



Indian Land Tenure
FOUNDATION.



ANNUAL REPORT
2007

Our Mission

“Land within the original boundaries of every reservation and other areas of high significance where tribes retain aboriginal interest are in Indian ownership and management.”

BELIEVING IN INDIAN PEOPLE

As we complete the Indian Land Tenure Foundation's sixth year of operation, we reflect upon one of the underlying values that has shaped our work—believing in Indian people.

We began to lay the groundwork for what would become the Foundation in 1998 with a meeting of Indian people and informed non-Indians in Missoula, Montana. The meeting's participants affirmed their shared belief that Indian people, given adequate resources, had the skills and capacity to transform the dire situation of Indian land ownership, management and control.

Everything that has transpired in the intervening 10 years has only served to strengthen that belief. The initial planning process, jump-started by a major grant from the Northwest Area Foundation, was directed by Indian people, and it included input from hundreds of Indian people across the country. The resulting strategic plan was based on the premise that an informed Indian public would become increasingly active in recovery of reservation lands that had been alienated from Indian ownership and other off-reservation lands that held cultural significance for tribes. Indian people and tribal leaders who took full control of their land assets would resolve issues such as increasingly fractionated allotment titles more effectively than the federal government in its role as trustee.

The Foundation's volunteer board members, the majority of whom are Indian people, contributed many hours to bring the organization to fruition in 2001; professional staff were hired in 2002. From the beginning, the board members have continued to provide the Foundation with many hours of service each year, sacrificing time with their families, at their jobs and in school. We recognize this as time that they spend in service to the Indian community, but it is also a commitment that goes beyond anything that could ever be compensated. We thank all those who have served, continue to serve and will serve on our board.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Virgil Dupuis, *Chair*

John Sirois, *Vice Chair*

Ross Racine, *Secretary/Treasurer*

Directors

Ben Black Bear, Jr.

Brian Collins

Eric Giles

Arvel Hale

Joseph Hiller

Margie Hutchinson

Dave Tovey

Emily White Hat

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

W.E. "Bye" Barsness

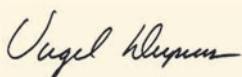
Thomas Hotovec

Since the initiation of the Foundation's grantmaking in 2003, 70 grants totaling \$4,137,024 have been approved to support a variety of land-related activities and initiatives throughout Indian Country. Just over 94 percent of these grants were awarded to tribes, Indian organizations, or Indian people. Many of the projects have had local impacts far beyond our initial expectations. But more than that, the collective work of the grantees has led to a growing momentum that will move us toward our common goal. We are very proud of the work undertaken and the products developed by our grantee partners.

In addition to funding grant projects, the Foundation has been involved in providing \$5.5 million in direct programs and services through its staff and collaborations with other Indian organizations. Most notable has been our work with the Native American Community Development Corporation, which led to the creation and full implementation of the Indian Land Capital Company, and a joint effort to provide economic planning and development services to tribes in the Northern Great Plains.

While Indian people have carried out these many successful ventures, it has not been without the assistance and support of many non-Indians who believe in the rights of and justice for Indian people. These friends and supporters have been and are among our board members, staff, grantees and donors. They also receive our gratitude because they have encouraged other non-Indians to understand Indian land issues and become involved.

We look forward to the next five years as a time when Indian people will become much more active in their engagement of land issues and fulfill the wishes of those who went before us to have tribal homelands that are secured and to provide for the well-being and future of our Indian people.



Virgil Dupuis
Board Chair



Cris Stainbrook
President

INDIAN LAND TENURE FOUNDATION STAFF

D'Arcy Bordeaux, *Accountant/Human Resources Director*

Pat Chase, *Office Manager*

Erin Dennis, *Communications Specialist*

Mary Heer-Forsberg, *Communications Director*

Terry Janis, *Program Officer*

Cris Stainbrook, *President*

Jo-Anne E. Stately, *Vice President of Development*

Howard D. Valandra, *Vice President of Grants and Programs*

Diana Yellowhammer, *Administrative Assistant*

INSTITUTE FOR INDIAN ESTATE PLANNING AND PROBATE

Cecelia Burke, *Deputy Director*

Lupe Cabellos, *Program Coordinator*

Douglas R. Nash, *Director*



“The land and people are sacred to each other and we treat the earth with respect. In return the land gives us food, water, clothes, and shelter to survive. Then we give the land blessings and prayers for providing us with many things.”

