



the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Maria Dadgar
(480) 545-1298 Ext. 239
pr@ncaied.org

MEDIA RELEASE

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR AMERICAN INDIAN ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT KICKS OFF 8TH ANNUAL NATIVE AMERICAN PROCUREMENT CONFERENCE

MESA, AZ. – AUGUST 04, 2010 – "Now is the time." With those words, the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) President/CEO Eric S. Trevan kicked off the 8th Annual Native American Procurement Conference (NAPC) at the Gila River Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino in Chandler, AZ.

About 400 Indian Country entrepreneurs and business insiders attended the opening day of NAPC, which featured several business learning sessions, government contracting workshops, and a trade and artisan fair. Sponsored by the Raytheon Company and co-presented by the Native American Business Enterprise Center (NABEC) and UIDA Business Services, the NAPC provides small business suppliers the opportunity to meet one-on-one with government agencies and prime contractors and brings small business communities together to encourage partnership/teaming relationships and increase competitiveness and opportunities in contracting.

Newly appointed NCAIED President Trevan welcomed attendees to NAPC and encouraged them to take advantage of all that NAPC has to offer.

"Now is the time. Here, small business suppliers have a forum to interact personally with federal, state, and corporate officers and buyers. The power of networking can be released from something as simple as introducing yourself and shaking hands with future business partners. It is your chance to shine and share all of the valuable benefits and components of your business," said Trevan.

Trevan also touched upon the down economy and offered words of encouragement to small business suppliers.

"As we all know, the world economies have been in turmoil for some time now. It is not only America that is suffering from the fallout of the credit crisis. For Indian Country, we must view these challenges as a time to proactively embrace the global opportunities and form new bonds. Together we can build

mutually beneficial relationships benefiting American Indian people on both sides of the border," said Trevan.

Trevan also introduced Benita Fortner, Director of the Supplier Diversity Program for the Raytheon Company, the presenting sponsor of NAPC.

"Raytheon is a long standing supporter of the National Center [for American Indian Enterprise Development] and we really feel like this is our family. I am excited to see Eric [Trevan] in this leadership role," said Fortner.

As a token of appreciation, Trevan then presented a kachina to Fortner on behalf of NCAIED.

For more information, please visit: www.ncaied.org.

###