EXHIBIT 1
DATE 1/19/2005
HB

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
PO BOX 202501
HELENA MT 59620-2501
www.opi.state.mt.us
(406) 444-3095
(888) 231-9393
(406) 444-0169 (TTY)

Linda McCulloch
Superintendent

Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education
Office of Public Instruction
January 17, 2005
Indian Education for All
Superintendent Linda McCulloch's Remarks

For the record, I am State Superintendent Linda McCulloch. Thank you for the opportunity to address NP60 -- Indian Education for All, which is on page 26 of Governor Schweitzer's budget.

The three key pieces of history pertaining to Indian Education in Montana are:

- The 1972 Montana language in Article X of our constitution recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritage of American Indians;
- HB528 that passed the 1999 Legislature codified the constitutional language which then become known as Indian Education for All; and
- The 2004 District Court Judge Sherlock decision that ruled that the *current state funding system violates Article X, Section 1(2) of the Montana Constitution.*

I bring before you today a proposal to change what our education system should do for and about American Indian students as defined by Indian Education for All.

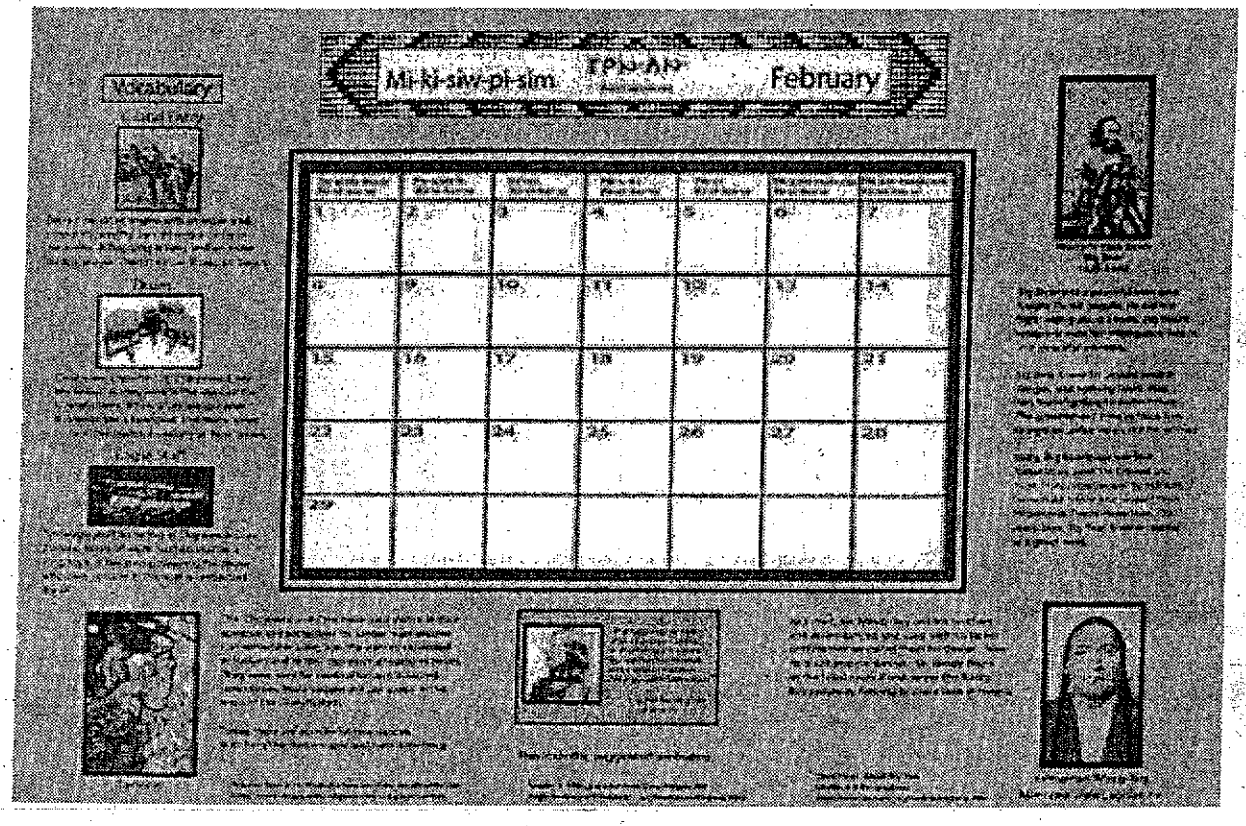
This fall I convened an Indian Education Summit. We have utilized the information and recommendations garnered at our Summit to assist with preparation for NP 60 – Indian Education for All – that requests a general fund appropriation of $1,000,000 annually and 3.00 FTE.