NEHEMIAH YAZZIE, NAVAJO
STUDENT AT SHIPROCK HIGH SCHOOL
RED VALLEY, ARIZONA

(from essay submitted to the Native Women in Agriculture Youth Essay Contest, co-sponsored by ILTF and the Intertribal Agriculture Council)

ESTATE PLANNING AND WILL WRITING

The Foundation continued its commitment to providing no-cost estate planning to individual Indians through its **Institute for Indian Estate Planning and Probate** (launched by ILTF in 2005). Through the Institute and its partner organizations, Dakota Plains Legal Services and Anishinabe Legal Services, the Foundation provided community education, estate planning, and will writing services to tribal members and reservations in communities in South Dakota, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska and Arizona.

Our efforts in this area have resulted in the drafting of 1,581 wills and 2,053 other estate planning documents. In addition, training and community education related to estate planning has reached thousands of Indian landowners through work of the Institute and its affiliates.

Managing Your Estate—Virginia Bear’s Story

Indian people passing their land from one generation to the next receive comfort knowing their wishes will be carried out for the benefit of their families. Virginia Bear, an 80-year-old member of the Oglala Tribe, is one landowner who benefited from ILTF’s initiatives in estate planning and will writing.



Virginia grew up on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota in a Lakota-speaking family. Since then, she has lived throughout Indian Country, working as a nurse with Indian Health Services, public health and in the private sector. Today Virginia is retired and living in Oklahoma,

keeping active by being a voice locally and nationally on issues that affect Indian people.

Virginia inherited land on the Pine Ridge Reservation from her parents. Following up on advice from ILTF staff, she contacted Dakota Plains Legal Services to inquire about having her will drafted. Virginia was able to have her will written to ensure that her land ownership was passed on as she wished and without complications to her two daughters.

“It’s a nice service for people like me, in my age group. At least we’ll get our wishes in writing and we know that they will be carried out. I’ll be encouraging my daughters to do the same thing,” Virginia said. “I feel satisfied that the share of land that I inherited will be divided the way I intended it to be.”

INDIAN LAND TENURE CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION

Because educating people about Indian land issues is vital to our long-term success, we have developed Indian land curriculum for all ages, with the goal of having our curriculum widely used in schools and on college campuses nationwide.

In 2007, we continued our curriculum implementation project with the Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) in Minnesota, expanding it to reach both Indian and non-Indian students. All district social studies teachers attended an introductory session in the fall and were invited to a mid-year training session.

Year two of the three-year pilot program focused on Indian land, culture and history. SPPS staff have adapted the curriculum to align with state standards and reflect local history and culture and developed anchor lesson plans for specific grade levels.

Our curriculum has been successfully implemented in 39 schools in South Dakota, Michigan, Washington, Idaho, California, Montana and Minnesota. We have developed a strategy for state-wide implementation of our curriculum that will begin in Montana.



A student in the Saint Paul Public Schools program.

“My Indian heritage is strong. We have survived amidst prejudice and poverty. God gave us land to live and nurture our people. We must somehow teach this to others if we want to control our native soils. If we work together in numbers, we will make an impact. ... We need to show our seriousness.”

RICHARD SETH WHITECLAY JR., CROW
STUDENT AT PLENTY COUPS HIGH SCHOOL
PRYOR, MONTANA

[from essay submitted to the Native Women in Agriculture Youth Essay Contest, co-sponsored by ILTF and the Intertribal Agriculture Council]

NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

In collaboration with the Native American Community Development Corporation, ILTF is working on economic development with reservation communities in Montana and North Dakota. Our project emphasizes community-based decision making and capacity building to move targeted reservations toward a higher level of economic vitality. The tribes have been very interested in the integration of land tenure and financial literacy curriculum in their school systems.



AFFILIATE

The Indian Land Capital Company

The Indian Land Capital Company (ILCC) is emerging as a valuable source for tribes seeking financing options. In 2007, ILCC completed loans with the Blackfeet Nation and Snoqualmie Indian Tribe. With additional capital investment in 2008, ILCC will continue outreach to assist tribes in achieving their goals for land acquisition and use. ILCC was created in 2005 as a collaborative effort between ILTF and the Native American Community Development Corporation.



“It is up to us as Indian people to recover all of our land if we are to honor our grandfathers who signed treaties with the intention of providing a place for the tribe to survive in peace. The land will provide for us once again if we provide for the land and its resources.”

