

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:** 7/7/2023
2. **State Agency/Division/Program:** Montana State University-Northern
3. **Narrative Coordinator Name:** Margaret Campbell
Phone/Email: (406) 265-9232; margarett.campbell@msun.edu
4. **Activity Name** (*the file name should reference this topic*): Annual Sweet Grass Society Pow Wow
5. **Program Staff Name:** Corey Kopp
Phone/Email: (406) 265-4113; corey.kopp@msun.edu

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

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

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 type="checkbox"/> Ongoing/Long-Term | <input checked="" 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.

The Annual Sweet Grass Society Pow Wow has been a fixture in our community for nearly 50 years – the most recent event marked our 46th annual pow wow. The Pow Wow is sponsored by, funded, coordinated, and facilitated by MSU-Northern's indigenous student organization, the Sweet Grass Society. This student group raises nearly \$15,000 each year from our local community (businesses and private donors) to assist in hosting this event, which offers food trucks, prizes for competition and attendance, and professional facilitators (master of ceremonies, arena director, etc.). The Pow Wow brings tribal members from all over Montana and surrounding states to join in dancing, singing, and celebration and provides all within the Northern, Havre, and Hi-Line communities an incredible opportunity to experience and engage with Native American tradition and culture.

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.

None.

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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.

While we do not track attendance or other similar metrics for this event, we typically host several hundred people at each of our three sessions over the course of two days and the event relies heavily on campus and community volunteer support.

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.

Photo File Name: DSCF5419.jpeg
Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Annual Sweet Grass Society Pow Wow, MSU-Northern Armory Gym, April 28-29, 2023.
Photo Credit: Photo by Jason Geer, [Jason Geer Photography](#).



Photo File Name: DSCF6109.jpeg
Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Annual Sweet Grass Society Pow Wow, MSU-Northern Armory Gym, April 28-29, 2023.
Photo Credit: Photo by Jason Geer, [Jason Geer Photography](#).

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Photo File Name: DSCF6146.jpeg

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Annual Sweet Grass Society Pow Wow, MSU-Northern Armory Gym, April 28-29, 2023.

Photo Credit: Photo by Jason Geer, [Jason Geer Photography](http://www.jasongeerphotography.com).

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12. Do you have any suggestions on how to improve the Governor's Tribal Relations Report?

None.

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3. **Narrative Coordinator Name:** Margaret Campbell
Phone/Email: (406) 265-9232; margarett.campbell@msun.edu
4. **Activity Name** (*the file name should reference this topic*): Annual Tipi Raising
5. **Program Staff Name:** Corey Kopp
Phone/Email: (406) 265-4113; corey.kopp@msun.edu

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All | <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Belknap |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blackfeet | <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Peck |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Crow | |

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Each fall, the Sweet Grass Society – MSU-Northern's indigenous student organization – sponsors a tipi raising that provides awareness and education on American Indian culture, typically in conjunction with the start of the academic year at Northern. We partner with local tribal members to assist with the raising and to provide an educational presentation throughout the event to help participants understand the significance of the tradition and to highlight the tribes represented within our own student and campus community.

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.

None.

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.

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No data is tracked for this event. Attendance usually consists of at least 8-12 students, as well as a few faculty and staff.

11. Are there **photographs** to support the narrative? () Yes (X) 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.

Photo File Name: Tipi1.jpeg

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Annual Sweet Grass Society Tipi Raising at MSU-Northern.

Photo Credit: Jim Potter, MSU-Northern University Relations



Photo File Name: Tipi2.jpeg

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Annual Sweet Grass Society Tipi Raising at MSU-Northern.

Photo Credit: Jim Potter, MSU-Northern University Relations

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12. Do you have any suggestions on how to improve the Governor's Tribal Relations Report?

None.

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3. **Narrative Coordinator Name:** Margaret Campbell
Phone/Email: (406) 265-9232; margarett.campbell@msun.edu
4. **Activity Name** (*the file name should reference this topic*): Celebration of Indigenous Culture with Counting Coup
5. **Program Staff Name:** Corey Kopp
Phone/Email: (406) 265-4113; corey.kopp@msun.edu

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

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

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In the fall of 2021, we began a tradition of inviting local musicians – [Counting Coup](#) of Billings, MT – to join us on campus for a concert and celebration of indigenous culture. Fall of 2022 saw the second annual event take place and we are in the process of booking and scheduling for the coming fall again. The event provides music, food, as well as an educational presentation on Native American dancing, singing, and drumming. Each of the past two years, this has included a discussion of Native American culture provided by our Chief Diversity Officer, Margaret Campbell, as well as dancing, singing, and drumming demonstrations from local performers, most of whom are members of our Northern and Hi-Line communities.

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.

None.

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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.

While we do not track attendance or other similar metrics for this event, we hosted 75-100 people at the first event in fall of 2021 and another 50-75 in the fall of 2022 (weather required a change in venue and date, impacting our attendance).

11. Are there **photographs** to support the narrative? () Yes (X) 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.



Photo File Name: File1454.jpeg

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Drummers and dancers perform at the Celebration of Indigenous Culture at MSU-Northern.

Photo Credit: Jim Potter, MSU-Northern University Relations

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Photo File Name: File1579.jpeg

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): Counting Coup performs at the Celebration of Indigenous Culture at MSU-Northern.

Photo Credit: Jim Potter, MSU-Northern University Relations

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None.

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2. **State Agency/Division/Program:** Montana State University-Northern
3. **Narrative Coordinator Name:** Margaret Campbell
Phone/Email: (406) 265-9232; margarett.campbell@msun.edu
4. **Activity Name** (*the file name should reference this topic*): Little River Institute Tutoring Services
5. **Program Staff Name:** Corey Kopp
Phone/Email: (406) 265-4113; corey.kopp@msun.edu

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All | <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Belknap |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blackfeet | <input type="checkbox"/> Fort Peck |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chippewa Cree | <input type="checkbox"/> Little Shell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confederated Salish & Kootenai | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cheyenne |
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The primary goal of the MSUN NASNTI Project – the Little River Institute (LRI) – is to increase the on-time graduation rates of American Indian students at both the Bachelors and Associates levels. Its secondary goal is to increase fall-to-spring and fall-to-fall retention rates for American Indian students, including first-time, full-time students and those with continuing, transfer, and returning status. One of the most critical means by which we attempt to impact these metrics is through the offering of tutoring services within the LRI. We employ two full-time Pathfinders – professional tutors in writing and STEM –throughout the academic year.

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Per data reported in the NASNTI Annual Performance Report for the grant year, October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, LRI tutors served 10% of the American Indian students eligible for the three semesters captured within the grant year (Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022). Students participating in tutoring services at LRI also realized a 74% pass rate for the courses in which they were enrolled.

11. Are there **photographs** to support the narrative? () Yes (X) 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.

Photo File Name:

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date):

Photo Credit:

12. Do you have any suggestions on how to improve the Governor’s Tribal Relations Report?

None.