

Indian Education for All Ongoing Initiatives

July 1 – December 12, 2005

Staffing

- Recruitment, hiring and orientation of five staff members.

Grant Administration

- Ready To Go Grants – Approximately \$400,000 awarded to 18 successful school districts. Applications distributed in August, submission deadline was Oct 14, 2005, reading and scoring took place on Nov. 3rd. Grant awards are being finalized. An orientation meeting of the successful districts was held on December 9; 15 of the districts were able to participate. A second round of competition will be conducted in June of '06.
- Implementation Assistance Grants -- \$75,000 to be awarded to organizations other than school districts. RFP was announced the first week of December.
- Research Grants-- \$25,000 to be awarded for research pertinent to Indian Education in collaboration with Montana University System and Tribal Colleges. It is anticipated that the announcement of funding will be made within the next two weeks, after the draft guidelines for funding are reviewed and finalized.

Curriculum Development

- Re-designed OPI website to reflect resources for Indian Education and Indian Education for All.
- Convened 30 teachers in July to develop social studies materials and 10 teachers in November to address science.
- Currently working with group of educators to finalize the framework for the curriculum development process, aligning materials to standards, and disseminating to all schools. Planning is underway to conduct a meeting of the group in January in Great Falls.
- Contract with University of Montana Lifelong Learning Project for development of DVDs for three units (Long Before We Were Born, Sign Language and Tribal Misnomers in and around Montana, Non-Verbal Communication on the Upper Missouri), to be distributed to all districts in the state, projected spring completion date.
- Contract with National Indian School Boards Association for the creation of K-12 curricular materials in science, language arts, and social studies, completion date July 2006. Dissemination and professional development will be conducted in collaboration with Montana School Boards Association. A planning meeting will be held on January 5, 2006 in Helena.
- Updating of "Montana Tribes: Their History and Location" for reprinting.
- Contract with Fish, Wildlife, and Parks for the development of curriculum materials incorporating Indian Education for All into the Department's site-based school programs in all state parks.

Professional Development

- Strong Indian Education presence at MEA-MFT conference in Missoula in October. More than 50 workshops related to Indian Education and Indian Education for All were provided and current OPI curriculum materials were distributed.

"It is the mission of the Office of Public Instruction to improve teaching and learning through collaboration, advocacy, and accountability."

State-Tribal Relations Committee Meeting
January 23, 2006

Exhibit #6

- Coordinating with OPI's Accreditation Division to incorporate Indian Education for All into regional model for professional development.
- OPI is collaborating with other states regarding Indian Education initiatives. North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming and other states are looking to Montana to provide leadership regarding Indian education issues.
- Four institutes/conferences currently in planning stage for summer of '06.
- Collaborating with Montana Indian Education Association's(MIEA) grant to develop tribal government curriculum.
- Collaboration with MIEA for its spring 2006 statewide conference.

Public Education Campaign

- Development and distribution of 14,000 Indian Education for All brochures to all Montana schools and educational organizations.
- List of resources regarding American Indian Heritage Day along with a poster providing guidance on teaching about American Indians sent to all school districts in Montana in September.
- Press release introducing two trunks on Indian Education for All developed by the Historical Society with funding from OPI.