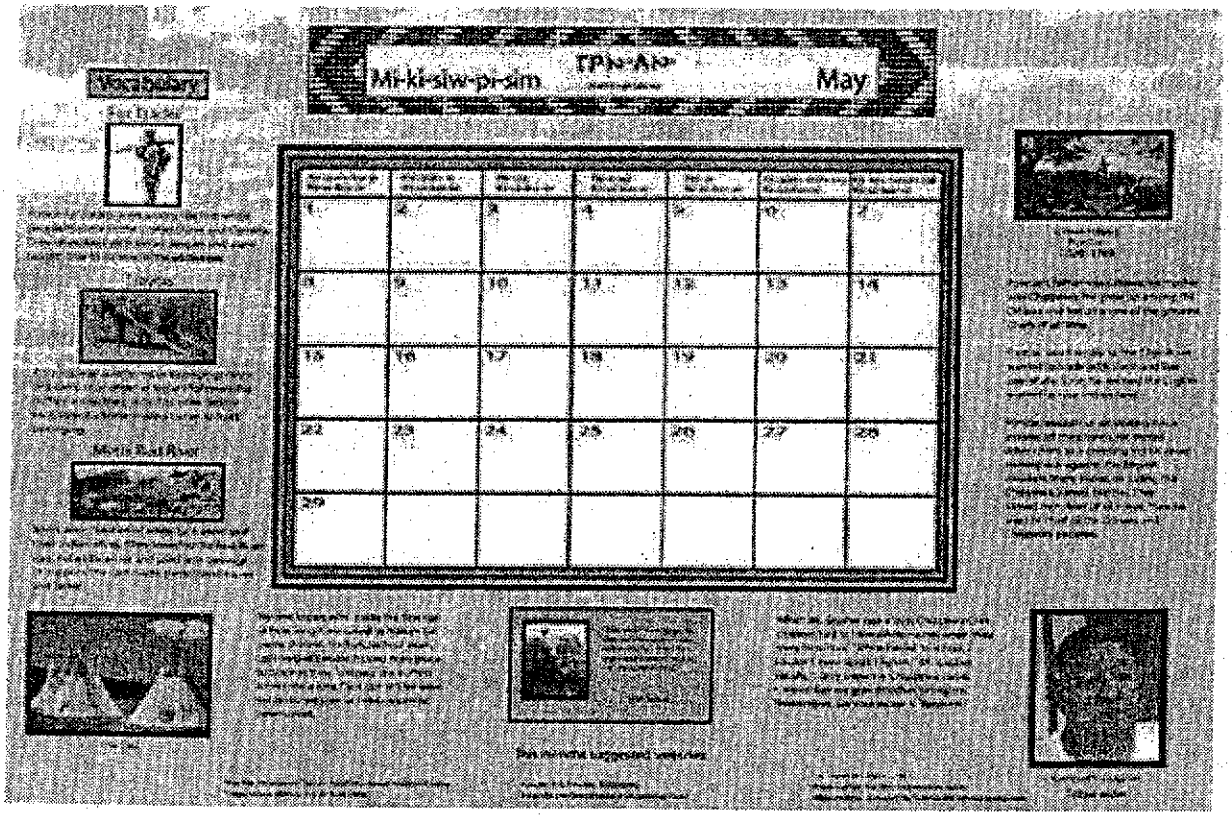
It is our belief that to fully implement Indian Education for All and ensure that it becomes a permanent part of Montana's education system, that some very critical ground work must be completed first.

Our plan for NP60 will build a foundation on which all students will have access to a curriculum model that integrates Indian Education for All into Montana's accreditation standards and all teachers will have classroom resources and receive on-going professional development

As a classroom teacher who wanted my students to understand the rich history and contemporary issues of Montana's Indian people, I felt at a loss for where to go for resources to assist me. As a teacher for more than 20 years I know that an Indian Education for All curriculum must be integrated into existing curriculums. It is not my intent to have an additional teaching area, but to

EXHIBIT _____
DATE 1/19/2005
HB _____





integrate Indian Education for All into existing curriculums for math, science, social studies, reading, PE and so on.
An example might be:

- A science class studying astronomy can integrate into the unit on the stars the purpose of the northern star to the Northern Cheyenne people who refer to themselves as the "morning star people".

