

## ***Journal #5878      from sdc      12.19.24***

*White Lake*

*Our Martian heritage must be preserved, say leading scientists*

*2025 NCRCRD Small Grant RFP*

*Heydey's New Releases*

*Supporting Native California Writers*

*This Thursday Join US for the AICLS Language Reivtalization Lunch Hour*

*Short Video on Pomo Attempt to Rename Kelesyville*

*Antoinette Cavanaugh: Discussion on Reading Vine Deloria, Jr.'s 1973 address to teachers*

*Update on clemency plea for Leonard Peltier*

*Vernon Wyatt*



White Lake (which comes and goes) 12.16.24

### **Our Martian heritage must be preserved, say leading scientists**

Academics agree that by protecting robotic vehicles and landing sites we will help archaeologists of the future.

Extract:

“It would not be the first time one era’s junk has become another’s treasure: archaeologists today often excavate middens – rubbish heaps created by our ancestors.”

Holcomb said: “Just as our species once left Africa, we are currently beginning the process of leaving Earth.

“Each dispersal event represents key moments in our species’ long history of migration. The material left behind, whether it be handaxes in Tanzania or rovers on Mars, represent material footprints recording our history. We believe preservation efforts ensure that history is accurately documented for future generations.”

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2024/dec/16/our-martian-heritage-must-be-preserved-say-leading-scientist>

**2025 NCRCRD Small Grant RFP**

NCRCRD is now accepting proposals for 2025. To be considered for funding, please submit your proposal on January 15, 2025 by 5:00 PM (Eastern Time).

The NCRCRD Small Grant program aims to enhance the ability of the North Central Region's 34 Land-Grant Institutions to positively influence the quality of life in the region's rural areas.

*Learn more:* Small Grant RFP | [Recent Funding Examples](#)



<b>Michigan</b>	<b>Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan</b>	<b>Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians</b>	<b>Making Michigan Tribal Homes &amp; Buildings Efficient, Healthy, and Resilient</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in the Continental United States (TIA B)</b>
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Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association and GRID Alternatives will work with 35 federally recognized Tribes in Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin to support energy efficiency and weatherization upgrades in homes to improve indoor air quality and lower energy costs. They will invest in leadership development training for Tribal Energy Champions to build their Tribes' capacity to access additional funding sources and implement projects to strengthen community resilience and reduce pollution.

<b>Michigan</b>	<b>Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan</b>	<b>Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians</b>	<b>Making Michigan Tribal Homes &amp; Buildings Efficient, Healthy, and Resilient</b>	<b>Track I</b>
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The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan will collaborate with six federally recognized tribes in Michigan to retrofit and electrify at least 300 tribal homes and transform 12 government facilities into community resilience hubs. The home building upgrades will include an energy and performance assessment to create a comprehensive plan for each property; necessary repairs for health, safety, and electrification (from roof repairs to electrical upgrades); building envelope improvements (insulation, ventilation, air sealing, etc.) to both address indoor air quality challenges and reduce the building's heating and cooling load; and installation of electric equipment for all major energy end uses. In addition, the project will install portable air purifiers, dehumidifiers, and other equipment where needed. Each participating tribe will receive funding to hire and train a specialist to oversee building performance improvement investments in their community.

<b>Michigan</b>	<b>Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan (ITCMI)</b>	<b>Bay Mills Indian Community</b>	<b>Michigan Tribal and State Manoomin/Mnoomin/Mnomen Stewardship</b>	<b>Track II</b>	<b>n/a</b>
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This project will support the meaningful participation of Michigan's federally recognized Tribal governments and enrolled members in the implementation of the Tribal-State Manoomin Stewardship Plan to protect wild rice. The project will enable tribal elders, traditional ricers, and knowledge keepers to participate in the Michigan Wild Rice Initiative (MWRI) and inform decision-making in the Stewardship Plan implementation process. This project was developed in coordination with the MWRI including all 12 federally recognized tribes in Michigan; ITCMI;

the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE); and the University of Michigan Water Center.

