

## New Tribal Liaison Guidance

Minnesota's agency Tribal Liaisons ensure good government to government policy by providing leadership, direction, policy development and meaningful tribal consultation to ensure department-wide understanding and integration of the G2G relationship as it relates to agencies programing, projects and planning, by establishing and maintaining positive relationships with tribal nations.

Because each tribal nation is sovereign your agencies success will depend on the liaison knowledge and relationships with each tribal nation. Developing a clear and direct tribal nation policy will help to ensure your agencies success under EO -19-24.

### FAQ

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#### **What is the charge of the tribal liaison?**

The charge is to inform the Commissioner of the impacts that the agency has in Indian country, at the same time gleaning from Tribal leadership what the impacts are from each individual tribe.

#### **What is my responsibility as a Tribal Liaison in regards to policy and implementation?**

Tribal liaisons should ensuring that agency policies are conducive to tribal members and tribal nations this will ensure agency programing success when being implemented within Indian country or when being applied to native people. (Best Practice use Native nations policy to frame role of liaison within agency)

#### **Who represents my Commissioner at Tribal meetings in their absence?**

Because the Tribal Liaison is constantly immersed in Government to Government they should establish roles up front with their respective agency commissioner to ensure trust between liaison and commissioner is established. (Best practices is to ensure your agency commissioner knows you're the conduit between Tribal elected leaders and the commissioner ensuring compliance with part 7 of EO-19-24)

#### **How do I determine who my contacts/counterparts are with the Tribes?**

Tribal Liaison's contacts will include line staff and elected leadership. Collaboration and coordinate with tribal counterparts to your agency issues will not always be the same and possible solutions maybe found at different levels. (Best practices lines of communication will be decided by level of issues or discussion.)

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For more information visit: [mndot.gov](http://mndot.gov)

Or contact: Mary Otto, Department of Commerce Tribal Liaison [Mary.Otto@state.mn.us](mailto:Mary.Otto@state.mn.us) or Levi Brown, Department of Transportation Liaison [Levi.Brown@state.mn.us](mailto:Levi.Brown@state.mn.us)

### Minnesota Agency Tribal Liaisons

Agency	Liaison	Office Phone	Email
Administration	Curt Yoakum	651-201-2771	curtis.yoakum@state.mn.us
Agriculture	Shannon Kesner	218-382-0173	shannon.kesner@state.mn.us
Commerce	Mary Otto	651-358-4799	mary.otto@state.mn.us
Corrections	Randy Goodwin	218-681-0942	Randy.J.Goodwin@state.mn.us
Education	Dr. Jane Harstad	651-582-8257	jane.harstad@state.mn.us
Employment and Economic Development	Kirk Crowshoe	651-259-7191	kirk.crowshoe@state.mn.us
Health	Jackie Dionne	651-201-3521	jackie.dionne@state.mn.us
Higher Education	Megan FitzGibbon	651-355-0606	megan.fitzgibbon@state.mn.us
Housing & Finance	Corey Strong	651-296-5701	corey.strong@state.mn.us
Human Rights	Audel Shokohzadeh		Audel.Shokohzadeh@state.mn.us
Human Services	Vern LaPlante	651-431-2910	vernon.laplante@state.mn.us
IRRRB	Billie Isham		billie.isham@state.mn.us
Labor and Industry	Naheeda Hirji-Walji	651-284-5531	naheeda.hirji-walji@state.mn.us
Management and Budget	VACANT		
Metropolitan Council	Brooke Bordson	651-602-1364	brooke.bordson@metc.state.mn.us
Bureau of Mediation Services	Marshall Thompson	651-539-1403	marshall.thompson@state.mn.us
Military Affairs	LTC Eduardo A. Suárez	651-282-4190	eduardo.a.suarez.mil@mail.mil
MN.IT Services	Michelle Klatt	651-201-2619	michelle.klatt@state.mn.us
Natural Resources	Brad Harrington	320-515-0688	Bradley.Harrington@state.mn.us
Pollution Control	Helen Waquiu	651-757-2286	helen.waquiu@state.mn.us
Public Safety	Nigel Perrote	651-201-7333	nigel.perrote@state.mn.us
Revenue	Dawn Blanchard	651-556-6001	dawn.blanchard@state.mn.us
Transportation	Levi Brown	651-236-7048	levi.brown@state.mn.us
Veterans Affairs	James Miller	651-255-2663	<a href="mailto:james.allan.miller@state.mn.us">james.allan.miller@state.mn.us</a>

- **Above is a contact list of all the current agencies liaisons it would be very beneficial to reach out to current liaisons for assistance.**

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