



# National Congress of American Indians *Youth Commission*

## Special Meeting of the NCAI Youth Commission October 5, 2005 Sacramento, California Meeting Minutes

National Congress of American Indians

**Mission Statement:** We, the National Congress of American Indian Youth unite as a commission of all backgrounds and ages to strengthen the past, present and future of our unity, knowledge and wisdom; to serve our people's concerns and interests by enhancing our spiritual, mental, physical and emotional well-being for a better Native America.

**Purpose:** The Youth Commission provides a youth perspective with issues that concern the youth. It is to be a resource to NCAI and Tribal Leaders. It is an opportunity to acquire knowledge from NCAI and Tribal Leaders about the process of NCAI and Tribal Politics. Also to enhance our leadership skills and utilize those we may have obtained prior. Most importantly the NCAI Youth Commission is an avenue to provide a unified voice for ALL Native American and Alaskan youth

**Commission:** Special Meeting of the National Congress of American Indian Youth Commission held on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October 2005 at the Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento, California.

**Attendees:**

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| Jennifer Rackliff, NCAI Staff               | Alicia Newell, Youth Commission Secretary                  |
| Daryl Lynn Jay, Youth Commissioner          | Cynthia Biro, Alternate Youth Commissioner                 |
| Brian Poncho, Youth Commissioner            | Michael Preston, Gila River Indian                         |
| Patricia Carter, Youth Ambassador           | Community Youth Advisor                                    |
| Michael Lewis, Alternate Youth Commissioner | Adam Andrews, Tohono O'odham Nation Executive Staff Member |

### MINUTES

1. Called to order at 3:13 pm by Daryl Lynn Jay, Youth Commissioner

Daryl, reiterated what was said by Juana Dixon, NCAI Secretary, at the General Assembly held that day. Michael Lewis, Youth Commissioners Alternate, stated his personal opinion on how he sees that NCAI Ambassadors role of representing NCAI as a whole, as did Miss NCAI and that it was simply a name change. Michael also stated that it was only the beginning there are more steps that we, the youth commission, have to take to re building the bylaws and the youth commission. Brian Poncho, NCAI Youth Commissioner, apologized on behalf of the youth commission and stated that that we, the youth commissioners, do care what was said by the ambassadors that were present at the morning meeting and that we acknowledge the alliance between the Youth



Ambassadors and the Youth Commissioners as well as the rest of NCAI staff and other parties.

Patricia Carter, NCAI Youth Ambassador, stated how she did not want to assume the Youth Ambassador role but if she was to she wanted to come into the position with support of the youth commission and did not feel the support was there. Brian Poncho, Youth Commissioner, stated that Daryl and his self felt we needed to have a special meeting because “things” needed to be clarified. Alicia Newell, NCAI Youth Commission Secretary, reiterated what Brian had said about the importance of meeting. Cynthia Biro, NCAI Youth Commissioner Alternate, stated what was said by Ernie Stevens, that things will work themselves out with the Ambassador Program and the Miss NCAI Scholarship Pageant and that it will just take time. Michael Lewis, NCAI Youth Commission Alternate, asked if our staff could give each of the programs a brake down of the roles of each program and the separate duties.

As a whole we worked to make a small list of duties but it was recommended by Adam Andrews, Tohono O’odham Nation Executive Staff Member, to drop the duties and responsibilities issue and leave that to the staff and move on with the rest of our days.

The party as a whole decided that it would be done by the mid-year session held in Anchorage, Alaska in February of 2007 to be approved by the commission.

2. Meeting was adjourned at 4:20pm