<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>Minneapolis American Indian Center</b>	<b>Sabathani Community Center</b>	<b>The Minneapolis Climate Resilience Partnership</b>	<b>Track I/a</b>
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The Minneapolis Climate Resilience Partnership will support upgrades at community-based resilience hubs in Minneapolis that provide community programming during non-emergency times and the resources to support disadvantaged populations during emergencies, such as severe weather. This funding will complement \$58 million in other funds raised for the Minneapolis American Indian Center's (MAIC) renovation and the Sabathani Community Center's (SCC) Community Energy Project. MAIC will use \$4 million to complete the building renovation, including energy efficiency and ventilation upgrades, prepare the roof for solar, and acquire and install the solar. SCC will use \$6 million to complete the first phase of SCC's geothermal energy system. SCC is building out programming to launch a new geothermal workforce program, and MAIC and SCC will be training sites for hands-on learning opportunities in geothermal, heat pumps, solar, and microgrid systems.

<b>Minnesota</b>	<b>Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe</b>	<b>Cass Lake Boys and Girls Club</b>	<b>Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Resilience Hub</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in the Continental United States (TIA B)</b>
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The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Tribal Resilience Hub project will create a Tribal Resilience Hub, which will also act as a cornerstone of the cultural resilience campus for the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, located in northern Minnesota. The Tribal Resilience Hub will provide essential services during an emergency and will be equipped with a rooftop solar and battery storage system. The Tribe will install rain gardens around the hub to reduce flooding and will plant several community gardens. The Tribe also will invest in EVs and multimodal transportation infrastructure, including EV transit vans and electric bikes.

<b>New Mexico</b>	<b>Global Center for Cultural Entrepreneurs hip</b>	<b>Indigenous Design and Planning Institute, School of Architecture and Planning, University of New Mexico</b>	<b>New Mexico Partnership for Equitable Climate Planning &amp; Policy</b>	<b>Track II</b>	<b>n/a</b>
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The New Mexico Partnership for Equitable Climate Planning & Policy project serves the Eight Northern Pueblos (ENP) of Northern New Mexico located across Santa Fe, Rio Arriba, and Taos Counties. The project will support ENP community leaders and organizations in hosting 40+ community engagement workshops and events directly engaging 840 ENP residents; publish and widely disseminate three annual ENP reports with policy recommendations to solve local problems; design, launch, and host a Leadership Development Program graduating 30 young adults (cohorts) from ENP communities; and establish three seminal agreements among Tribes, states, counties, and community-based organizations to reduce barriers to meaningful resident participation.

<b>South Dakota</b>	<b>Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe</b>	<b>Native Sun Community Power Development</b>	<b>FSST Environmental Advancement Project</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in the Continental United States (TIA B)</b>
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FSST Environmental Advancement Project will serve the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe (FSST) in Flandreau, South Dakota. It will create a zero-emission transportation corridor to replace a local bridge previously damaged in 2022. This corridor will provide clean transportation options and other infrastructure improvements, including ADA-accessible mobility options. Additionally, the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe will partner with the Native Sun Community Power Development to support investments in green infrastructure, including roof retrofits and upgrades, new solar capacity, building weatherization, and the construction of multiple resilience hubs to support tribal operations in cases of emergency.

<b>Hawaii</b>	<b>Pacific International Center for High Technology Research</b>	<b>Dynamic Community Solutions</b>	<b>Uplifting the Wai‘anae Community for Resilience and Vibrance</b>	<b>Track I</b>
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The Uplifting Wai‘anae project will install a microgrid at Pu‘uhonua O Wai‘anae (POW) Farm Village to reduce energy costs while increasing community resilience. To manage these investments, the project will train and employ residents of POW on the installation and operation of the microgrid. The project also will restore native and food plant species and use nature-based solutions to mitigate the threat of wildfires and storm impacts while supporting freshwater aquifer recharge.

