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The National Indian Gaming Commission Welcomes Applicants For First Ever Technology Leaders Fellowship

WASHINGTON, November 30, 2016 - The National Indian Gaming Commission has announced its first ever Technology Leaders Fellowship opportunity. The announcement of this fellowship is part of our celebration of Native American Heritage Month but more importantly to support tribal economic development, self-sufficiency, and strong tribal governments. The NIGC sees the importance of leadership in Indian country year-round therefore has created this fellowship to help cultivate future leaders in Indian gaming.

The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) mandates that the NIGC supports tribal economic development, self-sufficiency, and strong tribal governments. In keeping with the mission of IGRA, as well as promoting our initiative of staying ahead of the technology curve, the NIGC is proud to offer this Fellowship as a one-year apprenticeship-type opportunity for recent graduates in the fields of technology and who are interested in Indian gaming. The Technology Leaders Fellow will assist and collaborate with NIGC technology staff on a variety of special projects.

This Fellowship was developed based on conversations with tribal leaders about the important role technology plays, and will continue to play in the tribal gaming industry. From those conversations, the NIGC designed a program with the purpose of helping to foster technological expertise specific to tribal gaming. "In this growing industry it is necessary to train the best and brightest in gaming technology serving Indian gaming. This Fellowship supports our initiative of staying ahead of the technology curve by giving hands on training to recent graduates that can be taken back into Indian Country and Indian gaming." said Chairman Jonodev Osceola Chaudhuri.

Newly named Director of Technology, Travis Waldo stated, "NIGC saw a growing number of invitations for technical trainings and technology assessments by tribes. This new Fellowship will allow recent graduates in technology to spend one year with the NIGC, in the hopes that those Fellows will return to Indian Country gaming operations."

To find out more about the Technology Leaders Fellowship requirements, please go to http://www.nigc.gov/utility/nigc-employment-opportunity-technology-leaders-fellowship.

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The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act created the <u>National Indian Gaming Commission</u> to support tribal self-sufficiency and the integrity of Indian gaming. The NIGC has developed four initiatives to support its mission including (1) To protect against anything that amounts to gamesmanship on the backs of tribes; (2) To stay ahead of the Technology Curve; (3) Rural outreach; and (4) To maintain a strong workforce within NIGC and with its tribal regulatory partners. NIGC oversees the efficient regulation of 497 gaming establishments operated by 244 tribes across 29 states. The Commission's dedication to compliance with the <u>Indian Gaming Regulatory Act</u> ensures the integrity of the growing \$29.9 billion Indian gaming industry. To learn more, visit <u>www.nigc.gov</u> and follow us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.