-4800.

CREDENTIALS: This invitation is extended to credentialed media representatives, who must display sanctioned media credentials for admittance to the event.

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