



June 1, 2017

Dear Tribal Leader:

The *National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Tribal Advisory Committee (TAC)* currently has vacancies for membership. I would like to solicit your recommendation for nominations to serve on this committee for the areas that have an open seat.

The NIH TAC was established in 2015 to provide a venue wherein tribal representatives and NIH staff can exchange information about NIH research policies and program priorities. As an advisory committee, the NIH TAC provides recommendations on the development of relevant NIH policies, programs, and priorities. The NIH TAC's tribal representation is comprised of seventeen positions: one delegate (and one alternate) from each of the twelve Indian Health Service (IHS) areas and one delegate (and one alternate) for five National At-Large Member positions.

We will be concluding the second year of staggered terms for our membership and have several vacancies to fill. **Vacancies open for nomination and their term end dates include:**

- Aberdeen/Great Plains Area (Delegate and Alternate); term ending 09/28/19.
- Alaska Area (Delegate and Alternate); term ending 09/28/19.
- Albuquerque Area (Delegate and Alternate); term ending 09/28/19.
- Bemidji Area (Delegate and Alternate); term ending 09/28/19.
- Billings Area (Alternate); term ending 09/28/18.
- California Area (Alternate); term ending 09/28/18.
- Nashville Area (Delegate and Alternate); term ending 09/28/19.
- Oklahoma Area (Alternate); term ending 09/28/18.
- Phoenix Area (Delegate and Alternate); term ending 09/28/18.
- Portland Area (Delegate and Alternate); term ending 09/28/19.
- Tucson Area (Delegate and Alternate); term ending 09/28/19.
- National At-Large Members (2 Delegates; terms ending 09/28/19) and (5 Alternates; 3 terms ending 09/28/18 and 2 terms ending 09/28/19).

Each area representative must be an elected official or a tribal employee, who is designated to act on behalf of a tribal leader and is qualified to represent the views of the Indian Tribes in the area for which he/she is being nominated. Each national at-large representative must be an elected official or designated representative who is qualified to represent the views of tribes from a national collective perspective (for example, views of groups such as the National Congress of American Indians, National Indian Health Board, Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee, Direct Service Tribes Advisory Committee, National Indian Child Welfare Association, National Indian Head Start Directors Association or National Tribal Environmental Council).

Please submit nomination letters on tribal letterhead signed by tribal leaders, a resume/CV, a cover letter from the nominee, and contact information for the nominee and nominating tribal leader. Nomination packages should be submitted no later than **August 1, 2017** to:

David R. Wilson, Ph.D.
Director, Tribal Health Research Office
Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives
Office of the Director, NIH
Building 1, Room 260
1 Center Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20892
Email: NIHTribalCommittee@od.nih.gov

Nominations will be considered for selection in the priority order listed below:

1. Tribal President/Chairperson/Governor
2. Tribal Vice-President/Vice-Chairperson/Lt. Governor
3. Elected or Appointed Tribal Official
4. Designated Tribal Official

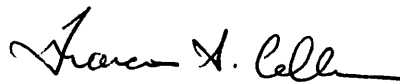
In the event there is more than one nomination for a specific area, letters of support from regional tribal organizations will be taken into consideration when selecting the primary and alternate delegates.

We plan to notify members in September 2017 with monthly conference calls beginning in October and an in-person meeting in the winter of 2018. The NIH will support the travel of these representatives and their technical advisors to attend two in-person meetings a year. Detailed information about the NIH TAC can be found at <https://dpcpsi.nih.gov/thro>.

The NIH is committed to continuing its efforts to improve relations with tribal nations and to partnering with tribal nations to use the power of science to support healthier communities. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Dr. David Wilson at Dave.Wilson2@nih.gov or by phone at 301-594-0717.

Thank you for your support in this endeavor.

Sincerely yours,



Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director