CRIS STAINBROOK, OGLALA LAKOTA
ILTF PRESIDENT

ILTF awarded 17 grants totaling \$541,470, reflecting our four strategic priorities:

- Education
- Economics
- Culture
- Legal Reform

Read about ILTF's strategies in depth at:
www.indianlandtenure.org/about/about.html

2007 GRANTS AWARDED

Strategic Land Planning

Lac Vieux Desert Tribe

Watersmeet, Michigan – \$21,000

to conduct strategic land planning trainings for tribal leaders and staff as part of a broader strategy of reclaiming their traditional lands.

Fort Belknap Planning & Development Corporation

Harlem, Montana – \$19,959

to provide strategic land planning training to tribal leaders and staff of Fort Belknap to better manage the tribe's land base and to acquire land.

Rosebud Sioux Tribe

Rosebud, South Dakota – \$16,675

to develop tribal leadership skills training in strategic land planning to increase tribal capacity to assert control and manage their land and natural resources.

Village Earth

Fort Collins, Colorado – \$13,987

to provide strategic land planning training sessions to tribal members who are undivided interest owners of three separate allotments on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

Fort Belknap Planning & Development Corporation

Harlem, Montana – \$13,670

to provide a 12-week strategic land planning training program to tribal members who are undivided interest owners of three separate allotments on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation.

Fort Peck Landowners Association

Wolf Point, Montana – \$45,920

to address the critical issues impacting individual Indian landowners on the Fort Peck Reservation, including the loss of tribal land, fractionated land ownership, land conditions, land economics and current irrigation systems.

Turtle Mountain Landowners Association

Belcourt, North Dakota – \$25,000

to work with the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Tribe to create a user friendly environment in which to educate landowners about opportunities involving consolidation, leasing, estate planning and sale, as well as addressing their rights and responsibilities as landowners.

Informational Sessions for Landowners and Tribes

Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes

Pablo, Montana – \$65,519

to develop informational materials and actively inform and educate county commissioners, planning boards, state and federal officials and tribal staff on critical land tenure issues particularly as it pertains to negotiating a Unified Development Ordinance.

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

Manistee, Michigan – \$54,050

to provide informational sessions designed to educate political officials about treaty-based reservations and the principles of tribal land, tribal jurisdiction and the tribe's reservation boundary and land goals.

Indian Land Tenure Curriculum Implementation

Wolf Point Public Schools

Wolf Point, Montana – \$3,350

to integrate the Indian Land Tenure Curriculum into the current social studies/history curriculum at all K-12 Wolf Point Public Schools.

Ihanktonwan Community College

Marty, South Dakota – \$3,000

for college-level curriculum implementation of a course on Yankton Sioux tribal land history.

Tribal Land History Development and Presentation

Two Rivers Community Development Corporation

Plymouth, Minnesota – \$100,000

to research, examine and educate on the history of land and resource use by the Dakota people in Minnesota and the region from first contact up to 1860. Research will document the importance of sacred Dakota places, the locations of tribal bands in particular places throughout the state and region, and the effect of treaties on land tenure issues.

Protection of Sacred Sites

Blackfeet Tribe

Browning, Montana – \$63,340

to research and design a sacred land recovery plan for sacred lands in the Badger-Two Medicine Region, the Sweetgrass Hills and the Sun River Valley, all located within the ceded area outside current reservation boundaries of the Blackfeet Nation.

College Internship Program

College of Menominee Nation

Keshena, Wisconsin – \$24,000

to support a three-semester internship program to research and inventory land data of the Menominee Indian Tribe and enter it into a GIS database created by the intern.

Salish Kootenai College
Pablo, Montana – \$24,000

to support a three-year summer internship program beginning in summer 2007, focusing on land-related interests and special projects impacting the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Oglala Lakota College
Kyle, South Dakota – \$24,000

to fund an internship program for three semesters starting in January 2008. The College will work with the Oglala Sioux Tribal Land Office to recruit students in two- and four-year degree programs in agricultural business administration, general business administration and Lakota studies.

Native Educational Endeavors
Spearfish, South Dakota – \$24,000

to provide internship opportunities for Indian students from state, private or tribal colleges in South Dakota to further develop their interests in and knowledge of Indian land tenure issues, while gaining an appreciation of career opportunities.



DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

2007 FUNDERS

The Minneapolis Foundation: \$195,000 over three years for general operating expenses.

The Paul G. Allen Foundation: \$350,000 over three years for the Institute for Indian Estate Planning and Probate.