<b>Hawaii</b>	<b>Earth Island Institute</b>	<b>Kingdom Pathways</b>	<b>Huliau o Wai'anae: Turning Points for a Sustainable Future</b>	<b>Track II</b>
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Huliau o Wai'anae is an innovative program dedicated to harnessing traditional knowledge and modern technology to foster intergenerational learning and collaborative problem-solving to inform government. Huliau o Wai'anae will establish and train an environmental advisory team; engage community members in environmental and health data collection; develop an intergenerational learning fellowship to share traditional knowledge and skills; and conduct a community health assessment to understand how water and air contaminants are affecting residents. Through hands-on activities, workshops, education, and community gatherings, Huliau o Wai'anae aims to empower residents to engage in governmental processes that affect Wai'anae.

<b>Nevada</b>	<b>Nevada Clean Energy Fund</b>	<b>Walker River Paiute Tribe</b>	<b>Clean, Resilient, and Affordable Energy, Water, and Food for the Walker River Paiute Tribe</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in the Continental United States (TIA B)</b>
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This project will deliver water, energy, and food infrastructure to benefit the ~1,200 members of the Walker River Paiute Tribe who live on the Walker River Reservation. The Nevada Clean Energy Fund will work with the Walker River Paiute Tribe to provide home energy upgrades to 150 households to make them more efficient and resilient. They also will transform the planned Nutritional Wellness Building into a Community Resilience Hub that will provide shelter in emergencies, including extreme heat events. The Hub will include solar and battery storage, an energy-efficient heat pump, and resilient building construction, including nonflammable roofing.

The project will invest in critical water infrastructure needs, including constructing a new 410,000-gallon water storage tank, 24,000 feet of water mains, 53 fire hydrants, and 100 new domestic water connections.

<b>Alaska</b>	<b>Tanana Chiefs Conference</b>	<b>Huslia Village</b>	<b>Huslia Village Climate Solutions</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in Alaska (TIA A)</b>
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This project will focus on Huslia, Alaska, which is a Koyukuk-hotana Athabascan village within the Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge, deep in the roadless interior of the state. The project will connect 24 households to water and sewer infrastructure, so they no longer must rely on hauled water and "honeybuckets." They also will construct eight new energy-efficient housing units, using local hire of Huslia residents with experience in home construction, and conduct mold remediation (as needed) and weatherization on 16 homes to reduce energy costs and improve indoor air quality. To further improve indoor air quality, the project will offer woodstove upgrades. The project will install a grid-connected solar PV and battery storage system, which will make the community less energy-dependent on diesel fuel. To address solid waste and erosion issues, the project will conduct river and shoreline cleanup to remove debris.

<b>Alaska</b>	<b>Tebughna Foundation</b>	<b>University of Florida</b>	<b>Rebuilding Community: Repairing and Renewing Homes for the People of the Native Village of Tyonek, Alaska</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in Alaska (TIA A)</b>
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Tyonek is located on the northern shore of Tikahtnu (the Cook Inlet), within the traditional territory of the Dena'ina Athabascan people. Residents identify as Tebughna, Dena'ina for "the beach people." The project will invest in homes in Tyonek by removing asbestos, lead, and materials compromised by mold or structural decay and upgrading them to include better insulation, lighting, and heating systems as well as solar PV. The project will provide workforce development opportunities and collaborate with registered apprenticeship programs to offer training in carpentry, electrical, plumbing, and solar system installations.

