



TRIBAL ENERGY BY DESIGN

DEVELOPING AN ENERGY ROADMAP ON TRIBAL LANDS

August 19 & 20, Blackfeet Community College, Browning, MT

Keynote Speaker

Leslie Wheelock, Director, Office of Tribal Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture

Ms. Wheelock is the Director of the Office of Tribal Relations in the Office of the Secretary at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The Office of Tribal Relations is responsible for government-to-government relations between the USDA and tribal governments and operates as the Secretary's representative for matters involving American Indians and Alaska Natives. Ms. Wheelock previously served as the director of economic policy at the National Congress of American Indians, where she oversaw efforts in a variety of economic development policy areas. She also worked as rights and permissions manager and as strategic planning consultant on cultural and intellectual property for the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. Ms. Wheelock has over 20 years of legal and management experience in telecommunications and technology corporations.

She is a member of the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin and serves on the board of directors of the Oneida Total Integrated Enterprises as well as the national council and board of directors of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington and New York.

She is the founder of the Georgetown Farmers Market and is active with the D.C. Farmers Market Collaborative.

Ms. Wheelock was born and raised in Indiana, and her extended family resides on the Oneida Nation Reservation in Oneida, Wisconsin. She earned a master of business administration degree and a law degree from Cornell, and is a member of the bars in New York, Connecticut and the District of Columbia.

Speaker Biographies

Chandler Allen is the Economic Development Specialist for the Division of Energy and Mineral Development, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development of the U.S. Department of Interior.

Payton Batliner is the Economic Development Specialist for the Division of Energy and Mineral Development, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development of the U.S. Department of Interior.

Mark Fox is the Tax Director for the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.

Scott Davis was appointed Executive Director of the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission in April 2009 by Gov. John Hoeven. In his position, he serves a liaison between North Dakota's state and tribal governments to address issues regarding education systems, court systems, economic development, law enforcement, transportation, healthcare systems, veterans and youth. Prior to his appointment, Davis served in a number of capacities at United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, including Development Officer, Wellness Activities Coordinator, Facilitator and Adjunct Instructor.

Dustin de Yong has worked in energy development for the State of Montana for the past 4 years. Currently, Dustin works in the Industry Development Program of the Montana Department of Commerce. This office focuses on industrial development opportunities in the state including energy.

Joe Hovenkotter is the General Counsel of Energy Keepers Incorporated. Energy Keepers is the tribally-owned corporation of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes tasked with managing the acquisition of the Kerr Hydroelectric Project on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Laurel James is the Program Manager for the Northwest Advanced Renewables Alliance Education Team, Tribal Partnership Projects of the University of Washington. Ms. James is an enrolled member of the Yakama Nation. She holds an MS Degree in Forest Resources - Fire Ecology, a BS Degree in Forest Resources - Wildlife Science and a Professional Certificate in Environmental Law & Regulation from the University of Washington. She is currently pursuing an Interdisciplinary PhD in Anthropology & Forest Resources. Prior to returning to school, Laurel had worked for the Yakama Nation, Department of Natural Resources for nearly 20 years and has recently served as a Graduate Student observer on the Indian Forest Management Assessment Team (IFMAT). She currently is the Co-Chair of the Intertribal Timber Council's, Research Sub-Committee and regularly organizes their student panel and poster session at the National Indian Timber Symposium.

Dr. Cheri Kicking Woman is an enrolled Blackfeet member from Browning, Montana. She is the Dean of Workforce Development at Blackfeet Community College. Her role consists of

overseeing many grants and their respective directors at Blackfeet Community College. Dr. Kicking Woman has been an employee at Blackfeet Community College for almost 11 years and her prior roles include - Institutional Researcher, Continuing Education Coordinator, and Distance Learning Coordinator. She earned her Doctor of Education Degree in Educational Leadership and Higher Education from the University of Montana – Missoula, Montana in 2011.

Cheryl Madman is the Workforce Division Chair, Carl Perkins Coordinator, and National Science Foundation Co-Principal Investigator for Blackfeet Community College. Her position entails developing, assessing and evaluating curriculums, overseeing one-year certificate programs, short-term trainings, and compliance with the Northwest Accreditation of Higher Education. Ms. Madman has been teaching at Blackfeet Community College since 2003. She earned her Associate of Arts in Elementary Education, Early Childhood and Computer Networking at Blackfeet Community College and received her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education through Salish Kootenai Community College. Ms. Madman is currently working on her Master's Degree through Montana State University Northern in Science in Education, Instruction and Learning.

Beau Mitchell is the Chief Executive Officer of Plain Green LLC. Plain Green is a corporation owned by the Chippewa Cree Tribe that provides financial services through e-commerce. Prior to Plain Green, Mr. Mitchell served as the Director of Planning and Development for the Chippewa Cree Tribe.

Kathi Montgomery is the Public Educational Specialist of the Energy Planning and Renewables Office of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality.

John Pickens is the Alternative Energy Technician at the Blackfeet Community College.

Lizana K. Pierce is a Project Engineer with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the project manager for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's (EERE's) Tribal Energy Program. Working at the DOE Golden Field Office located in Golden, Colorado, she implements this National Program open to all Federally-recognized Tribes including Alaska Native villages, village corporations, and Alaskan Regional Corporations.

In cooperation with DOE's Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs, the Tribal Energy Program provides financial and technical assistance to Tribes for the evaluation and development of renewable energy resources and deployment of energy efficiency measures, and provides education and training to help build the knowledge and skills essential for sustainable energy projects. Her primary responsibilities include soliciting applications for tribal renewable energy and energy efficiency projects, administering and overseeing the resulting grants, disseminating tribal energy related information, and development and maintenance of the Tribal Energy Program web site.

