



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

NOV 23 2021

Dear Tribal Leader:

I am pleased to present you with the proposed membership for the PROGRESS Act<sup>1</sup> Negotiated Rulemaking Committee. The Committee will advise the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) on a proposed rule to implement the PROGRESS Act to revise the regulations on Tribal Self-Governance Annual Funding Agreements Under the Tribal Self-Governance Act Amendments to the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA).

The proposed membership was selected from nominations received in response to the Federal Register notice requesting nominations.<sup>2</sup> The Department solicited nominations from Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations, as defined in ISDEAA section 4(I), that are currently participating in the Tribal Self-Governance Program as well as those that are not currently participating in, but are interested in participating in, the Tribal Self-Governance Program and who would be affected by the rule.

The Department proposes both primary and alternate representatives to the Committee. Primary representatives are voting members. Alternate representatives are to remain abreast of discussions and to be prepared to vote in the event the primary representative is unavailable. Both primary and alternate representatives are expected to attend all meetings. The Designated Federal Officer (DFO) and Alternate DFO are considered non-members of the Committee.

The enclosed list includes the 14 Tribal representatives (7 Primary, 7 Alternate) and 12 Federal representatives (6 Primary, 6 Alternate) proposed for the Committee. The Department welcomes comments on the proposed membership and the proposal to establish the Committee and invites additional nominations for Committee members who will adequately represent the interests that are likely to be significantly affected by the proposed rule. Please submit your comments and any additional nominations to [consultation@bia.gov](mailto:consultation@bia.gov) by the date listed in the attached Federal Register notice.

If you have any questions regarding the process for forming this Committee, please contact the Designated Federal Officer for the Committee Ms. Vickie Hanvey, Office of Self-Governance, at (918) 931-0745 or by email at [Vickie.Hanvey@bia.gov](mailto:Vickie.Hanvey@bia.gov).

I look forward to the good work this Committee will undertake to update our regulations to conform to the PROGRESS Act.

Sincerely,

Bryan Newland  
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Enclosure

<sup>1</sup> Practical Reforms and Other Goals To Reinforce the Effectiveness of Self-Governance and Self-Determination for Indian Tribes Act of 2019

<sup>2</sup> See 86 Fed. Reg. 7656 (February 1, 2021).

## **Proposed Membership for the PROGRESS Act Negotiated Rulemaking Committee**

### Proposed Primary Tribal and Tribal Organization Representatives:

- W. Ron Allen, Chairman/CEO, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
- Richard Peterson, President, Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
- Michael Dolson, Councilman, The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation
- Melanie Fourkiller, Director of Self-Governance, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma
- Russel (Buster) Attebery, Chairman, Karuk Tribe
- Karen Fierro, Self-Governance Director, Ak-Chin Indian Community

### Proposed Alternate Tribal and Tribal Organization Representatives:

- Sandra Sampson, Board Treasurer, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Jennifer Webster, Councilwoman, Oneida Nation
- Gerry Hope, Transportation Director, Former Tribal Leader, Sitka Tribe of Alaska
- Jody LaMere, Councilwoman, Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation
- Jacklyn King, Secretary, Sac and Fox Nation
- Will Micklin, Second Vice President, Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska
- Annette Bryan, Council Member, Puyallup Tribe of Indians

### Proposed Primary Federal Representatives:

- Sharee Freeman, Director, Office of Self-Governance, Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs
- Bryan Shade, Attorney-Advisor, Branch of Self-Governance and Economic Development, Office of the Solicitor – Division of Indian Affairs
- Vicki Cook, Native American and International Affairs Office, Bureau of Reclamation
- Byron Loosle, Division Chief, National Conservation Lands, Bureau of Land and Minerals Management
- Scott Aikin, National Native American Programs Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Head Quarters
- Rose Petoskey, Senior Counselor to the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

### Proposed Alternate Federal Representatives:

- Matt Kallappa, Northwest Field Office Manager, Indian Affairs, Office of Self-Governance
- Jody Schwarz, Attorney-Advisory, Branch of Self-Governance and Economic Development,, Office of the Solicitor – Division of Indian Affairs
- Kelly Titensor, Native American Affairs Advisor, , Bureau of Reclamation
- C. Dave Johnson, Tribal Liaison for the Bureau of Land and Minerals Management
- Dorothy FireCloud, Native American Affairs Liaison, National Park Service
- Samuel Kohn, Senior Counselor to the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs