

2023 GOVERNOR'S TRIBAL RELATIONS REPORT – AGENCY NARRATIVE SUBMISSION FORM
(for the reporting period July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023)

Purpose: The Tribal Relations Report showcases the state-tribal cooperative work and highlights efforts in support of the Governor's vision for Montana.

1. **Submission Date:** 5/31/23
2. **State Agency/Division/Program:** Dawson Community College
3. **Narrative Coordinator Name:** Matt Hull **Phone/Email:** mhull@dawson.edu
4. **Activity Name** (*the file name should reference this topic*): Indigenous Peoples' Day 10/10/22.
MMIW/MMIP Awareness Night 2/26/23.
5. **Program Staff Name:** Daneen Peterson **Phone/Email:** 406-377-3061/ dpeterson@dawson.edu
and Peyton Koivu, Director of Housing and Community Engagement
Phone/Email: (406) 377-9445 / pkoivu@dawson.edu

6. **Select Tribe(s) Involved:**

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fort Belknap |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blackfeet | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fort Peck |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chippewa Cree | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Little Shell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confederated Salish & Kootenai | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northern Cheyenne |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crow | |
| OTHERS: | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northern Arapaho | |

7. Please specify when this state-tribal activity started and if it is ongoing or finalized.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Started before FY 2023 | <input type="checkbox"/> Started during FY 2023 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing/Long-Term | <input type="checkbox"/> Completed/finalized during FY 2023 |

In the next sections, please make sure to spell out acronyms and acknowledge the source when the materials (text/data/photographs) came from an entity outside of state government.

8. In 1-2 paragraphs, describe the **purpose** of the state-tribal activity, its **significance**, major **accomplishments**, and overall **impact**. Please include a **brief description** of the state program contributing to the activity, timelines, cost and monetary contributions, location, other partners, etc.

Dawson Community College annually hosts Indigenous Peoples' Day which occurs on the second Monday in October each year.

Indigenous Peoples' Day was held on Monday, Oct 10, 2022 on the campus of Dawson Community College in Glendive, Montana. The purpose of this event is to provide an opportunity to honor and celebrate the beautiful culture, deep history and strong heritage of the Native American people. Additionally, one of the goals of this event is to support non-Native people in gaining a better understanding of and empathy for the Native American history and culture. While Glendive does not have a large Native American (or Indigenous) population, it is located in close proximity to a number of reservations in Eastern Montana. The student population at Dawson Community College had one of its strongest representation of Native students in many years, at 5% of the population. Students represented the following tribes for the 2022-23 school year: Chippewa

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Cree, Crow, Fort Belknap, Little Shell, Northern Cheyenne, Northern Arapaho. Additional non-MT reservation tribes included: Navajo and Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara.

The highlight event was a Land Acknowledgement plaque presentation followed by Montana tribal flag presentation, drumming and dancing. DCC's President Villmer presented the plaque which was received by members of the Crow (Apsaalooké) tribe including Chairman Frank WhiteClay and Vice Secretary Channis Whitemann. Three of DCC's tribal college students participated in the dancing along with the Crow tribe members.

The event also included the following activities: Native American artifacts display, MMIW display (presented by Glendive Zonta organization), children's story and craft (provided by The Nurturing Tree,) virtual and in-person speakers, prayer walk (organized by DCC's InterVarsity student club). The speakers' topics included: Doctrine of Discovery by Dr. Walter C. Fleming (Kickapoo) from MSU, "Unlimited Potential" in sports by Dr. Natalie Welch, PhD (Cherokee) from Seattle University. All events and activities related to Indigenous Peoples' Day were free to students and the community. The Crow tribal council provided funding for transportation of members.

9. In 1-2 paragraphs, describe **any new law, rule, or policy** related to your program that impact state-tribal relations, Indian people and tribal communities.
10. If available, provide noteworthy **data** regarding the impact of your program on tribal communities, such as the number of American Indian people served, jobs created in Indian Country, leveraged funds stimulating economic development, etc.