Before Montana educators can teach our children about Montana's Indian people, we need to research what resources are out there and developing materials that are missing. We want to do it right, in a respectful and honorable way to Montana's Indians people and their tribes. The OPI will not do this alone. Montana Advisory Council on Indian Education (MACIE), an advisory body to the State Superintendent and the Board of Public Education, whose membership represents all Montana tribes, will serve as a primary resource for this proposal. Educators and tribal folks, both on and off reservation, will provide consultation in the development of a model curriculum and classroom materials that will meet the needs of all Montana students. Scholarships and fellowships will be awarded to Montana graduate students to assist us in research.

Show and Tell:
Let me give you a few examples of what resources and some estimated costs to get them into the hands of the classroom teacher:

- Montana Tribes: OPI prepared this a few years ago and recently updated it. The cost was $14000 to develop and $8.35 each to print. If we were to get a copy of this into the hands of 10,000 teachers in Montana, printing alone would cost us more than $83,500.

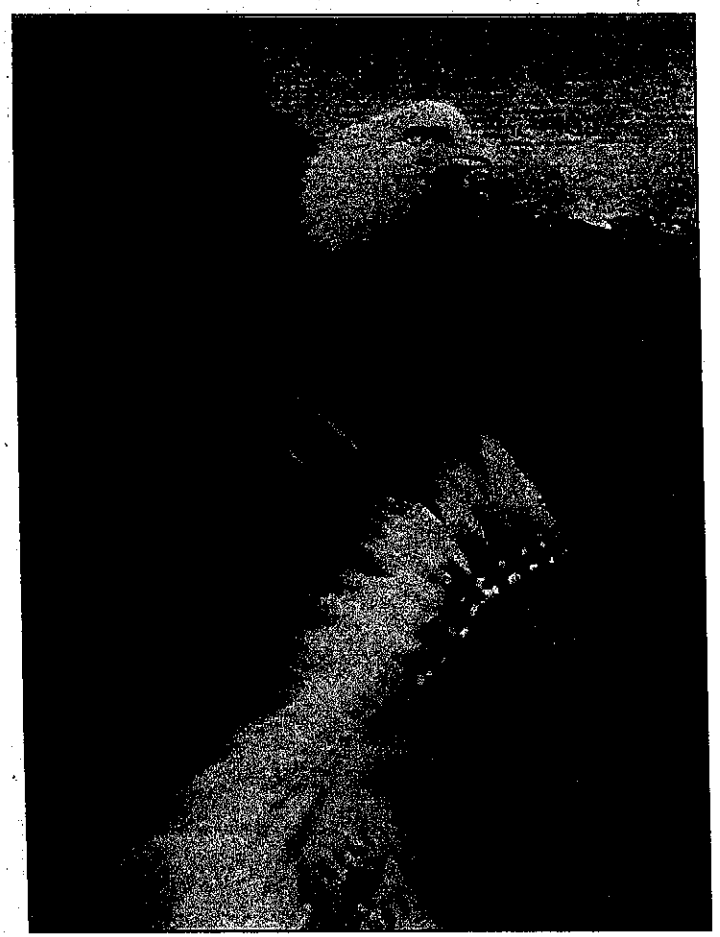
- This calendar represents the simple tools that we can get into the classroom. Highlighting a tribe each month during the academic school year, it can be used in K-12 classrooms. Again, there are research, production and distribution costs.

In closing, NP60 provides the much needed resources and staff to develop research-based curriculum, model lessons, and supplemental resource materials, based on input from Montana's Indians.

All of us in this room and beyond have a constitutional and moral obligation to close the achievement gap for American Indian students and ensure that schools can successfully implement Indian Education for All.

I am deeply committed to ensuring that ALL students leave the public education system with an understanding of the rich history and contemporary issues of Montana Indian people.

Thank you for your support for NP60 – Indian Ed for All.



MONTANA INDIANS

• THEIR HISTORY AND LOCATION •

EXHIBIT
DATE 1/19/2005
HB