# Fostering collaborative Government and Tribal Relations

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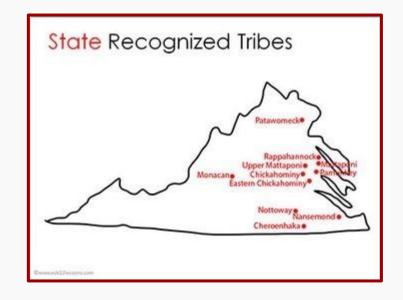
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## Background / Context

- ➤ Virginia's Racial Integrity Act of 1924 essentially wrote Native Americans out of existence. By the 1940's, a great number of the the native population were no longer available to appear on the census. The act was partially repealed in 1967 during the Loving vs Virginia case, the remainder being repealed in 1975 by the general assembly.
- ➤ In virginia, there are 11 tribes that are recognized by the state government; Mattaponi, Pamunkey, Chickahominy, Chickahominy Tribe eastern division, Rappahannock, Upper Mattaponi Tribe, Nansemond Indian Nation, Monacan Indian Nation, Cheroenhaka Nottoway, Nottoway of Virginia, and the Patawomeck
- ➤ Consultation facilitates tribal engagement and input in VA policies, programs and services
- > Tribes are entitled to tribal sovereignty, it is mentioned in the constitution several times.

#### Problem statement

> By improving outreach, communications, education, and providing funding to better the welfare of the citizens of the tribes, we are able to provide a direct line of transmission and foster the collaborative relations of the VA state Government and the recognized tribes of Virginia.



## Policies

- ➤ In order to foster relations, we must continue to rebuild indeginous communities and ensure that their welfare is being accounted for
  - Partnering with local government to create additional funding programs
  - Improve standards of education available to native american schools
  - Amend current outreach and consultation programs to not only keep them up to date, but to make sure that they are effective in conveying the proper information and providing resources



#### Outreach

- ➤ Deals with the sense of communication
- Not only reaching out to provide resources, but this will be the basis for how programs and information will be distributed (ex. How education programs will provide the right and helpful information).
- Creation of a model outreach program formulated by the usda
  - "The purpose of the project is to develop and deliver an easily adaptable outreach model other organizations can utilize to increase and improve outreach activities that inform and increase the level of Native American Tribal leaders, program managers, administrative and teaching staff from tribal educational organizations, as well as individual tribal members, in utilizing USDA programs and services"

#### Communications

- Consultation is a means to give the people a stronger and clearer voice in the policy process
  - Tribal council consultation with state/local government to discuss needs and ideas for any sort of resources
- ➤ Two orders of consultation;
- Executive Order (E.O.) 13175 was issued by President William J. Clinton in 2000.
  - required federal departments and agencies to consult with Indian tribal governments when considering policies that would impact tribal communities
- On November 5, 2009, President Obama signed a Memorandum on Tribal Consultation
  - directs all Federal agencies to develop a detailed plan of the actions to fully implement Consultation and Coordination with American Indian/Alaska Native Tribal Governments

### Education

- ➤ Native American Students Have The Lowest High School Graduation Rates In The Country out of any racial or ethnic group profiled by the government.
- ➤ Until the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, schools did not teach Native subjects including their history and culture.
- > Organizations such as the Red Road are dedicated to providing information and the tools needed for Native American communities to close the achievement gap
- ➤ Title 25 CFR Part 32.3, states that the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)'s mission is to provide quality education opportunities from early childhood through life in accordance with a tribe's needs for cultural and economic well-being
- ➤ Increased implementation of Indeginous culture into the american education system by the BIE to provide a better understanding.

#### Education

Figure 2. Adjusted cohort graduation rate (ACGR) for public high school students, by race/ethnicity: 2018-19 Percent 100 93 89 90 86 82 80 80 74 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 Total1 White Black Asian/Pacific Hispanic American Indian/ Islander<sup>2</sup> Alaska Native3 Race/ethnicity

## Funding

- Organizations such as the administration for Native americans (ANA)
- ➤ Tribal Government funds are used to provide staff at the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) agency office
- ➤ Grants for Native Americans in Virginia can apply for several grant and assistance programs if they need financial assistance. The programs are funded through the federal and state government, as well as through nonprofit organizations.
- ➤ More programs in place to help those in need obtain food, housing, energy grants, healthcare, and more (Grants for Native Americans in Virginia)





## Examples

- ➤ Policy and Strategic Development (PSD)
  - Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) team members met with Habitat for Humanity and Albemarle County as they hosted several members of the Monacan Tribe to the site where Habitat hoped to construct several new homes and apartments
  - Ouring the meeting Habitat and the County agreed to build on the site while preserving the history and story of the Monacan tribe through the project designs
- ➤ Native American Indian Incentive Program (IIP)
  - sponsored by United States Congress and allows for a 5% rebate back to prime government contractors on amounts subcontracting to Native American Indian-Owned Companies.
  - o the IIP serves as an economic multiplier for Native American communities

# Impact

- ➤ Without proper funding, the communities are not able to prosper and combat with issues properly
  - Leaves tribes unable to tackle an epidemic of suicide, high dropout rates,
     violence against women and climate change
  - The National Indian Education Association said chronic underfunding can mean broken heaters don't get fixed in classrooms and schools can't hire math teachers.
- ➤ Better conditions leads to increase in stability which allows for more opportunities for better relations

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