**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

**(SEPTEMBER 16, 2022 – OCTOBER 20, 2022)**

**OCTOBER 21, 2022**

**WISCONSIN INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

**WIEA**

**2022 PRESIDENT’S LOG**

**SEPTEMBER**

~In preparation of a presentation at the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council Board meeting on September 8th, in Keshena, Shannon Chapman presented on behalf

Of the WIEA Board and shared the following:

***~”Yes – it went way better than I expected.  I had another meeting right after – a meet and greet with the new UW-Madison chancellor – so I am just getting back to my desk.***

***GLITC made a motion to sign onto the letter as an organization.  The Tribal leaders are taking the letter back to their tribal councils to get support and signatures.  They asked when to have it by – and knowing the slow wheels of governance, I said by October.  I hope that is okay.***

***They were all super supportive and had great words for WIEA and the work being done.  They also liked that NCAI is connecting with Wisconsin tribes as they work to help other states.  I was very grateful to Shannon Holsey for being able to answer some of their questions knowledgeably when I didn’t know the answer.  Overall it was a great meeting.  They thanked WIEA for keeping this issue moving forward.”***

~Dedicated efforts in the logistics of the WIEA Board meeting held on September

16th. Originally scheduled to be held in Red Cliff, was revised to be virtual.

Thanks to all who were able to attend and participate.

~After the meeting, there is various follow-up and contacts to be made on actions

which occurred during the meeting

~An expression of appreciation was offered to the “volunteers” of the

newly established Publication/Communication Committee. Specifically Kate Erickson, Rachel Byington, Mark Powless, Terry Poitra

~Initial contact with the Executive Committee for the next WIEA meeting tentatively scheduled for October 21st in Lac Du Flambeau

~Various contacts, logistics, etc., on the October 21st meeting

~Serving as the facilitator, mediator, contact person, etc., between many resources

including WIEA Board and alternates

~Participating in the planning for the 2023 WIEA Conference

~Even though WIEA does not have on-board staff, i.e., CEO, Finance Manager,

etc., there are administrative and management duties that are conducted, on an as needed basis

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**OCTOBER**

~ Was able to attend, via Zoom, the Special Committee on State Tribal Relations meeting with special presentations by David O’Connor, American Indian Studies Consultant, and Kevyn Radcliffe, Legislative Liaison, Department of Public Instruction Shannon Chapman, and Brian Jackson

~Traditional Regalia at Graduation

~Reporting information

~Indigenous People’s Day

~Model Academic Standards

~Attended the Opening of the 7 Generations Summit, sponsored by the LCO

University and Menominee College. This was a special gathering that included participation of young people in the Opening Welcome Song and Prayer. There was a good attendance of the first day

~Working the various Board/Alternates on the upcoming 2023 WIEA Conference set for April 20-21st in Madison. This includes the selection of the host hotel and with the Theme of **IN BEAUTY AND UNITY, WE WALK THE HEALING JOURNEY**

~ E-mail sent on October 3rd to Board and Alternates. Greetings all!

I appreciate your attention on this important matter. This includes a response from both the WIEA Board members and Alternates.

Tara Tindall and Sean Saiz have been holding various meetings in scheduling the upcoming 2023 WIEA Conference, which will be held in the Madison area on April 20-21, 2023.

A contract will be signed, in the near future with the Double Tree in Madison. When the Regions work on setting up the yearly Conference, there has been $ 2,000 as upfront starter money. However, in this case, the Double Tree is requiring a “deposit” of $ 3,500 to reserve the hotel and set-up a block of rooms.

This is a “poll vote” asking you to consider the approval of the transfer of $ 3500 to the WIEA South Region account at UWCU. This will officially be adopted into the WIEA minutes at the Board meeting, being held on October 21, 2022, in Lac Du Flambeau.

Please respond back to me, by **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2022 BY 4:00 P.M.** Central Standard Time, either voting YES in favor of the request, NO in opposition of the request, or ABSTAIN. Thank you for your consideration!

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~ I am pleased to report, there was a very good response to the poll vote request. With 12 Board members and 3 Alternates voting yes, the motion has passed. There was 1 abstention.

~Attended, via Zoom, the **Honoring Indigenous Peoples Day: Teaching**

**Culturally with PBS WI Resources.** The main presenter was David O’Connor. This was a very impressive session. Not only because of David’s powerful presentation, but, the sharing of the many resources available to Schools, Teachers, etc., on Indian/Native American topics. Many of these resources include the Wisconsin Indian/Native American information regarding history, identification of Wisconsin Tribes, etc.

~This was sponsored by the Wisconsin First Nations Education organization,

whose website can be accessed through <https://wisconsinfirstnations.org>

~For the “new” Wisconsin Indian Education Associating Facebook site, did a Message from the President. The main subject of this was being an Oshkawbaywis (Messenger in the Anishinaabe/Ojibwe/Chippewa language. This pertains to all of us and the need to fully understand and share the messages for all those, we come in contact with.

~Just a reflection….October 2022 is 46 years since my cousin, Alan Bear passed away from cancer. He was the first Home-School Coordinator in the Bayfield School system in 1970. He influenced so many to obtain a higher education. He was the Wisconsin Indian Educator of the Year in 1975. Alan wrote in my year book, that **“Indian Power means an Education.”** About a week before he passed, I was visiting him in the hospital and with all kinds of tubes, he could barely talked but wanted me to tell the Red Cliff Tribe, he would be willing to write and search for Education grants/funds. His wife, Diane Bear Defoe, spent years working in the Bayfield School, also. And I think in 2014, Diane was the Wisconsin Indian Education Association Indian Elder and Educator of the Year.

***HONOR – RESPECT – DEDICATION – HUMBLE***

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