Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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The White House Conference on Indian Education will take place January 22-24 at the Ramada Renaissance at Techworld, 999 9th St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

The Conference will bring together 234 voting delegates and observers to discuss and recommend steps to improve Indian education. The advisory task force planning the Conference has chosen the theme, "Honoring tradition…inspiring change." After opening ceremonies and a luncheon on January 22, the conference will break into 11 group sessions devoted to various aspects of Indian education. On January 24, the Conference will conclude with a Resolution Assembly.

The work group sessions will focus on Native languages and culture; higher education; structure for schools: readiness for schools; exceptional education; safe, alcohol/drug free schools; governance of Indian education/independent Board of Education; well being of Indian communities/delivery of services; literacy/student academic achievement/high school graduation; Native and non-Native school personnel; adult education and lifelong learning/parental, community and tribal partnerships. Members of the news media are welcome to attend the work group sessions.

Journalists wishing to cover the Conference must have credentials from the White House or the Congress, or must be credentialed by the Media Office of the Conference.

Credentials may be acquired on site. Journalists who do not have credentials from the White House or Congress must register at the Media credentials Desk in the Ramada Renaissance which will be open 1-5 p.m. Tuesday (January 21); 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, and 7 a.m. - Noon on Friday. Applicants must provide their name, social security number, date and place of birth, job title and a letter on company letterhead stating that the applicant has been assigned to cover the Conference. Journalists wishing to register in advance with the Media Office should provide a request by telefax with this information. Fax: (202) 208-3231.

All journalists wishing to cover the conference must check in with the Media Credentials Desk (room 18) at the Ramada Renaissance to obtain badges that will provide admittance to the sessions. Contact: Bob Walker or Gail Wendt (202) 208-317.