Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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(WASHINGTON, D.C.) - Interior Assistant Secretary ~ Indian Affairs Neal A. McCaleb and Deputy Assistant Secretary Wayne Smith will meet with tribal leaders on Thursday, January 3, 2002, in Oklahoma City, Okla., at the third in a series of consultation meetings on the Department's plan to improve the management of Indian trust assets. The meeting will be held at the Westin hotel (1 North Broadway) starting at 9:00 a.m. (CST).

On November is, 2001, the Department announced plans to transfer and consolidate Indian trust asset management functions currently administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other Interior agencies within a new Bureau of Indian Trust Assets Management. The Department also announced the ~establishment of an Assistant Secretary for Indian Trust Assets Management to oversee BIT Al\1: and a new Office of Indian Trust Transition to implement the transfer and consolidation plans.

Consultation meetings also will be held on January 10 in Rapid City, S.D.; January 17 in San Diego, Calif.; January 23 in Anchorage, Alaska; and February 1 in Washington, D.C. (Arlington, Va.). A notice with meeting dates and locations was published in the December 11 Federal Register.

WHO:	Interior Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs Neal A. McCaleb and Deputy Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs Wayne Smith.
WHEN:	9:00 a.m. (CST), Thursday, January 3, 2002.
WHAT:	Interior Department tribal consultation meeting on improving the management of Indian trust assets.
WHERE:	Westin Hotel, 1 North Broadway, Oklahoma City, Okla.

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