<b>Alaska</b>	<b>Native Village of Chenega</b>	<b>Prince William Sound Economic Development District</b>	<b>The Chenega Bulk Fuel Storage System and Renewable Integration Project</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in Alaska (TIA A)</b>
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The Chenega Bulk Fuel Storage System and Renewable Integration Project is a transformative initiative designed to enhance the energy resilience and sustainability of the Native Village of Chenega, Alaska. At the core of this project is the construction of a new 50,000-gallon bulk fuel storage facility and the integration of a 140-kW solar photovoltaic array with a 250 kW/648 kWh battery energy storage system. This dual approach not only modernizes critical fuel storage infrastructure, significantly reducing the potential for fuel spills, but also incorporates renewable energy solutions to lessen the village's dependence on diesel fuel for electricity production. The project also will offer workforce training for Chenega residents in solar panel installation and microgrid operations and maintenance.

<b>Alaska</b>	<b>Metlakatla Indian Community</b>	<b>Native Conservancy</b>	<b>Revitalizing Metlakatla's Ecosystems for Future Generations - Air Toxic Pollution Reduction, Nature-Based Solutions through Regenerative Seaweed Farming, and Ocean Vessel Electrification</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in Alaska (TIAA)</b>
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This project will benefit the Metlakatla Indian Community (MIC)—the only Indian Reserve in the State of Alaska—which includes 1,500 residents, primarily Ts'msyen Tribe members. MIC and the Native Conservancy will deploy a range of complementary strategies to advance regenerative practices on the MIC homelands, including: (1) developing Native seaweed farming as a nature-based solution that can reduce the footprint of terrestrial agriculture, plastics, and fiber markets and bolster economic opportunities in this remote community; (2) improving air quality by investing in municipal waste management, which will end open-air municipal trash burning, and electrifying kelp farming boats; (3) boosting local economic returns from seaweed farming and processing within the Metlakatla community, and (4) implementing strategies to protect Native community access to ancestral waters.

<b>Alaska</b>	<b>Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium</b>	<b>Kaweraak, Inc.</b>	<b>Bering Straits Community Solar &amp; Battery Systems</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in Alaska (TIAA)</b>
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In the Bering Strait region, the absence of a unified electrical grid means that each community typically relies on standalone diesel electric utilities. To address energy resilience in remote Alaska Native communities, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) will build community-scale photovoltaic solar arrays and battery storage systems in the remote Bering Strait communities of Brevig Mission, Elim, Koyuk, Savoonga, and Teller. ANTHC manages the construction and distributes net revenue through a subsidy to household water and sewer utility bills, but the infrastructure will be owned locally. Kaweraak will provide a workforce development program with multi-sectoral partnerships to bring together outside expertise to enable rural community members to access high-quality careers focused on developing renewables in the area.

<b>Alaska</b>	<b>Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium</b>	<b>Native Village of Kotzebue</b>	<b>Kotzebue Tribal Wind</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in Alaska (TIAA)</b>
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Kotzebue, a town with 3,199 people, is the largest community within the Northwest Arctic Borough and serves as the service and transportation center or "hub" community for the surrounding communities. The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) and the Native Village of Kotzebue will build two 1-MW turbines to be owned and operated by the Tribe to sell power to the Kotzebue Electric Association, an electric cooperative. KEA is supportive of Tribal ownership of additional wind turbines and has agreed to partner with the Native Village of Kotzebue on the electrical integration needed for this project.

<b>Alaska</b>	<b>The Rector &amp; Visitors of the University of Virginia</b>	<b>Barrow Utilities and Electric Cooperative</b>	<b>Permafrost Management for Community Health and Resilience in Utqiagvik, Alaska</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in Alaska (TIAA)</b>
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Built on ice-rich permafrost, Utqiagvik—located 330 miles north of the Arctic Circle on the coast of the Arctic Ocean—faces significant pressures from climate change. This project will protect permafrost from pooling water by evaluating urban permafrost watersheds, drainage characteristics, and vulnerable areas to inform stormwater and snow management strategies and necessary infrastructural upgrades. Permafrost degradation and drainage problems in Utqiagvik are endangering traditional Inupiat ice cellars and burial sites, essential for subsistence culture and community heritage. The project will upgrade and improve drainage near vulnerable ice cellars and improve the ecological and hydrological functionality of the Imaqsaun cemetery—the only active burial site in town that floods persistently. The project also will invest in new equipment for Barrow Utilities and Electric Cooperative to improve its capacity to navigate deep snow and reach remote utility infrastructure.