Approximately 65 children, 120 college students and 80 adults (from the college and/or the community) attended the Indigenous Peoples' Day events. The majority of all attendees were of non-Native race and ethnicity. The impact to tribal communities is that non-tribal members gain valuable insight into tribal and Native American history and culture. Knowledge and understanding are a key component toward racial equity and inclusion.

11. Are there **photographs** to support the narrative? (X) Yes () No
Please submit photographs in JPEG format, in high resolution (300 DPI minimum) and specify below the file name, caption and credit for each photograph.

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Photo File Name: LandAcknowledgmentPlaquePresentation_DCC.jpg

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Land Acknowledgment Plaque Presentation at Dawson Community College. October 10, 2022. Speaking: DCC's President Justin Villmer. Holding the plaque are: Chairman Frank WhiteClay and Vice Secretary Channis Whitemann from Crow tribe.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson

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Photo

File Name: Plaque_Chairman_and_ViceSec_CrowTribe_atDCC.jpg

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Land Acknowledgment Plaque Presentation at Dawson Community College. October 10, 2022. Holding the plaque are: Chairman Frank WhiteClay and Vice Secretary Channis Whitemann from Crow tribe.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson

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Photo File Name: DamonGrosVentre_Dancing_CROW_atDCC.jpg

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): DCC student Damon Gros Ventre (Crow) Dancing. Dawson Community College. October 10, 2022.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson



Photo File Name: EvelynOldCoyote_Cropped_atDCC_Oct2022

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): DCC Evelyn Old Coyote (Crow) Dancing. Dawson Community College. October 10, 2022.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson

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Photo File Name: FlagPresentation_Crow.jpg

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Members of the Crow tribe and DCC student Damon Gros Ventre presented the Crow tribe flag. Dawson Community College. October 10, 2022.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson

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Photo File Name: RoundDance_Outside

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): After the dancing by Native members, everyone moved outside to do a Round Dance at Dawson Community College. October 10, 2022. For many non-Native individuals, this was a highlight of the day because they had an opportunity to participate and do something with their fellow Native students and community members.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson



Photo File Name: Craft_Rattle_AriaJoJo.jpg

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Children made a native American rattle during story and craft time. Dawson Community College. October 10, 2022.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson

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Photo File Name: StoryTime_Kids.jpg

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Approximately 30 children attended story and craft time which was hosted by The Nurturing Tree. Dawson Community College. October 10, 2022.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson

12. Do you have any suggestions on how to improve the Governor's Tribal Relations Report?
- Under #6, for Tribes. Add a place holder for "Other" tribes. The tribes listed only include those which are more native to Montana. However, there are various individuals who live in MT (or attend a college in Montana) and are enrolled in a different tribe.

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1. **Submission Date:**6/1/23
2. **State Agency/Division/Program:** Dawson Community College
3. **Narrative Coordinator Name:** Matt Hull **Phone/Email:** mhull@dawson.edu
4. **Activity Name** MMIW/MMIP Awareness Night 2/26/23.

5. **Program Staff Name:** Daneen Peterson **Phone/Email:** 406-377-3061/ dpeterson@dawson.edu
and Joe Peterson, Athletic Director **Phone/Email:** jpeterson@dawson.edu

6. **Select Tribe(s) Involved:**

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> All | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fort Belknap |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blackfeet | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fort Peck |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chippewa Cree | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Little Shell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confederated Salish & Kootenai | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northern Cheyenne |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crow | |
| OTHERS: | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Northern Arapaho | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MHA |

7. Please specify when this state-tribal activity started and if it is ongoing or finalized.

- | | |
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Dawson Community College (DCC) held a MMIP/MMIW awareness event on February 26, 2023 during the college basketball games.

MMIP - Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons

MMIWG - Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Dawson Community College Athletics' Department wanted to raise awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons and Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls during their regular season basketball games. Attendees were asked to wear red to promote awareness of MMIP/MMIWG.