A mechanical engineer by degree, she worked in aerospace for about 10 years followed by twenty year tenure at DOE's Golden Field Office. Ms. Pierce worked in many of the research

and development programs areas including solar, wind and biomass, before becoming the Project Manager for the Tribal Energy Program, a position she has held for the last 15 years.

Bill Schumacher is the Treasurer for the Intertribal Council on Utility Policy. Intertribal COUP was formed in 1994 to provide a forum for utility issues discussion from regulatory and economic perspectives.

Paul Schwabe is a Senior Renewable Energy Financing Analyst at NREL. Mr. Schwabe currently leads a team of solar developers, legal counsel, financiers, and other industry players to develop a suite of standardized contracts to facilitate the creation of liquid investment vehicles. Mr. Schwabe has also provided comprehensive solar technical assistance to tribal, municipal, and rural electric cooperatives throughout the United States. At NREL since 2008, Mr. Schwabe has more than 12 years of career experience within various sectors of the energy and finance industry covering renewables, efficiency and natural gas. He has served in a policy and technical advisory role to the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Army, the California Public Utilities Commission, and the city of Golden, Colorado. Paul holds a master's in applied economics and finance, and a bachelor's in economics from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Leonard Smith is the Executive Director of the Native American Development Corporation (NADC) and Director of the Native Procurement Technical Assistance Center in Billings, MT. Mr. Smith (an Assiniboine & Sioux tribal member of the Fort Peck Tribes) has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management from Montana State University Billings and 30 years of experience in organizational and business development. This organizational experience consists of founding NADC, a non-profit community development corporation, the Native American Manufacturer's Network, a consortium of managers for tribal enterprises, and organizing funding for the Tribal Leadership Council for Montana and Wyoming Tribes. His experience consists of working as the Chief Executive Officer of a Tribal Enterprise, Deputy District Director/Assistant District Director for Business Development with the U.S. Small Business Administration, Montana District Office, Director of Missoula Indian Center, Assistant Vice-President of the Indian Credit Corporation and owner of a business consulting firm.

Mr. Smith has received National and State recognition from the Economic Development Administration, and Small Business Administration for his work in economic development and Native-owned small businesses.

Currently, Mr. Smith is expanding the Community Development Financial Intermediary through capitalization expansion and development of a sustainable Social Enterprise model.

Andrea Stinson is the Public Buildings Program Manager at the Montana Department of Environmental Quality. Andrea has 25 years of public service and non-profit management experience related to energy efficiency and community development through the State of Montana and State of Michigan's Energy Office and Community Services, the City of Norton

Shores Community Development, and Muskegon-Oceana and Kent/Grand Rapids CAP Weatherization Programs.

Terry Tatsey is the Director of Institutional Development at the Blackfeet Community College.

Otto Van Geet is a Principal Engineer at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) with over 25 years of experience, most of his work is in the DOE Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), he also supports the DOE Solar America Cities program, EPA renewables on Brownfields program, and many other federal, state and municipal agencies and private companies. His experience also includes renewables screening and assessment, passive solar and low energy building design, use of design tools, photovoltaic (PV) and wind system design for on grid systems up to multi MW and off grid applications, energy audits, minimizing energy use and alternative financing. He and his family live in an off grid passive solar house with a 2 kW PV/wind/hybrid power system and solar water heating that he designed and built 16 years ago. Mr. Van Geet is a Registered Professional Engineer, a Certified Energy Manager, a LEED Accredited Professional, and a Project Management Professional.

Tim Willink recently joined GRID Alternatives (GRID) as the Director of the Tribal Program. GRID is a nonprofit organization that brings the benefits of solar technology to communities that would not otherwise have access. GRID provides needed savings for families, prepares workers for jobs in the fast-growing solar industry, and improves our environment. Tim comes to GRID from Namaste Solar in Denver, CO, where he has worked on the construction side of the solar power industry for over four years. Working as an Installer and Field Supervisor for Namaste's commercial and residential teams, Tim is a Solar Energy International (SEI) graduate and is a North American Board of Energy Practitioners (NABCEP) certified Installer. During Tim's tenure at Namaste, he was integral to four megawatts of photovoltaic (PV) projects, including 2.3 megawatts installed at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL).

Tim earned his B.A. in economics from Cornell University. After graduating, he worked as a lobbyist for the Navajo Nation Washington Office, representing the tribe in economic development and education in Congress and before the Executive branch. Tim currently serves on the Board of Directors of Eagle Energy, a nonprofit working to develop the most effective ways to finance and distribute affordable, sustainable energy technologies—in particular solar LED lighting and solar heating—in Navajo communities. After living and traveling throughout the United States and Canada, Tim and his family are glad to be settled in Colorado. Tim is Navajo from Pueblo Pintado, New Mexico, and his goal is to partner with tribes on residential and commercial projects in order to bring solar to tribal communities.

Lola Wippert is the Director of the Native American Career & Technical Education Program (NACTEP)-STEM at Blackfeet Community College. She has been in this position since December 2013. The NACTEP-STEM program provides student stipends for Building Trades; Computer Information Systems and EMT/EMR. The Career Center is also a part of this project. Lola previously was the Director, Office of Sponsored Programs at BCC for 4 years, writing proposals on behalf of Blackfeet Community College. Lola has a BS in Business Administration

and is currently working on her Master of Science in Education Instruction and Learning on-line through Montana State University Northern in Havre, MT.