Otto Bremer Foundation: \$200,000 over three years for general operating expenses.

National Rural Funders Collaborative: \$600,000 to work in collaboration with the Native American Community Development Corporation over a two-year period to assist targeted reservation communities of the Northern Great Plains area in achieving economic sovereignty and vitality.

The Ford Foundation:

- \$250,000 over three years for technical assistance for tribes for strategic land planning.
- \$500,000 for research, analysis, testimony, education and promotion for effective management of natural resources on Indian land.

The Multicultural Endowment of The Saint Paul Foundation: \$10,000 for Indian Land Tenure Curriculum implementation in Saint Paul Public Schools.

MULTI-YEAR FUNDERS

The Bush Foundation: \$345,000 for the Institute for Indian Estate Planning and Probate (second year).

The Saint Paul Foundation: \$150,000 for the Indian Land Tenure Curriculum implementation (second year).

F. R. Biglow Foundation: \$50,000 for the Indian Land Tenure Curriculum implementation (second year).

CLYDE H. BELLECOURT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Clyde H. Bellecourt Scholarship fund was established by ILTF in 2005 in partnership with the Heart of the Earth Survival School in Minneapolis. The Fund honors nationally known and respected American Indian activist and advocate Clyde H. Bellecourt, and benefits outstanding Minnesota Indian youth who wish to pursue post-secondary education. Since the Fund's creation, a total of \$179,963 has been approved for scholarships. For the 2006-2007 academic year, ILTF awarded \$74,575 scholarship dollars to seven students attending colleges and universities in Minnesota. Five students received a total of \$55,000 in scholarship assistance for the 2007-08 school year.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Professor Miller Presentation and Reception

ILTF hosted a special presentation by Professor Robert J. Miller, Lewis and Clark School of Law and Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, and author of *Native America, Discovered and Conquered: Thomas Jefferson, Lewis & Clark and Manifest Destiny*.

2007 Golf Classic

ILTF's 4th annual Golf Classic was held in July at Emerald Greens in Hastings, Minnesota. A major fundraising event, the 78 friends and supporters raised more than \$23,000 from sponsorships, contributions and a silent auction.

Donor and Funder Appreciation Luncheon

The annual December luncheon featured special guest Erma Vizenor, Chairwoman of White Earth Tribal Council, who spoke about "The Evolution of Tribal Land Ownership" on her tribe's reservation in northwestern Minnesota.

Youth Event—Native Youth for Indian Lands

ILTF gathered 35 Indian youth from the Minneapolis-St. Paul area to discuss issues related to Indian lands. The young people shared their concerns about land and related issues, discussed possible solutions to address those concerns and offered recommendations to preserve land for future generations.



ILTF Vice President of Development Jo-Anne Stately, White Earth Tribal Chairwoman Erma Vizenor, and ILTF President Cris Stainbrook.

"Justice always prevails one day. I truly believe it."

ERMA VIZENOR

CHAIRWOMAN, WHITE EARTH TRIBAL COUNCIL

ILTF LUNCHEON, DECEMBER 2007

2007 DONATIONS

COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

ILTF participated in the 2007 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the annual workplace fundraising drive conducted by federal employees and military personnel. The Foundation received \$6,477 in donations in 2007, its third year in the campaign.

DONORS OF \$5,000 OR MORE

Confederated Tribes of the Warm
Springs Reservation of Oregon
Heart of the Earth, Inc.
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
Mary Jo Mullan

Multicultural Endowment of The
Saint Paul Foundation
The Rapids Foundation
Swinomish Indian Tribal
Community

DONORS OF \$1,000 TO \$4,999

Cecelia Burke
Corporate Commission of the
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Rose Locatelli
Potawatomi Business
Development Corporation
Jo-Anne E. Stately
Two Feathers Endowment

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Dependency Services
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Odawa Indians
Lower Sioux Indian Community of
Minnesota

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
Native American Community
Development Corporation
Native Americans in Philanthropy
POPP Communications
Red Lake Band of Chippewa
Indians of Minnesota
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux
Community of Minnesota
Howard D. Valandra

DONORS OF \$100 TO \$499

All Nations Indian Church
Appeal
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George Barr
Berthel Schutter, LLC
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Dan Dugan Foundation
Kathy Denman-Wilke
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Virgil Dupuis
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Jane Kretzmann
Arthur Gary Lamppa
Law Office of Lisa L. Atkinson
PLLC
Kuhn Lee
Leech Lake Tribal College
Ramon Leon
The Lindsay Legacy Fund
Cecilia Martinez
Poitra Consulting
Randi Roth
Frank and Kathy Schweigert
Cris Stainbrook
The Stainbrook Family Fund
White Earth Reservation Tribal
Council
Winona State University

DONORS UP TO \$100

Anonymous

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Auscon, Inc

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Fred Bigjim

Blackfeet Reservation

Development Corp.