The highlight of this event took place during the halftime of both the men's and women's games. Darrin Old Coyote (Crow) read an announcement about the issues of MMIP/MMIWG which included the overall plight and challenges related to [caused by] the history of Native Americans, MMIP/MMIWG statistics and other awareness information. Family members of DCC student Evelyn Old Coyote provided singing, drumming and dancing. DCC students Evelyn Old

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Coyote (Crow) and Alania Woods (MHA and Northern Cheyenne) danced with other Crow tribal members. The Old Coyote family made and donated warm up T-shirts for the men’s and women’s teams. High school students from Lodge Grass presented the Montana Tribal Flags during the half time presentation.

The event also included the following activities: MMIW display (presented by Glendive Zonta organization). Posters around the gym, lobby and bathrooms with MMIWG statistics. Names of MMIP and MMIWG individuals from Montana on the chairs where the basketball teams sit.

9. In 1-2 paragraphs, describe **any new law, rule, or policy** related to your program that impact state-tribal relations, Indian people and tribal communities.

n/a

10. If available, provide noteworthy **data** regarding the impact of your program on tribal communities, such as the number of American Indian people served, jobs created in Indian Country, leveraged funds stimulating economic development, etc.

Approximately 900 total people were in attendance for this event. The approximate break down is: 60 children, 80 high school students, 140 college students, and 620 adults (from the college and/or the community). High school basketball teams in attendance were from: Wolf Point, Poplar, Lodge Grass, and Brockton. Approximately 85% of the high school students in attendance were Native American.

This event served and honored approximately 112 Native American individuals.

Adults – 25

HS students and children – 75

College students – 12

DCC Native American students made these comments about the event:

“I think that the MMIP/ MMIWG awareness night means a lot especially for us Native Americans that go (to college) here. I think even sometimes on our own reservation we hardly get the attention on this issue, so it means a lot for sure,” said Damon Gros Ventre (Crow, from Lodge Grass), DCC student and men’s basketball player.

“It’s sad to say that Native American Indians are like an “unknown race” to the white society, even though they’re on our land. This topic isn’t easy to talk about but honestly the white society could care less if “just another Indian” went missing or was murdered. That “Indian” they refer to is just as human as them. With this event coming up, it will hopefully spread more awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women/ People. I appreciate my teammates and the new family I’ve made here at DCC for standing behind this awareness.” - Evelyn Old Coyote (Crow, from Hardin), DCC student and women's basketball player.

11. Are there **photographs** to support the narrative? (X) Yes () No

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Photo File Name: Dancing_MMIW_event_DCC

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Group of dancers at MMIP/MMIWG Awareness Event at Dawson Community College. February 26, 2023.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson

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Photo File Name: Dancing_Evelyn_Alania_MMIW_event_DCC

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Two college students dancing at MMIP/MMIWG Awareness Event at Dawson Community College. February 26, 2023.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson



Photo File Name: DCCstudents_Evelyn_Alania_MMIW_event_DCC

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): DCC students Evelyn Old Coyote (Crow) and Alania Woods (MHA and Northern Cheyenne) danced with other Crow tribal members at MMIP/MMIWG Awareness Event at Dawson Community College. February 26, 2023.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson

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Photo File Name: FlagPresentation_MMIW_event_DCC

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): High school students from Lodge Grass presented the Montana Tribal Flags during the half time presentation at the MMIP/MMIWG Awareness Event at Dawson Community College. February 26, 2023.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson

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Photo File Name: MMIW_event_Shirts_Signs_DCC

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): The men's and women's basketball teams wore warm up shirts to bring awareness. The names of MMIP and MMIWG individuals from Montana were put on the chairs where the basketball teams sit. MMIP/MMIWG Awareness Event at Dawson Community College. February 26, 2023.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson

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Photo File Name: ManDancing_MMIW_event_DCC

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Grass/Crow dancer at MMIP/MMIWG Awareness Event at Dawson Community College. February 26, 2023.

Photo Credit: Daneen Peterson

12. Do you have any suggestions on how to improve the Governor's Tribal Relations Report?
- Under #6, for Tribes. Add a place holder for "Other" tribes. The tribes listed only include those which are more native to Montana. However, there are various individuals who live in MT (or attend a college in Montana) and are enrolled in a different tribe.