<b>Alaska</b>	<b>Native Village of Kipnuk</b>	<b>Alaska Institute for Justice</b>	<b>Kipnuk Reach 3 Riprap Riverbank Stabilization Project</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in Alaska (TIAA)</b>
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This Kipnuk Riprap Riverbank Stabilization Project will benefit the community of Kipnuk, Alaska, which is located on the southeast bank of the Kugkaktlik River, about four miles upriver from the Bering Sea on the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. Riverbank erosion is occurring at a rate of 10-28 feet per year, threatening homes, community buildings, the fuel header and bulk fuel tanks, the barge landing, boardwalks, power lines, and other critical infrastructure. The project focuses on adding bank stabilization along Kipnuk's embankment on Reach 3 of the river. This section of the river is at the highest risk of erosion caused by downstream current and sharp bank curvature as water flows to the Bering Sea.

<b>Alaska</b>	<b>Spruce Root, Inc.</b>	<b>Organized Village of Kake (OVK)</b>	<b>Village Voices for Equity: Strengthening Indigenous Participation in Environmental and Climate Policy</b>	<b>Track II</b>
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The Village Voices for Equity project will pilot governance education programs in Kake for the OVK Tribal Council, youth, and community members, focusing on permitting processes, climate adaptation planning, and natural resource management decisions. The project will adapt and disseminate these programs in additional tribal communities in Southeast Alaska (Angoon, Hoonah, and Yakutat).

<b>Oregon</b>	<b>Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon</b>	<b>Energy Trust of Oregon</b>	<b>Building a Resilient and Responsive Grand Ronde Community</b>	<b>Track I</b>	<b>Tribes in the Continental United States (TI)</b>
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The Tribe will construct the Ronde Resilience Center (RRC) to provide shelter and services to the Grand Ronde community during emergencies, including wildfire events. The Tribe will incorporate solar-plus-storage technology into the design and construction of the RRC, which will have the ability to function as a microgrid in the event of power outages or grid failure. During blue sky days, the Center will serve as a center for health, community, education, and wellness. The RRC also will include a public park and open spaces, a raingarden, bioswales, and wetland enhancement. The construction and operation of the RRC will produce several new jobs in the community.

## Heyday's 2024 New Releases

Heyday's 2024 new releases promised a bounty rich in wonder and fresh ideas: tender, astonishing, and evocative story cycles; memoirs of resilience, love, and protest; a clutch of nature books that upends common conceptions of wildlife and their habitats; and an essay collection that takes the reader on an exhilarating journey through the world of books, ideas, and activism. A selection of the titles include:

- + [\*The Forgetters\*](#) by Greg Sarris
- + [\*Bad Indians \(Expanded Edition\)\*](#) by Deborah A. Miranda

## Reno Connect | Reno Constituents Institute (RCI)

Now Accepting Applications for the  
2025 Reno Constituents Institute!

[APPLY NOW](#)



### Supporting Native Californian Writers

In July 2024, with support from San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, The Walter & Elise Haas Fund, and Native Cultures Fund, Heyday inaugurated the **Heyday Roundhouse Native California Writers Fellowship** at [Mesa Refuge](#).

For any writer, concentrated block of time and space—mental as well as physical—is crucial in the development stage of new book projects. However, for too long, this has been a rare privilege seldom afforded to native writers. The Heyday Roundhouse Native California Writers Fellowship fills this urgent need. By providing a physical retreat from the distractions and obligations of the outside world, as well as financial support to cover costs of travel and groceries, the two weeks of residency time is conducive to facilitating artistic experimentation, freedom, growth, and development.

