



Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children

Northwest/Rocky Mountain Regional Hearing PUBLIC AGENDA

Location:

Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center
Lower Level (1st Floor)
5011 Bernie Whitebear Way
Seattle, WA 98199

April 19, 2023 – April 20, 2023

**All start times listed in Pacific Time*

Agenda Overview

- **Wednesday – April 19**
 - Regional Hearing Welcome (morning)
 - Regional Hearing Panels (all day)
 - Panel 1 – Physical, Mental, and Behavioral Health;
 - Panel 2 – Education and Early Childhood Development;
 - Panel 3 – Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice, and Violence, and
 - Panel 4 – System Innovations and Best Practices in Native Communities.
- **Thursday – April 20**
 - Regional Hearing Tribal Welcome (morning)
 - Regional Hearing Panels (morning only)
 - Panel 5 – Youth Panel, and
 - Community/Public comments

COVID-19 Considerations

Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center guidance related to COVID-19 will be encouraged and followed. All hearings will be hybrid (in-person and virtual) however, the Commission may decide to move to virtual-only for hearings and events depending on COVID-19 related developments and participants will be notified in advance.



Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children

have been effective in tribal communities in the region (including trauma informed and culturally based strategies). Opening remarks (45 min)

- **Chairman Leonard Forsman**, Suquamish Indian Tribe
- **Leo Stewart**, former Vice-Chair of the Umatilla Board of Trustees
- **Ryan Oatman**, MSW, Nez Perce Tribe | NPTEC Member

10:00 am **Panel 1: Physical, Mental and Behavioral Health** (1.5 hours)
(9:00 am AK, 10:00 am PT, 11:00 am MT, 12:00 pm CT, 1:00 pm ET)

The goal of this session is to increase the Commission's understanding of the systems of health services provision available for Native children in the region (including physical, behavioral, and mental health, and traditional and cultural services). Panelists will discuss the strengths, challenges, and opportunities for improvement within the current health system. Each panelist will provide 15 minutes of testimony, followed by a 5-minute opportunity for questions from the Commissioners. After all panelists have spoken, there will be a 30-minute period of general conversation and discussion with the full panel.

- **Dr. Myra Parker**, Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences in the University of Washington School of Medicine
- **Dr. D'Shane Barnett**, Director, Missoula County Public Health Urban Health Care. Previously the executive director of All Nations Health Center in Missoula
- **Abigail Echo-Hawk**, Director, Urban Indian Health Institute, Executive Vice President, Seattle Indian Health Board

11:30 am **Break** (15 min)
(10:30 am AK, 11:30 am PT, 12:30 pm MT, 1:30 pm CT, 2:30 pm ET)

11:45 am **Panel 2: Education and Early Childhood Development** (1.5 hours)
(10:45 am AK, 11:45 am PT, 12:45 pm MT, 1:45 pm CT, 2:45 pm ET)

The goal of this session is to explore two issues. The first topic will be around supporting Native students by incorporating Native language and culture into educational systems at all levels of education, from early childhood to higher education. Panelists will discuss the characteristics of Native students in their systems, the ways that their systems incorporate Native language and culture, and the factors that support and hinder the health and well-being of Native



Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children

children and youth. The second topic will be a discussion about the importance of early childhood programming serving children 0-5 in Native communities. Panelists will discuss programs like Head Start, childcare, pre-kindergarten, and home visiting and share results that have been shown to have positive impacts on child and family development, supporting increased child and family health, improved school readiness and academic achievement, and improved family economic self-sufficiency. Each panelist will provide 15 minutes of testimony, followed by a 5-minute opportunity for questions from the Commissioners. After all panelists have spoken, there will be a 30-minute period of general conversation and discussion with the full panel.

- **Hilary Gourneau**, Director, Head Start Fort Peck Tribe
- **Matthew Johnson**, Director, Alternative Education for Browning Public Schools and Principal of the Buffalo Hide Academy
- **Tleena Ives**, Tribal Liaison for Washington State Dept. of Early Learning, Dept. of Children, Youth and Families

1:15 pm

LUNCH (1 hour)

(12:15 pm AK, 1:15 pm PT, 2:15 pm MT, 3:15 pm CT, 4:15 pm ET)

2:15 pm

Panel 3: Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice, and Violence (1.5 hours)

(1:15 pm AK, 2:15 pm PT, 3:15 pm MT, 4:15 pm CT, 5:15 pm ET)

The goal of this session is to explore two issues. First, to increase the Commission's understanding of issues around child welfare in Native communities in the region, including addressing jurisdictional issues related to the implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act by improving state-local-tribal collaboration, and building tribal capacity to prevent and respond to child abuse and neglect and related issues. Second, to discuss the efficacy of the juvenile justice system for Native children, youth and communities and the disproportionate rates of arrest, detention and incarceration among Native youth compared to non-Hispanic Whites. Research is generally agreed that a more behavioral health approach to juvenile delinquency is better for youth, especially in light of increasing mental health challenges, greater suicide risk, challenges accessing education, and feelings of isolation and disconnection from culture and community. Each panelist will provide 15 minutes of testimony, followed by a 5-minute opportunity for questions from the Commissioners. After all panelists have spoken, there will be a 30-minute period of general conversation and discussion with the full panel.



Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children

- **Loni Greninger**, Vice Chairwoman, Tribal Council & Director, Social & Community Services
- **Chaniel Running Crane**, Black Feet Nation Healing to Wellness Courts Coordinator
- **Wendy Bremner**, BIA Victim Services Specialist

3:45 pm

Break (15 min)

(2:45 pm AK, 3:45 pm PT, 4:45 pm MT, 5:45 pm CT, 6:45 pm ET)

4:00 pm

Panel 4: Systems Innovations and Best Practices in Native Communities (1.5 hours)

(3:00 pm AK, 4:00 pm PT, 5:00 pm MT, 6:00 pm CT, 7:00 pm ET)

The goal of this session is to highlight cross-system models, innovations, and best practices to meet the needs of Native children in a seamless and coordinated way. Each panelist will provide 15 minutes of testimony, followed by a 5-minute opportunity for questions from the Commissioners. After all panelists have spoken, there will be a 30-minute period of general conversation and discussion with the full panel.

- **Dr. Shaquita Bell**, Senior Medical Director, Odessa Brown Children's Clinic, Seattle Children's Hospital
- **Lona Running Wolf**, Montana Office of Public Instruction, Director of American Indian Student Achievement
- **Camie Goldhammer**, MSW, LICSW, IBCLC, Clinical Social Worker, Lactation Consultant and Full Spectrum Indigenous Doula

5:30 pm

Closing Remarks and Adjourn

(4:30 pm AK, 5:30 pm PT, 6:30 pm MT, 7:30 pm CT, 8:30 pm ET)

The Commission will provide closing remarks for the day



Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children

Thursday, April 20 – Regional Hearing

**Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center
Lower Level (1st Floor)**

**All start times listed in Pacific Time*

Zoom link: <https://kearnswest.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcrf--rpjOpHdH4pjoPkwx9LytnXyVpB-C3>

The public is welcome to attend and listen to the Regional Hearing. The dialogue will be between the panelists and the Commissioners only for the morning session.

8:30 am **Doors Open to the Public** (30 mins)
(7:30 am AK, 8:30 am PT, 9:30 am MT, 10:30 am CT, 11:30 am ET)

9:00 am **Rocky Mountain Region Tribal/Community Welcome** (1 hour)
(8:00 am AK, 9:00 am PT, 10:00 am MT, 11:00 am CT, 12:00 pm ET)

The Commission will provide remarks to the audience around Commission goals.

Rocky Mountain Region Tribal/Community remarks

The goal of this session is to provide a general overview of the current issues faced by Native children and youth (both on reservations and in urban communities) in the region, covering all topics to be studied by the Commission. Speakers will highlight common systemic challenges and discuss programs and strategies that have been effective in tribal communities in the region (including trauma informed and culturally based strategies). Opening remarks:

- **Honorable Stacie FourStar**, Fort Peck Tribes
- **Yvette Pinkham**, So. Cheyenne – Mother Nation Cultural Services Coordinator/Wellness Coach

10:00 am **Panel 5: Youth and Community Panel** (1 hr)
(9:00 am AK, 10:00 am PT, 11:00 am MT, 12:00 pm CT, 1:00 pm ET)

The goal of this session is to provide an opportunity for youth from the region to provide a general overview of current issues faced by youth (both on reservations and in urban communities), covering all topics to be studied by the Commission.



Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children

- **Royce Jarvey**, Artist/Youth Advocate
- **Jazell Jenkins**, Descendant of the Unangax from the Aleutian Islands of AK
- **Kayla Harstad**, Turtle Mountain Chippewa
- **Izzy Haakanson**, Sugpiaq (Old Harbor Tribe)
- **Landyn Zyskowski**, Stilliguamish
- **Soa'ali'i Moliga**, Nez Perce and Samoan
- **Kelsey Burns**, Confederated Tribes of Umatilla

11:00 am **Break** (15 min)
(10:00 am AK, 11:00 am PT, 12:00 pm MT, 1:00 pm CT, 2:00 pm ET)

11:15 am **Community/Public Panel** (1 hr)
(10:15 am AK, 11:15 am PT, 12:15 pm MT, 1:15 pm CT, 2:15 pm ET)

The Commission invites Native children, their families, tribal leaders, and community members to share their thoughts on issues that are important to protecting Native children served in the various communities. The Commission will provide an introduction and ask for those assembled in the room to comment. Witnesses will register ahead of time (or will sign up onsite) and will be given five (5) minutes each to speak. Testimony will be facilitated and open to any topic related to health, education, and well-being of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian children (age prenatal-24).

12:15 pm **Closing Remarks** (15 min)
(11:15 am AK, 12:15 pm PT, 1:15 pm MT, 2:15 pm CT, 3:15 pm ET)

The Commission will provide closing remarks, prayer, and color guard will retire the colors. Regional Hearing adjourned.

Closing Song: Daybreak Star Preschool
Nick Terrones, Early Childhood Educator and Director