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# 2009 Native American Critical Issues Conference Bulletin

## MIEC Announces the 2009

NACIC Theme...



**“Visioning Our  
Future, Celebrating  
Our Traditions”**

The MIEC announces the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Native American Critical Issues Conference. Over time, our cultural beliefs have shaped laws that are not on the books. Many organizations talk about combining the best of tradition and innovation. The MIEC has been making a habit of it for more than a 39 years. Today, the MIEC continues building the foundation for a bright future while celebrating our rich traditions. We believe that to remain a leader means you never rest on your laurels and never stop learning and growing. The MIEC has a history as a organization that contributes practical solutions, and having a larger, more visible role of thought leadership in the future, as ‘go-to’ organization who take on new and emerging issues and find solutions that increase educational value while providing benefits to the Native communities of Michigan. While MIEC is working to strengthen its leadership in new ways, it is determined to keep building on the long-standing traditions of our people to maximize the educational achievements of our communities. We celebrate our Tribal cultures and traditions, which are the expression of deep understandings of our world shared through oral histories, language and ceremonies.

**Register Early & Save Money**

### **Conference Goals:**

*To introduce the next generation to the technologies that will allow them to succeed in the new economy.*

*To facilitate the exchange of ideas between educators, agencies, tribal entities, and families for better educational strategies.*

*To discuss tactics for classrooms and agencies to affect families as a unit to realize the full potential of each.*

*To empower and impel each generation to action while still heeding the lessons of our ancestors.*

### **Who Should Attend:**

Those with an interest in the education of Native American students including leaders in Tribal governments, State government, Title VII Directors, School Administrators, Teachers, Parents, Native Elders, Counselors and Career Development specialists, University Admissions staff, Johnson O'Malley programs, Tribal Colleges, and other Higher Education institutions

### **The MIEC:**

Our goal is to provide leadership, which will foster continued improvement of academic achievement and to address school-related variables that adversely affect the educational outcomes for Native youth in Michigan.

Since many of our young people continue to be under-represented among academic achievement gains and over-represented in poor and poorly performing schools, the NACIC underscores the rich potential of investing in our young people through concrete strategies to help them succeed academically.

***Come and join us.***

### **Keynoter: Jefferson Davis**

This year's keynoter has been an Assistant United States Attorney for the Western District of Michigan for 14 years. His primary responsibilities are prosecuting crimes in Indian Country, and liaison to the 11 federally-recognized tribes in the Western District, and to the Saginaw Chippewa in the Eastern District.

Prior to joining to the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Michigan, Mr. Davis was employed by a private law firm, Greene, Meyer & McElroy, P.C., located in Boulder, Colorado, representing Indian Tribes throughout the United States on issues ranging from gaming, water rights litigation, and recognition and protection of tribal treaty rights.

Mr. Davis graduated from the University Of New Mexico School Of Law in 1989. He is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and grew up on the Reservation which is located in north-central North Dakota, approximately ten (10) miles from the Canadian border. He is married and is proud father of three great children, Jacob, Whitney, and John. Wife Betty, is also from Turtle Mountain

Our closing luncheon keynoter will be Mr. Frank Ettawageshik, chair of the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians.

### **Student Track**

Student success and career satisfaction is a primary goal of the MIEC. The MIEC has gathered together a team of talented and dedicated professionals to help students reach their goals as they launch into a new stage of life. We believe that it's not just about the destination but it's also about the journey. And it's more than just getting a job; it's about creating a life.

## Conference Schedule

### Thursday, March 12, 2009

Noon - 8 p.m.	Registration
3 - 9 p.m.	Exhibits Open
6:30 - 8 p.m.	<b>Dinner (Provided)</b>
8 - 9 p.m.	Keynote: <b>Jefferson Davis</b>

### Friday, March 13, 2009

7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Registration
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Exhibits Open
8:30 - 10 a.m.	Conference sessions\100 series
10 - 10:15 a.m.	<b>Break</b>
10:15 - 11:45 a.m.	Conference sessions\200 series
Noon - 1:15 p.m.	<b>Lunch (Provided)</b>
1:30 - 3 p.m.	Conference sessions\300 series
3 - 3:15 p.m.	<b>Break (Provided)</b>
3:15 - 4:45 p.m.	Conference sessions\400 series
4:45 - 6 p.m.	"MIEC Board Meeting"
7:30 - 11:30 p.m.	<i>Special Event: Social Pow wow</i>

### Saturday, March 14, 2009

7:30 a.m.-Noon	Registration
8 a.m. - Noon	Exhibits Open
8:15 - 11:45 a.m.	Interactive Sessions
9:30 - 10:45 a.m.	<b>Refreshments (Provided)</b>
12 - 1 p.m.	<b>Lunch (Provided)</b> <b>Keynoter: Frank Ettawageshik</b>

### Exhibitors Wanted

The deadline for submitting your exhibitor's registration form is **March 1, 2009**. Space is limited (25 Tables) and the exhibitors will be selected on a first come first served basis. We require a table fee of \$35.00 for each table requested. Payment **must** be received with registration form.

