

**Executive Director's Report for the Period
March 18, 2016 –July 1, 2016
Submitted by Sherry L. Rupert to Nevada Indian Commission Board**

Administrative

- I attended the May and June 2016 Cabinet Team Meetings and the April Full Cabinet Meeting.
- The budget building process has begun. The following are important dates to note:
 - ✓ CIP presentations will be held on August 25, 2016
 - ✓ Budgets and budgetary bills Due in NEBS: September 1, 2016
 - ✓ Legislative Session begins February 6, 2017 and ends June 5, 2017
- New position requests: Museum Attendant II and Management Analyst positions have been requested for BA 2601 and BA 2600 respectively
- The process to hire a Museum Director and Curator for the Stewart Indian School Cultural Center has begun this month.
- Additional funding has been identified to complete the following activities, but will not have final approval until the August 23, 2016 IFC meeting:
 - ✓ Expand and complete the Stewart Indian School Master Plan, to include an interpretive plan, marketing analysis/study and a business plan (BA 2600)
 - ✓ Hire a contractor to complete the National Park Service National Historic Landmark application (BA 2600)
 - ✓ Remodel Building #4 (cottage behind our office) to house the Museum Director and Curator (BA 2601)
- I will be on annual leave from August 1-August 5, 2016.

Projects

- A full report on Stewart-related items will be given under Agenda Item XIII.
 - ✓ Stewart Father's Day Powwow
 - ✓ Master Plan
 - ✓ Welcome Center
- The Nevada Indian Commission in partnership with federal partners (Bureau of Indian Affairs, Western Nevada Agency; Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest; Nevada BLM, US Fish and Wildlife Service; Inyo National Forest; Bishop BLM; Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest) and

the Tubape Numu Group planned and coordinated the Bi-state Traditional Ecological Knowledge Summit June 28-30, 2016 at the Stewart Indian School Gym.

Agenda topics were derived from the concerns federal agencies heard while conducting a series of listening sessions in tribal communities who call “the Bi-State sage grouse habitat area” home. This area includes the geographic regions of the Eastern Sierra north of Bishop, California, up to Carson City, Nevada, and as far east as the Mount Grant and Pine Nut Ranges in western Nevada. Approximately two hundred people attended the summit. Tribal members, tribal leaders, and



land management professionals and managers traveled from throughout Nevada and eastern California. Highlights included a Native youth panel discussion that revealed an intellectually vibrant, up and coming tribal generation dedicated to keeping cultural traditions flourishing and protecting indigenous plants and wildlife.

A field trip on the Bridgeport Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest on the last day of the summit gave participants an opportunity to view past and upcoming treatment projects and to look over a newly designated 1700-acre “Pine Nut Conservation Area”.

- The Carson City Chamber of Commerce held their annual membership meeting at the Stewart Indian School campus, the evening of Monday, June 27, 2016. They invited Red Hoop to greet the attendees and the Eagle Wings Pageant Group to entertain the group. Chris and I gave the group of approximately 100, tours of the campus and select buildings. A portion of the proceeds was donated to the preservation of the Stewart Indian School.
- The Commission has been asked to partner with the USDA Rural Economic Development to assist in planning a Tribal Economic Development Summit to take place in September at the Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe’s Fox Peak Cinemas in Fallon, NV. The Summit is meant to provide the Nevada Tribes information that will assist them with their economic development ventures.

- The Nevada Indian Commission and its Indian Education Advisory Committee (IEAC) are working with 2016 National Conference Planning Committee on planning for the National Indian Education Association (NIEA) Convention that will be in Reno October 2016. Three members of the IEAC have been appointed as subcommittee chairs of the National Conference Planning Committee:
 - Powwow Subcommittee – Fredina Drye-Romero, Nevada Department of Education
 - Volunteers Subcommittee – Lynn Manning John, Owyhee Combined School
 - Cultural Activities Subcommittee – Sherry L. Rupert, Nevada Indian Commission

The Convention will bring about 2,500-3,000 attendees to Nevada.

Presentations/Meetings/Miscellaneous

- Stewart Indian School Presentations and Tours Provided:

April 21, 2016

- ✓ Douglas County Genealogy Group (15 attendees)

April 22, 2016

- ✓ Legislative Council Bureau and Budget Division Staff (4 attendees)

April 24, 2016

- ✓ St. Viator Elementary School (66 attendees)

May 12, 2016

- ✓ Sandy Miller Elementary School (150 attendees)

May 24, 2016

- ✓ Nate Mack Elementary School (53 attendees)

- Other Events Held at the Stewart Indian School:

- ✓ Washoe Tribe Earth Day Event – May 5, 2016
- ✓ Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance, “Under the Stewart Stars” – May 21, 2016
- ✓ KAIA Fit, End of BRIK Celebration and Final Workout – June 10-11, 2016
- ✓ Carson City Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting – June 27, 2016

- On March 27, 2016 the Executive Director was interviewed by UNR President, Marc Johnson, along with Sarah Cowie, Assistant Professor of Anthropology. Dr. Cowie is receiving



the Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers, the highest honor bestowed by the United States Government on science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers for her collaborative archaeological project she did at the Stewart Indian School. The interview can be heard at the following link

<http://kunr.org/post/university-anthropologist-honored-work-stewart-indian-school#stream/0>.

- Chris and I had the opportunity to visit Manzanar Internment Camp, a National Historic Site, on May 3, 2016. We were able to meet with the Superintendent and the Lead Interpreter. The visit proved to be very enlightening and gave us a lot of great ideas for the future interpretation of the Stewart Indian School. We were given numerous collateral/interpretive pieces to study. The Oral History and ID Booklet was one piece that we were able to adapt to our needs and to replicate. State Printing Division printed 300 copies of the Stewart Indian School Oral History and ID Booklets to be handed out during this year's Powwow.

- I attended the Presidential E-Award Ceremony May 16, 2016 to accept the E-Award on behalf of the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA). AIANTA was one of 123 recipients from across the nation to collect the nation's highest honor for exports in support of U.S. trade.



- Southeast Tourism Society Congressional Tourism Summit - House Subcommittee Testimony in support of the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience (NATIVE) Act – I testified Wednesday, February 24, 2016 before the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources, Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs Subcommittee in support of H.R. 3477 NATIVE Act.

Upcoming Events

- Bi-State Traditional Ecological Knowledge Summit Follow Up Meeting, August 10, 2016 – Lee Vining Community Center
- Tribal Business and Economic Development Forum, September 19-20, 2016 – Fox Peak Cinemas, Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe
- American Indian Tourism Conference, September 12-14, 2016 – Tulalip, WA
- National Indian Education Association Convention, October 5-8, 2016 – Reno, NV
- National Congress of American Indians Annual Convention, October 9-13, 2016, Phoenix, AZ
- American Indian Achievement Awards Banquet and Silent Auction, November 19, 2016 – Governor's Mansion, Carson City, NV