[Sara Calvosa Olson](#) (Karuk) and [Terria Smith](#) (Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians) were the 2024 residency participants. Heyday and Mesa Refuge hope to welcome new cohorts of talented writers in the future!

[In the photo from left to right: Terria, Theresa Harlan (Jemez Pueblo/Coast Miwok), Sara, and Christina Castro (Taos Pueblo/Jemez Pueblo/Chicana) on a walk to [Felix Cove](#). Photo Credit: Theresa Harlan]

***[“A man who stands for nothing will fall for anything.” MalcolmX.](#)***



**This Thursday 12/19: Join Us for the AICLS  
Language Revitalization Lunch Hour**

Language Mapping: What is it and how do you do it?

Join us for a presentation with a member of our team, Laura Grant, Program Mentor, to learn more about language mapping and how it can benefit your language development.



The poster is green with a white arch at the top containing the text "BOL Online Symposium". Below the arch is a circular portrait of Laura Grant, a woman with glasses and a red top, smiling. Underneath the portrait, the text reads "Language Revitalization Lunch Hour". Below that, it says "With: Laura Grant" and "Topic: Language Mapping". The date and time are listed as "Thursday, 12/19" and "12:00-1:00 PM". At the bottom right, it says "REGISTER TO ATTEND" and "Scan or click [HERE](#)". A QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the poster area.

Advocates for Indigenous California Language Survival | PO Box 26357 |  
Fresno, CA 93729 US

**Nice short video on Pomo work to rename Kelseyville**

[https://youtu.be/MNS\\_gUnGGQ4?si=WgiUhkIhGetCcJN8](https://youtu.be/MNS_gUnGGQ4?si=WgiUhkIhGetCcJN8)

***“Our humanity rests upon a series of learned behaviors, woven together into patterns that are infinitely fragile and never distinctly inherited.”***

***—Margaret Mead***

[Antoinette Cavanaugh](#) ·

Reading Vine Deloria, Jr.'s 1973 address to teachers. "The federal government is for sale to the highest bidder. And the corporate mind with its carrot stick of profit swinging gayly before it wanders down the road of social and ecological destruction watching its television commercials convince it that all is well. The informed citizenry, the beneficiaries of the free public education, remain locked in a profound ignorance and could care less" ( p. 1). Sound familiar?

[Alanna Charles](#)


Yes. My point at the dialouge

[Cholena Steele](#) ·

Exactly what the school system is today.

Teaching our children only what they want them to know. And nothing truly to help them live or survive.

[Sheila Thomas](#) [We Native needs to wake up, that's why they don't want Language teachers, to be teaching in our School, when we're their teaching, no classroom for us to teach, we carried our](#)

[teaching tools classroom to classroom. The challenges we have, too](#)  [sad. Wake up people, I don't care how high your education profile is, I am proud I talk my Native tongue, love teaching our young students. My thoughts!](#)

[Cholena Steele](#) ·

i feel this to the core


[Sheila Thomas](#)

We have our people, who wants to teach only is, we need to stand together. Our leaders need to realize, it's very important, our language or we will lose it. Our young ones, really enjoy us teachers, cause it's different to them. Awesome!

[Edwin Keener](#)

All to familiar. Those of us who understand crucial value of free public education are going to need to more than complain about legislators who defend public schools. Become creative and forceful.

[Vicki Stark](#)

Only too... 



**This week has been momentous for our clemency efforts, and we're officially as close as we've ever been to seeing Leonard Peltier free.** Here's a recap of the progress made to build visibility and wide-scale support for this long-overdue act of Justice. We're witnessing unprecedented support for our elder Leonard Peltier, who may once and for all be set free to return to his homelands and live the remainder of his time surrounded by his loved ones.

