



## 2019 National Institutes of Health (NIH) Tribal Consultation on Policies on Intellectual Property, Inventions, and Patent Rights in Biomedical Research

This document was prepared to aid Tribal leaders and community participants in the upcoming NIH Tribal Consultation on Policies on Intellectual Property, Inventions, and Patent Rights in Biomedical Research on June 24, 2019 in Sparks, Nevada in alignment with the NCAI Mid Year Conference and Marketplace.

### National Institutes of Health (NIH)

NIH's mission is to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the applications of that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability.

- The NIH invests nearly \$37.3 billion<sup>1</sup> annually in medical research for the American people.
- More than 80% of the NIH's funding is awarded through almost 50,000 competitive grants to more than 300,000 researchers at more than 2,500 universities, medical schools, and other research institutions in every state around the world.
- The NIH is composed of 27 Institutes and Centers of which many have an organ- or disease-specific focus, and the Office of the Director, which is responsible for setting policy and planning, managing, and coordinating NIH programs and activities.

We highly encourage Tribal leaders and members of the community to discuss how the NIH policies are applied to Intellectual Property and Inventions arising from federally funded research projects. We are seeking your input on how these policies impact NIH-supported biomedical research with Tribal communities. Understanding these complex processes and policies will allow Tribal nations to engage in effective and meaningful research either as principal investigators or with academic partners.

### Some suggested questions:

- *What is intellectual property and why is it important in biomedical research?*
- *What can or cannot be patented?*
- *What should Tribal communities be aware of when reviewing research applications regarding patents?*
- *What recourse does a Tribe have if researchers violate IP or patent agreements?*
- *How might data sharing impact patents?*

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<sup>1</sup>This amount reflects the sum of discretionary budget authority of \$36,238 million received by NIH in FY 2018 under The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, Public Law (P.L.) 115-141, \$923 million derived from PHS Evaluation financing, and mandatory budget authority of \$150 million for special type 1 diabetes research authorized per P.L. 115-123 and P.L. 114-10. Details regarding current appropriations are available from the Office of Budget.