Please fill out the Exhibitor form included in this material and forward it to:

MIEC  
PO Box 378  
Haslett, MI 48840

**Thank you for your continued support!!**

For more information, please contact  
**Sharon Kota** at 810.989.2727

## *Register Early and Save*

**Michigan Indian Education Council  
2009 Native American Critical Issues Conference**

**Workshop Registration Form**

**March 12-14, 2009**

**Soaring Eagle Inn & Conference Center**

Complete the following information for each participant.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State/Province** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **School Phone** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax Number** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School District:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Tribal Affiliation:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please select your first and second choices for each session series. Sessions will be assigned on a first - come, first - serve basis, according to the postmark on your registration form and conference fee payment.

Series	Pre-Conf.	100	200	300	400	500	600
First Choice							
Second Choice							

**Meal selection:**

- ☐ Thursday dinner  
☐ Friday luncheon  
☐ Saturday luncheon

**Non-meat meals request:**

- ☐ Chicken/Fish  
☐ Vegetarian

**Special needs:**

- ☐ Physically challenged

**Type of Registration:** (*check one*)      ☐ **General**   ☐ **Associate**   ☐ **Student**   ☐ **Senior**

Type of Registration	Postmarked <i>before</i> February 1, 2008	Post marked <i>after</i> February 1, 2008	Total Fee
General Registration Fee	\$210.00	\$275.00	
Associate Registration (non-voting membership)	\$200.00	\$250.00	
Student Registration (must show current student ID at conference registration)	\$110.00	\$175.00	
Senior Citizen Registration (55 years of age or older)	\$110.00	\$175.00	
Daily Registration (does not include meals)		\$275.00	
		<b>Additional Workshop Fees</b>	
		<b>Total Fees Enclosed</b>	

Mail completed form(s) with payment to **MIEC, PO Box 378, Haslett, MI 48840.**

For further information contact: Sharon Kota, President, MIEC, 810.989.2727, email: [slkota@yahoo.com](mailto:slkota@yahoo.com). Questions concerning your conference registration should be directed to Paul Johnson at 517.339-1069, email: [pji158@aol.com](mailto:pji158@aol.com). No refund requests will be accepted after March 1, 2008

## CONFERENCE WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

<b>Friday, March 13, 2009</b>	<b>100 Sessions</b>	<b>8:30 – 10 a.m.</b>
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**101. Office of Indian Education Updates**

Description of Presentation: Participants will be provided the latest updates on grant activities and schedules, coming events and activities, and have an opportunity to discuss issues or ask questions concerning Indian education.

Presenter: OIE staff

**102. Techsmith**

Techsmith trainers will demonstrate how Camtasia Relay works; participants will be afforded hands on opportunity to construct lecture, presentation for classroom instruction.

Presenter: Barb. Hernandez, User Experience Manager

**103. What's new in Virtual Instruction**

This session is a hands-on session, which demonstrates best practices in virtual instruction. Participants will explore best practices in organization of online courses: to include, generating online discussion, reflection, team participation. This session will explore a full range of new online methods in evaluating student essays that appeal to student learning styles using a wide range of editing techniques, to include oral comments.

Presenter: Melinda Hernandez

**104. The Past and Future of the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver**

This workshop will provide a succinct history of the tuition waiver, with a focus on the history of Indian education in Michigan, and offers an analysis of its future.

Presenter: Matthew L.M. Fletcher

**105. Linking Community Programs**

This workshop will explore the potential for community programming and impacting your Tile VII efforts.

Presenter: Angela Harding, Becky Roy

**106. Career Development for Native Students**

Career Development - Start your life with purpose: develop a plan, choose a career, continue your education – be the best you can be.

<b>Friday, March 13, 2009</b>	<b>200 Sessions</b>	<b>10:15 – 11:45 a.m.</b>
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**201. Repeat of 101**

**202. Repeat of 103**

**203. Empowering Women: Reclaiming Our Destined Lives**

A workshop designed to demonstrate the importance of continuing education for Native women as a source of empowerment. The presenter will use her own story as a basis to discuss self motivation. This session will highlight how empowering women can take control of their life's path and demonstrate how our mind affects our well being; by opening a woman's mind the possibilities in life are endless.