On December 3rd, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez called for President Biden to commute federal death sentences, including specifically referencing Leonard Peltier. [Read More →](#)

Native News Online released an article covering NCAI President Mark Macarro's meeting with President Biden on Air Force One, en route to the historic event hosted by the Gila River Indian Community, during which President Biden formally apologized for the federal government's role in Boarding School Abuses. President Macarro used his time to bring up Executive Clemency for Leonard Peltier directly to President Biden. This was a significant step in ensuring President Biden heard directly from Tribal leaders about what Leonard Peltier's release would mean for Indian country. [Learn More →](#)

On December 10th, a small delegation of NDN representatives went to Washington, D.C., to advocate with Tribal leaders attending the White House Tribal Nations Summit. During this time, 36 representatives joined the Tribal Leaders Letter requesting President Biden to grant Leonard Peltier Executive Presidency. Lapel pins were shared with Tribal leaders during the White House Summit and several leaders brought up Leonard Peltier to President Biden and White House staff. NDN Collective shared a recording of President Frank Star Comes Out talking to President Biden Directly and asking him to Free Leonard Peltier, to which President Biden responded, "I'm looking into it." [Watch Video →](#)

Also on December 10th, Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA 7th District) and other advocates held a press conference in Washington, D.C., addressing the urgent need for clemency and commutation of federal death row cases. Delivering a powerful intervention, Rep. Cori Bush (D-MO 1st District) stood boldly for truth and justice, including Leonard Peltier in her remarks, referencing his continued incarceration as "a symbol of the deep injustices within our justice system." Rep. Bush demonstrated her deep knowledge of the case, laying out multiple established facts, stating, "his trial was rife with prosecutorial misconduct and glaring violations of due process... President Biden can finally grant Peltier the clemency he deserves." We thank Rep. Bush for her powerful advocacy for her community and for Leonard Peltier. [Watch Video →](#)

On December 11th, the NDN Collective delegation attended and presented to Tribal Leaders at the IGA/ NCAI Tribal Leaders meeting. Tribal Leaders verbalized their support, and several representatives offered to sit in and help advocate in a meeting scheduled with the US Department of Justice later that day.

Tribal Leaders and NDN Collective met with key DOJ officials to ensure Pres. Biden follows through on his commitment to review Leonard's clemency petition. The Tribal leaders in the room represented over 300 federally recognized tribes and were led by Oglala Sioux Tribe President Frank Star Comes Out, a member of Attorney General Garland's Tribal Advisory Committee. **Each tribal leader shared facts about Leonard's case with DOJ staff, humanizing him as an elder and leader, and sharing what his release would mean for Indian Country.** This meeting ensured Leonard's clemency petition will proceed in the review process to the President's desk.

The National Native American Boarding Schools Coalition (NABS) recently called on President Biden to issue executive clemency to Leonard, a boarding school survivor, in their latest letter sent to the White House. [Read here →](#)

The National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL) released an extraordinary letter urging Pres. Biden to grant clemency to Peltier. Representing 40,000 lawyers in America, NACDL's letter notes that "Mr. Peltier's case and long incarceration stands as one of the most egregious examples of the systemic racism and inequities in the legal system." The letter further states, "His continued imprisonment serves no purpose and contradicts the principles of justice and mercy." [Learn More →](#)

The pressure on President Biden to grant our relative Executive Clemency is needed more than ever. As we keep our community updated on emergent news, your voice is crucial to continue to advocate for our relative's freedom. **Help keep our momentum powerful and help amplify our call to #FreeLeonardPeltier!**

**CLEMENCY FOR LEONARD**

In Solidarity,  
Janene Yazzie,  
Director of Policy and Advocacy  
NDN Collective

*In Loving Memory  
Vernon Wyatt  
February 28, 1939-December 10, 2024*

*Services on Monday, December 23, 2024  
Waltons Funeral Home  
1281 North Roop St.  
Carson City, NV  
Viewing 9:00am, Service 11:00am  
Burial at Stewart Cemetery*

*Lunch will be held at Dresslerville Community Center  
following the Burial. Food Contributions welcome.*

