



May 7, 2021

Dear Tribal Leader and Urban Indian Organization Leader:

I am writing to notify you that the National Institutes of Health (NIH), part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is initiating formal Tribal Consultation on the forthcoming draft NIH Tribal Consultation Policy. This Policy will reflect NIH's commitment to consistent and meaningful engagement with Tribal Nations on NIH policies, programs, or activities that significantly affect Tribes.

The NIH mission is to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and to apply that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability. NIH primarily accomplishes this work through research, research training, and the dissemination of research findings.

The NIH Tribal Health Research Office developed the draft Policy with extensive input and review from the NIH Tribal Advisory Committee and the NIH Office of Science Policy to ensure it respects Tribal Sovereignty and will strengthen Nation-to-Nation relationships with Tribes. The draft Policy complements the HHS Tribal Consultation Policy by focusing on NIH-specific issues, and will replace the 2014 NIH Guidance on the Implementation of the HHS Tribal Consultation Policy (<https://dpcpsi.nih.gov/thro/policy>).

I encourage you to participate in the NIH Tribal Consultation about the draft Policy, which will occur during HHS regional consultations:

Participant information:

Region 1: July 27, 2021

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlscuugqTIsHnUWRonprwUgGjND0pgUUKU>

Region 2: June 22, 2021

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlSdeCvqjMvGKbhHPxKAZJN0CP7wqNqWIA>

Region 3: June 29, 2021

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlSfuitpzItHSKQvNmmTZrYX5PW9lswfMo>

Region 4: June 9, 2021

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlSf-igrzsjEusvUTT93Gdc1BbyYL0uC6k>

Region 5: July 21-22, 2021

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJltduurzgiGO90M4liEf75OXfauI5zLCY>

Region 6: May 27, 2021

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsdOCtrTMuH2DXGZNV-Q-KMnkGZbLmcX8>

Region 7 and 8: May 25, 2021

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsfu2gqDgpHA7ZYBtZwBYNuLtKURACtmE>

Region 9: August 9-12, 2021

<https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsdOyppjsuGpV6VYabm6IYwGDbaQVQvvY>

Region 10: June 14-16, 2021

https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsdOqrrjwuE1FopJTYdmaFmqiuZTABI_s

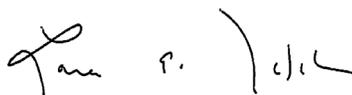
If you have technical questions related to connectivity or audio/visual matters regarding these meetings, please contact Brittany Cortilet at 202-604-7116 or Brittany.Cortilet@hhs.gov.

If you are unable to participate, we invite you to send written testimony, comments, or questions **by 4:30 p.m. ET on August 31, 2021 to NIHTribalConsultation@nih.gov.**

We look forward to listening and learning from each of you at these events. If you have questions, please contact Dr. Dave Wilson, Director of the NIH Tribal Health Research Office, at Dave.Wilson2@nih.gov.

Thank you for your continued partnership to strengthen our foundation for working together with the goal of improving the health of American Indians and Alaska Natives through research.

Sincerely,



Lawrence A. Tabak, D.D.S., Ph.D.
Principal Deputy Director
National Institutes of Health