Presenter: Jodi Branton

**204. Strengthen the Circle of Our Language: Linking Our Anishinaabemowin Activism**

This participative workshop will highlight Anishinaabemowin activism within the State of Michigan including individual, community, tribal, school, college, and university efforts. Participants are asked to share what is being done within their communities, explore opportunities for collaboration, and suggest new ways that existing resources can be combined and used to support an active lifelong Anishinaabemowin learning habit within our communities. Information on delivery of language learning anytime, anywhere through Web 2.0 technologies such as digital storytelling, podcasting, and other applications will be explored. OjibwemowinNoongom, multimedia immersion software to be released in Summer 2009, will be previewed.

Presenter: Ally Krebs

- 205 DHS' New Text Messages: ICWA, ETV, & YIT – Reaching Our Youth in Ways that Matter**  
Participants will learn about the history of ICWA as well as other resources available to Native American youth in care seeking employment or educational training such as the Education & Training Voucher (ETV) and the Youth In Transition (YIT) Programs. Participants will obtain a historical overview, resource descriptions, and contact information to access relevant Department of Human Services (DHS) programming that will assist them in becoming self-sufficient, adults while reaching for their dreams.  
Presenter: Stacey M. Tadgerson
- 206. Student Career Development Track**  
Career Coaching – Have you made a career choice? Come and ask questions of those who made a decision and followed it to the next steps – college and a job.

<b>Friday, March 13, 2009</b>	<b>300 Sessions</b>	<b>1:30 – 3 p.m.</b>
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- 301. Anishnaabemowin Ngamwinan – Indian Language Songs**  
Language through songs and using technology, are excellent tools to help promote and make language come alive. The songs incorporate everyday language, which can be enjoyed, and sung along with by the learners. Learner of the language can also use Anishnaabemowin in the songs, in everyday conversations.  
Presenter: Reta Sands, Edwin Taylor, Chris Riley
- 302. Storytelling Science in the Health is Life in Balance Curriculum**  
Explore innovative way of using storytelling, blending traditional knowledge and scientific concepts with the Eagle Books and the Health is Life in Balance Curriculum. The curriculum meets instructional standard in culturally relevant ways while encouraging interests in health science careers and promoting healthy lifestyles to prevent type II diabetes.  
Presenters: Lynn Aho, Mary Hindelang, Staphanie Pinnow
- 303. Repeat of 204**
- 304. Using Narrative to Discuss Critical Issues in Indian Education**  
This workshop will provide an overview of the book, "American Indian Education: Counternarratives in Racism, Struggle, and the Law," and how it could be used in various educational settings. The book includes narratives from the point of view of American Indian students and educators on a wide variety of issues, including American Indian sports mascots, grade school, curriculum, freedom of speech in schools and universities, admissions to higher education, faculty hiring, and other topics.  
Presenter: Matthew L.M. Fletcher
- 305. Remembering Our Boarding School Experiences**  
Presenter: Ziibiwing Staff
- 306. Continuation of Student Track**  
Is Leadership in Your Future – A perspective of Anishinabeg women and decision-making?

<b>Friday, March 13, 2009</b>	<b>400 Sessions</b>	<b>3:15 – 4:45 p.m.</b>
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- 401. Repeat of 301**
- 402. Ogitchidaw: The Warrior Society**  
What are the principles of this important society of the Anishnabe people? Duty, responsibility, obligation and loyalty play an important part in the maintaining the honor of our people.  
Presenter: George Martin
- 403. Middle School STEM Camp**  
The Hannahville Indian School sponsored a Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) camp for middle school students during the summer of 2008. Students will present activities from the camp, and information for the 2009 camp. Participants will receive descriptions of activities that can be used in school or after school programs.  
Presenter: Richard Sgarlotti, two students from program

- 404. Using Archival Materials for Researching Your Tribal History**  
Explore the use of tribal archives, libraries and museums for researching our Tribal history  
Presenter: Anita Heard
- 405. Women's Hand Drum**  
An interactive session will take place for women of all ages. The roles of women have changed in contemporary times. Cultural teachings on the hand drum will be explained. Women will have a chance to learn and to express their inner spirit thru song. Participants should bring their Hand drum or shaker and a tape recorder is a must. You will have a chance to learn a song & songs will be shared by all who will be attending.  
Presenters: Bea Jackson, et al
- 406. Continuation Student Track**  
College Planning – Find out what it takes to attend college, how to get started and how to start the financial aid process.

