

Outreach Planning

In order to engage the substantial and diverse range of Tribal stakeholders of Bureau-funded schools around the issues of facilities and construction, the convening report recommended that the Committee implement strategies to obtain feedback from diverse constituents on the draft ideas and recommendations. To do this, the Committee has agreed to develop an outreach plan including formal regional Consultations along with additional smaller outreach efforts. At the October meeting, Michele Singer, DFO, explained that the budget for this outreach allows for approximately five formal regional Consultation sessions in regions around the country. A separate budget also exists for each committee member to outreach with constituents in their regions in other forums.

Once an approved draft report is completed, copies will be sent to 600 Tribal (and school?) leaders, who will then need time to review the report. Therefore, outreach events will likely be scheduled for Spring/Summer 2011. The Committee as a whole would also develop and approve a standard presentation to be presented at each of these events and a process for receiving feedback.

In general, two kinds of outreach would take place.

- Five formal regional Consultations by region, funded by an IECR Outreach Budget;
- A number of additional outreach sessions conducted by individual committee members in their region, funded by a CBI Caucusing and Outreach Budget.

Below describes ideas for how these two approaches might proceed.

Five formal regional Consultations

- The Committee would host five consultations in five different regions of the country. The locations might include: 1) Rapid City; 2) Pacific Northwest; 3) Navajo Region; 4) Albuquerque; and, 5) Southeast (Nashville or elsewhere).
- Consultations will be publicized in the Federal Register and in local newspapers....
- When possible, these could be coordinated to occur around the time of scheduled regional Tribal meetings, to avoid the need for additional travel for Tribal participants
- The IECR Outreach budget allows for five Committee members to attend each of these sessions.
- Each Committee member would be expected to attend one of these formal Consultation sessions. Because geographic distribution of Committee members does not align exactly with the geographic distribution of the Consultations, some committee members would attend sessions outside of their regions.
- At least one Committee Co-Chair would attend each Consultation session, and lead the session along with other Committee members and the DFO.
- The facilitators will help BIA organize logistics, and one facilitator will be in attendance at each session to take notes and assist the co-chairs and DFO as needed.

Additional outreach sessions

- Each committee member (or a few organizing together) could, to the extent possible, also hold outreach and feedback sessions within their regions.
- These sessions would likely be held in conjunction with regular other meetings in the region.
- A slide presentation as developed for the committee-wide consultations would be available.
- The travel would be funded by each individual member's caucus/outreach funds, managed by CBI. Each member has up to \$1000 for travel for caucusing and outreach with constituents.
- BIA/BIE would, to the extent possible, work to have at least one Bureau representative (might include a ELO, for instance) at these sessions.
- CBI has a limited budget for facilitation staff to attend and document these session. If members are interested in facilitation support, please let the facilitators know as soon as possible. If demand exceeds available funding, co-chairs and the DFO may need determine priority.