

TRIBAL CAUCUS

Tribal Co-Chairs  
**W. Ron Allen**  
*Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe*

**Rick Harrison**  
*Chickaloon Native Village*

**Harold C. Frazier**  
*Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe*

REGIONAL  
REPRESENTATIVES

ALASKA  
**Rick Harrison**  
*Chickaloon Native Village*

**Karen Linnell**  
*Alutna Region*

EASTERN  
**Cheryl Andrews-Maltais**  
*Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head  
(Aquinnah)*

**Kitcki Carrol**  
*United South and Eastern Tribes*

EASTERN OKLAHOMA  
**Palmer Moseley**  
*Chickasaw Nation*

**Craig Harper**  
*Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma*

GREAT PLAINS  
**Harold C. Frazier**  
*Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe*

**A. Gay Kingman (Alternate)**  
*Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Association*

MIDWEST  
**Darrell Seki**  
*Red Lake Nation*

**Aaron Payment**  
*Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa  
Indians*

NAVAJO  
**Jonathan Nez**  
*Navajo Nation*

**Seth Damon**  
*Navajo Nation*

NORTHWEST  
**W. Ron Allen**  
*Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe*

**Patrick Fine Days DePoe**  
*Makah Tribe*

PACIFIC  
**Robert Smith**  
*Pala Reservation*

**Russell Attebery**  
*Karnak Tribe*

ROCKY MOUNTAIN  
**Mark Pollock**  
*Blackfeet Tribal Business Council*

**Lane Spotted Elk**  
*Northern Cheyenne Tribe*

SOUTHERN PLAINS  
**Ronnie Thomas**  
*Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas*

**Deborah Dotson**  
*Delaware Nation*

SOUTHWEST  
**Joseph A. Garcia**  
*Ohkay Owingeh*

**Shawn Duran**  
*Taos Pueblo*

WESTERN  
**Herminia Frias**  
*Pascua Yaqui Tribe*

**Michael Dallas, Sr.**  
*Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community*

# TRIBAL INTERIOR BUDGET COUNCIL TRIBAL CAUCUS

## Resolution No.: TIBC-22-001

### Title: In Support of Forward Funding of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Higher Education Grant Program

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal/Interior Budget Council (TIBC) was created to provide a forum and process, consistent with the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, Section 450(a)1 and Executive Order 13175 and the Department of the Interior's (DOI) Government to Government policy, whereby Tribal nations and the DOI work together to develop policy and budgets that provide for 1) the DOI to fulfill its Treaty obligations and Trust responsibilities; and 2) the fulfillment of Tribal nations' inherent sovereign rights of self-determination, self-governance, and self-sufficiency, as well as securing levels of funding necessary to strengthen Tribal governmental capacity to serve their citizens and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Tribal nations are sovereign governments that have a government-to-government relationship with the federal government embodied by 375 treaties, the U.S. Constitution, Acts of Congress, Executive Orders, Supreme Court decisions, federal regulations, and customary practices of U.S. foreign relations; and

**WHEREAS**, Tribal nations ceded millions of acres of land and natural resources, often by force and/or coercion, that are the foundation of the wealth and power of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States government has assumed a trust responsibility to protect these rights and to fulfill its solemn commitments to Tribal nations and their citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, in these solemn agreements, the United States government made promises it is obligated to fulfill in perpetuity, which codify the unique political status of Tribal nations and establishes the bedrock principles of the federal government's "trust responsibility" to protect the remaining lands and inherent rights of self-determination, self-government, and self-sufficiency of Tribal nations; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States government has failed to uphold its treaty obligations and trust responsibilities to Tribal nations; and

**WHEREAS**, this centuries-long failure has created and perpetuated socioeconomic conditions that inhibit Tribal nations' inherent rights of self-determination, self-government, and self-sufficiency that were promised to be preserved by the United States government; and

**WHEREAS** the ability of any nation to provide for the education of its citizens promotes economic development, public safety, and community well-being that has a measurable return on investment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Snyder Act of 1921 and subsequent Acts were passed by Congress, in part, to provide for the education of Tribal citizens, in recognition of the unique educational needs that resulted from centuries of policy that intentionally violated the promises of the United States government to Tribal nations and their citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the BIE Higher Education Grant Program is vital to the improved success and prosperity of Tribal nations and their citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, continuing resolutions and government shutdowns harm Tribal nations and their citizens and also violate the treaty obligations and trust responsibilities of the federal government; and

**WHEREAS**, Forward Funding and Advanced Appropriations are proven mechanisms for protecting programs from various interruptions, inconsistencies, and delays in the federal budget process; and

**WHEREAS**, the DOI currently provides forward funding for certain education programs – BIE K-12 schools and Tribal Colleges and Universities – that benefit Tribal nations and their citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, Forward Funding is not implemented by the United States government for the BIE Higher Education Grant Program budget line items; and

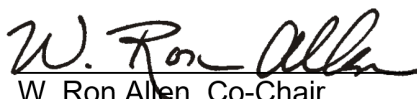
**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Tribal delegation of the Tribal/Interior Budget Council calls on the DOI and the BIE to submit a legislative request to Congress to Forward Fund the BIE Higher Education Grant Program in the Fiscal Year 2023 Interior Budget Justifications for the Bureau of Indian Education (i.e. the BIE Green Book); and

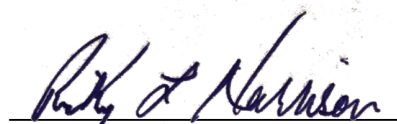
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the DOI shall advocate for forward funding for the BIE Higher Education Grant Program, both within the Administration and in its communications with Congress, because it is obligated to advocate for Tribal nations and their citizens; and


**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the BIE Higher Education Grant Program shall be forward funded to rectify the short-term interruptions, inconsistencies, and delays in the federal budget process.

### **CERTIFICATION**

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the Tribal/Interior Budget Council Tribal Caucus at the 2022 March TIBC meeting, held March 21, 2022 - March 25, 2022, with a quorum present.

  
W. Ron Allen, Co-Chair  
Tribal/Interior Budget Council

  
Rick Harrison, Co-Chair  
Tribal/Interior Budget Council

  
Harold C. Frazier, Co-Chair  
Tribal/Interior Budget Council