<b>Saturday, March 14, 2009</b>	<b>500 Sessions</b>	<b>8:15 – 9:45 a.m.</b>
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- 501. The Art of Weaving Sweet Grass (Additional fee for materials \$10 to be paid with registration)**  
The basics of creating a sweet grass circle will be demonstrated. Each participant will take part in the making of his or her own sweet grass item.  
Presenter: Delores Kiyoshk
- 502. Blackash Basketmaking (Additional fee for materials \$10 to be paid with registration)**  
This session will take the participant through the entire process of using Blackash trees to make baskets and other useful items. Make a Blackash sweet grass bookmark.  
Presenter: Renee Dillard
- 503. Native Cordage and Textiles (Additional fee for materials \$10 to be paid with registration)**  
The techniques of manufacturing durable cordage were once essential for many day to day economic activities such as making fishing nets and lines, ropes, bulrush mats and bindings. The use of fiber was equally as important for arts such as weaving twined bags, straps, belts and sashes. This basic cordage workshop introduces participants to the foundational techniques of harvesting and processing traditional fibers including basswood, dogbane, wood nettle, swamp milkweed and leg sinew. Each participants will learn multiple processes for making strong multiple ply cord from a variety of fibers.  
Presenter: Ed Pigeon
- 504. The Ziibiwing Center: A Satellite Classroom for Anishinabe Culture & History**  
Staff from the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways will host an on-site workshop. Participants will experience a guided interpretative tour through both the award-winning Diba Jimooyung (Telling Our Story) permanent exhibit.. (Shuttle bus transportation will be provided.)  
Presenter: ZCS Staff. **Special note: 9-10:30 and 10:30-12 shuttle holds 22 cannot tour more than 30 at one time.**

<b>Saturday, March 14, 2009</b>	<b>600 Sessions</b>	<b>10 – 11:45 a.m.</b>
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- 601 Repeat of 501**  
**602 Repeat of 502**  
**603 Repeat of 503**  
**604 Continuation 504**

2009 Native American Critical Issues Conference  
**Hotel reservation and accommodations**

Mail hotel reservation form directly to the hotel **do not** mail to MIEC office

**General Information**

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The Conference will be held at Soaring Eagle Inn & Conference Center, phone 1.800.292.8891

Make reservations directly with the hotel. (Use form below)

Mail to: Soaring Eagle Inn & Conference Center

5665 E. Pickard Rd.

Mt Pleasant, MI 48858

Fax 1.989.772.6382

Special Convention rates are available only by using the MIEC Native American Critical Issues Conference reservation form. The convention rates are single@ **\$96.00** and double@ **\$96.00** All rates are subject to **6 % tax**. (If you are claiming to be tax exempt please bring IRS determination letter.) Reservations are subject to availability and must be received by **February 13, 2009**

You may call the hotel directly to make reservations, our group code is MIEC.

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**Soaring Eagle Inn & Conference Center**

**MIEC Native American Critical Issues Conference**

**March 12-14, 2009**

**Reservation Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Check One:** ☐ Single ☐ Double ☐ Triple # of Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Students \_\_\_\_\_

Room Type: Smoking ☐ Non-Smoking ☐

Arrival Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If sharing a room, identify room mate \_\_\_\_\_

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**Check one** ☐ Money Order ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card (*Make checks payable to Soaring Eagle Inn & Conference Center*)

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**Credit Card Information:**

Name on Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete and send to Holiday Inn by **February 13, 2009** to confirm your reservation.

Michigan Indian Education Council

## Native American Critical Issues Conference

Soaring Eagle Inn & Conference Center  
5665 E. Pickard Rd.  
Mt Pleasant, MI 48858  
Fax 1.989.772.6382

### Exhibit Registration

*"What Works in Indian Country: Successful Strategies in Our Communities"*

Set up and Display Times	
Thursday, March 12, 2009	2 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday, March 13, 2009	8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday, March 14, 2009	8 a.m. - noon

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (H)(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_ (W) (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Description of Exhibit: \_\_\_\_\_

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**2009 NACIC Exhibit Table fee is \$35.00 per table**

Number of Tables: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Fee Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** Electricity is \$10.00 per day and is an extra charge. This fee is in addition to the table fee.

Make check payable to Michigan Indian Education Council

Return this form and payment to: **MIEC**  
**PO Box 378**  
**Haslett, MI 48840**

This form must be received by **March 1, 2009**. There will be **no** onsite registration or refunds after **March 6, 2009**. For more information please contact: Sharon Kota at 810.989.2727.