



Intertribal Agriculture Council
PO Box 958, Billings MT 59103

September 1, 2022

Dear Tribal Leader,

Each year the Intertribal Agriculture Council hosts formal regional caucus meetings comprised of stakeholders and membership tribe Delegates, that represent the 12 regions of IAC, to establish the priorities for each region in the following year. All 574 federally recognized Tribes are considered IAC's general membership. For a Tribe to establish a voting delegate, the delegate must be selected by the governing body of a member Tribe and the Tribe must submit the appropriate documentation. For more information, see the form at <https://www.indianag.org/membership>.

To be considered by the voting delegates, caucus issues should be submitted through IAC's online caucus issue submission form before the in-person caucus meetings, regional caucuses issues raised in person during the regional caucus meeting, held during the IAC Annual Conference, may also be considered. All caucus issues must be received by 9:00 am PT on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, to be considered by the voting delegates.

Prior to the conclusion of the regional caucus meeting, delegates vote on the adoption of submitted caucus issues. Those issues that receive a majority vote will advance to the 2022 Annual Membership Meeting on December 8, 2022, for full-membership consideration. Caucus issues ratified during the IAC Membership Meeting are incorporated into the organizational playbook for prioritization throughout the following year.

Tribes with an interest in the management and development of Indian agricultural and food systems are encouraged to designate voting delegates through the established process found at <https://www.indianag.org/membership>.

Issues offered for consideration at the regional caucus by registered conference participants from that region, who are not voting delegates, will not be considered if no duly appointed voting delegate moves to support the prospective caucus issue. Such issues will not be discussed, nor included in the caucus report to be offered to the membership for consideration.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at kari@indianag.org.

Respectfully,

Kari Jo Lawrence, IAC Executive Director

Intertribal Agriculture Council

2022 Voting Delegate Guide

Online Voting Delegate Application: <https://www.tfaforms.com/4766069>

Voting Delegates to the IAC will vote on the issues raised through our caucus process. Delegates are selected by the governing body of a member Tribe, membership dues are waived.

Tribes may raise caucus issues via resolution, or by completing the online caucus form: <https://www.tfaforms.com/5012215>. These issues can be advanced through the in person membership meeting where a Tribe's delegate may vote on the adoption of that issue as the position of the IAC.

The right to vote on these issues through IAC processes is open to all 574 of IAC's member Tribes with an interest in the management and development of Indian agricultural and food systems resources.

HOW TO APPLY TO BECOME A VOTING DELEGATE TRIBE

<https://www.tfaforms.com/4766069>

The application process only requires a formal resolution from the respective Tribe; which includes naming the voting delegate (and alternate) to represent your Tribe's interest - see [sample resolution](#) and [letter](#). General membership on the Council is vested with the Tribes and not with any specific individual.

***The IAC board voted to once again waive Tribal membership dues.**

Once approved, the voting delegate participates in the regional caucus to bring actionable items forward to the annual Membership Meeting, both of which occur each year during the early part of December at IAC's Annual Conference.

Register to participate in the 2022 IAC Annual Conference and Membership Meeting December 6-8, 2022.

The 2022 Membership Meeting will be held on December 8, 2022.

Visit www.indianag.org/2022-annual-conference for conference information.

IAC Caucus Protocol

The Board Member or Alternate for your region is responsible for presiding over the Caucus meeting.

An IAC staff member will be in attendance to record the actions in our preferred format.

Staff members, unless appointed as a delegate by a member Tribe, may not offer issues for consideration, but may offer their perspective on issues raised.

It is generally accepted that all conference participants are invited to attend the meeting, and may raise issues for consideration.

Issues offered for consideration of the caucus by registered conference participants from that region; however if no duly appointed delegates move to support the issue it will not be discussed, nor included in the caucus report offered to the membership.

The Board Member from that region will present the caucus report to the General Membership for consideration for adoption as IAC Policy for the year.

Issues may be adopted by the IAC by a vote of the delegates at the membership meeting on December 8th, 2022.

Issues not receiving consensus approval at the in person caucus may be voted on in a manner as determined by the presiding officer, for reporting out to the membership meeting.

A majority of the duly appointed delegates attending the caucus may approve an issue, or the caucus report in its entirety.

Caucus Agenda Framework

Roles Summary:

- IAC Board Member Facilitates Meeting
- TA takes notes, offers context on USDA resources as necessary, fields pertinent questions- does not direct conversation or have the floor for any length of time

Introductions (IAC Board Member)

- Delegates: Name, Tribal Affiliation, Role/Operation/Business
- General Attendees (only if size of caucus permits and this will not take away from primary scope of this meeting): Name, Tribal Affiliation, Role/Operation/Business

Review of Previous Caucus Issues (IAC Board Member/TA)

- Present TA Accomplishments Relevant to Caucus Issues Raised Last Year

Review of Presubmitted Caucus Issues (IAC Board Member/TA Takes Notes)

- Review background
- Consider Actionable Solutions

Round-Table Delegate Discussion on 2021 Caucus Issues (IAC Board Member/TA Takes Notes)

- State name, Tribal affiliation, issue/concern, possible remedy/solution
- Review background
- Consider Actionable Solutions

Vote on Caucus Issues Raised (IAC Board Member/TA)

- Clarify notes in support of generating the caucus report

Final Thoughts (IAC Board Member) Adjourn

(Sample Resolution for Becoming a Voting Delegate Tribe with IAC)

Therefore be it resolved....Hereby appoints _____ as its delegate to the Intertribal Agriculture Council, and appoints _____ as the alternate delegate.

Be it further resolved.....hereby offers the following caucus issues for consideration in the regional caucus.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

(Sample appointment letter for delegate/alternate to the Intertribal Agriculture Council)

Dear Executive Director:

The _____ Tribal Council has designated _____ to the Intertribal Agriculture Council as the official Tribal Delegate and _____ as the alternate affording all privileges of member representatives.

Sample Caucus Issue: Less than 40 Tribes are able to utilize FRTEP due to the funding limitation to the program. Member Tribes request an increase in funding directly to their congressional representatives to \$10 M.

Proposed Solution: IAC advocacy for 2023 Farm Bill will include mandatory funding for 100 FRTEP agents.