

BY-LAWS
for the
INDIAN POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IPAC)
to
WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES (DSHS)

(Revised 2024)

Article I. Preamble

We, the Indian Nations of Washington Territory, invoking the divine blessings of the Creator and the inherent sovereign powers upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for each of our nations and our descendents, all rights secured under Treaties, Executive Orders, and agreements, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish this organization and solemnly pledge our devotion to and adoption of the following By-Laws.

Article II. Purpose

The Federally Recognized Tribes (here after Tribes) exercising their sovereign Indian authority and Urban Indian Organizations (here after UIO) exercising their rights as Indians and citizens of the state of Washington, establish the Indian Policy Advisory Committee (here after called IPAC) to guide the implementation of the Centennial Accord, and DSHS Administrative Policy 7.01. The IPAC does not circumvent the sovereign authority of Tribal Governments. The objective of IPAC is to assist the collective needs of the Tribal governments and other American Indian organizations to assure quality and comprehensive service delivery to all American Indians and Alaska Natives in Washington State.

Article III. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Indian Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC).

Article IV. Membership

Section 1. Tribal

Each Federally Recognized Tribe of Washington State is entitled to determine one delegate by tribal resolution as well as determine any amount of alternates that they desire.

Section 2. Other

Urban Indian Organizations (UIO) will be legally established such as chartered and organized under IRS 501(c)(3) ruling. Acceptance to IPAC as a member will be by a majority vote of Tribal delegates.

Article V. Meetings

Section 1. Meetings

Meetings shall be held at a place established by IPAC or the Executive Committee.

A. Regular meetings of IPAC shall convene bi-annually: January and August.

- B. Special meetings and Executive Committee meetings shall be determined by the Chair or by a quorum of the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Notices and Mailing

All notices required to be given by any provision of these By-Laws shall state the authority pursuant to which they are issued (as, "by order of the Chair," or "by order of the IPAC" as the case may be). Notices shall bear the written, stamped, typewritten or printed signature of the Chair or Secretary. Every notice shall be deemed duly served when the same has been deposited in the United States mail, with postage fully prepaid, plainly addressed to the sendee at his, her or its last address appearing upon the membership record of this Committee.

Article VI. Quorum

Section 1. Quorum of Membership

A quorum of the IPAC shall be a minimum of thirty-three (33%) percent of the appointed members.

Section 2. Quorum of Executive Committee

A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be a minimum of three of the members.

Article VII. Voting and Elections

Section 1. Who is Entitled to Vote

Each member of this Committee shall, at every meeting of the members, be entitled to one vote in person.

Section 2. Voting Procedures

- A. IPAC

Each IPAC member shall have one delegate and as many alternates as it chooses but is entitled to only one (1) vote on each issue or matter calling for a vote. All matters shall be determined by a majority vote.

- B. Executive Committee

Each member of the Executive Committee shall have one (1) vote. All matters shall be determined by a majority vote.

Article VIII. IPAC

Section 1. Verification of Delegates

At the annual August meeting the members of IPAC shall be certified by resolution or other authorizing documents by each of the member Tribes or organizations identifying their delegates, alternates and terms of authorization.

Section 2. Vacancies

Vacancies in the IPAC shall be filled by appointment made by the authorizing Tribal government and UIO. Each person so selected to fill a vacancy shall remain a delegate until his successor has been appointed.

Section 3. Power to Make By-Laws

The IPAC shall have power to make and alter the By-Law(s) in accordance with Article X.

Section 4. Power to Appoint and Remove Other Agents

The IPAC shall have power to appoint such agents as it may deem necessary for transaction of business for IPAC.

Section 5. Power to Elect an Executive Committee

A. Number and Officers of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall be comprised of five (5) members elected by the Committee delegates, of whom four shall be Tribal delegates. The delegates shall elect Officers including a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and two (2) At-Large members. The Executive Committee only has the authority to carry out the official policy of the Committee.

B. Terms:

Each officer of the Executive Committee shall serve a two (2) year term.

C. The Chair, Secretary and (1) member At-Large shall be elected in even years.

D. The Vice-Chair and (1) Member At-Large shall be elected in odd years.

E. Vacancy replacement procedures.

1. Vacancy(s) shall be replaced in the same procedures as they were elected and shall serve the remainder of the authorized term.
2. If one of the Executive positions is replaced then IPAC shall hold an election for the vacant Executive position at the next scheduled meeting.
3. Timely notification to the membership of a vacancy and announcement of election.

Section 6. Power to Establish Committees and Task Forces

The IPAC shall have the authority to establish Standing Committees and Task Forces as necessary. The IPAC shall establish the mission, objectives, membership, and rules that will guide the Committee or Task Force.

Section 7. Committee Support

The department shall reimburse one delegate per Tribe and UIO for costs associated with attending regularly scheduled committee or special meetings including: meals, lodging and transportation. Reimbursement will be made in accordance with state law and departmental policy. Reimbursement shall be made in a timely manner. Alternates attending with a delegate shall not be reimbursed for expenses.

Article IX. Officers

Section 1. Chair

The Chair shall be selected by, and from the membership of, the IPAC. The Chair shall preside over all meetings

of IPAC. The Chair shall have general and active management of the business of the committee and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the board are carried into effect. The Chair shall be a member of all standing committees, task forces, and shall have the general powers and duties of supervision and management usually vested in the office of the president of an organization.

Section 2. Vice-Chair

A Vice-Chair shall be chosen from the membership of the Committee. The Vice-Chair shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Chair during the absence of the Chair.

Section 3. Secretary

The Secretary shall attend all meetings of IPAC and of the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall preserve the committee minutes of each meeting. All notices required by statute, By-Law or resolution shall be given by the Secretary. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be delegated by the IPAC or the Executive Committee.

Article X. Amendment of By-Laws

Section 1. Amendments, How Effected

These By-Laws may be amended, altered, changed, added to or repealed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members entitled to vote at any regular or special meeting of the members if notice of the proposed amendment, alteration, change, addition or repeal be contained in the notice of the meeting, or by the affirmative vote of a majority of the IPAC if the amendment, alteration, change, addition or repeal be proposed at a regular or special meeting of the board and adopted at a subsequent regular meeting; provided, that any By-Laws made by the affirmative vote of a majority of the IPAC as provided herein may be amended, altered, changed, added to or repealed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members entitled to vote at any regular or special meeting of the members.

Article XI. Disclaimer Clause

This organization does not have the authority or power to infringe or jeopardize the sovereignty of any Federally Recognized Tribe or non-member Tribe.