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Sheldon Wolfchild

Words on Fire Communications

Matthew Youngvorst

Nicole Youngvorst



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	352,606
Investments	20,641,408
Accounts Receivable	9,730
Grants Receivable	1,064,699
Interest Receivable	7,500
Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	4,863
Notes Receivable, net of allowance for uncollectible notes of \$110,000	2,090,000
Property and Equipment, net	675,992
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Total Assets	\$ 24,846,798

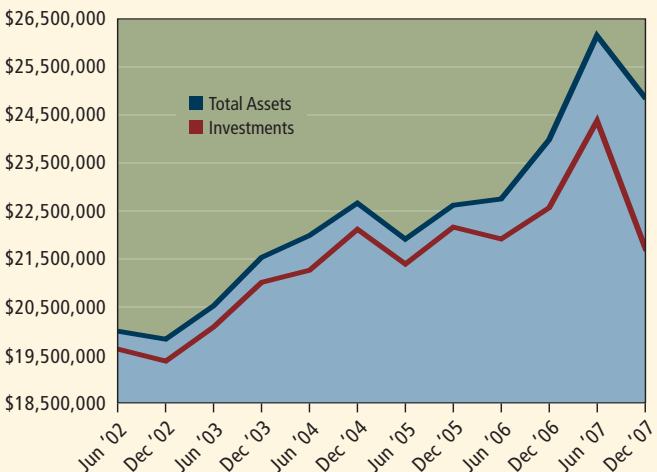
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS AND MINORITY INTEREST

Accounts Payable	219,382
Grants Payable	487,384
Accrued Payroll Expenses	62,104
Accrued Interest	25,000
Notes Payable	1,250,000
Total Liabilities	\$ 2,043,870

Net Assets

Unrestricted	163,413
Temporarily Restricted	22,639,515
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Minority Interest	-
Total Net Assets and Minority Interest	\$ 22,802,928
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Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 24,846,798

ILTF Total Assets Since Inception



REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

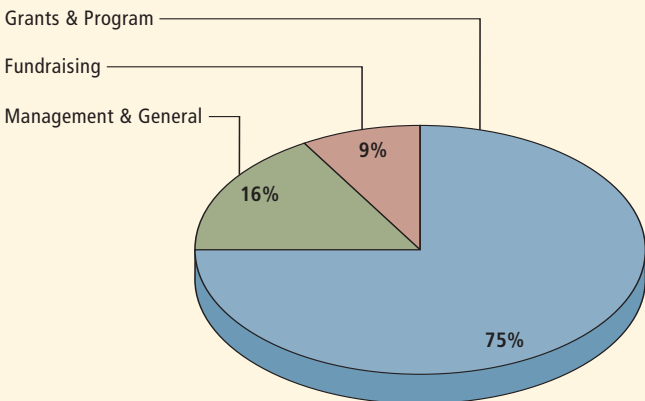
Revenues

Fundraising Income	184,850
Grants and Awards	2,038,750
Interest and Investment Income	1,311,442
Other Income	123,323
Total Revenue	\$ 3,658,365

Expenditures

Salaries/Taxes/Benefits	984,682
Advertising	24,983
Depreciation	40,984
Insurance	15,694
Dues and Subscriptions	15,385
Postage	15,716
Office Expenses	41,914
Professional Fees	513,932
Contracted Services	527,942
Rental	3,784
Repairs and Maintenance	2,788
Grants	460,638
Travel Expenses	160,682
Utilities	5,333
Board Expenses	43,850
Communications	25,102
Interest	35,073
Other Expenses	62,914
Indian Land Capital Company	243,556
Minority Interest Loss	38,338
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,263,290
Revenue over Expenditures	\$ 395,075

Expenses by Function



ILTF is a community foundation whose primary aim is to ensure that all reservation and important off-reservation lands are owned and managed by tribes and Indian people. ILTF works directly with community members to develop strategies that will help tribes and Indian people regain full control of their homelands so that they can create opportunity for themselves, now, and for future generations.



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