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.”
The Indian Land Tenure Foundation (ILTF) has been working hard over the past five years to implement strategies that support the recovery of 90 million acres of alienated lands across Indian Country. Our approach remains guided by a mission statement and set of strategies developed through a three year community planning process which helped to launch the creation of the Foundation in 2001.

Our mission is a long-term vision that will produce lasting and meaningful change for tribes and individual Indian land owners by regaining control of the economic and cultural assets tied to the ownership and management of our lands.

The Foundation represents a limited, but hopeful, resource in relation to the scale of what we are trying to accomplish. However, as Indian people, we are accustomed to challenges and have been piloting and evolving our grantmaking to strengthen the work across tribal communities and leverage our resources to effect change at a local level as well as national level.

We encourage you to review our 2005 Annual Report and see what grants and special initiatives the Foundation is supporting. Each is important to our mission. You will see that we are proactive in our work, reaching across a number of tribal communities, engaging youth through land curriculum and internships, and educating the public on vital issues surrounding Indian land tenure.

Several highlights of 2005 include the premiere of the documentary film, *American Indian Homelands: Matters of truth, honor, and dignity - immemorial*, and the creation of the Institute for Indian Estate Planning and Probate at Seattle University School of Law. The film, narrated by Sam Donaldson of ABC News, provides a history of Indian land loss and the challenges, opportunities and redress available today. The creation of the Institute for Indian Estate Planning and Probate reflects the urgent need for estate planning and probate. Much to the surprise of people in Indian Country, the Bureau of Indian Affairs announced they would no longer provide will writing or storage services for tribal members. This announcement and pending implementation of the American Indian Probate Reform Act (AIPRA) compelled the Board of Directors to move beyond providing grants to support will writing and probate services at several regional levels. Through support for the Institute, we have a national program that directly impacts and reduces the fractionation of Indian lands through education and an expansion of direct estate planning services to tribal members and communities.

As the Foundation continues to grow and expand our national focus on Indian land tenure, we value each and every relationship that we develop. These relationships are necessary to the work we do and the mission that guides us. To our readers, your understanding and advocacy helps to create an informed public on Indian land issues. To our grantees, without you, the work is stifled. To our donors and founders, you provide the financial investments to support the good work taking place across Indian Country. To the board, your leadership keeps our mission and strategy focused. Finally, to the staff, your talents ensure the organization’s accountabilities so that the public trust is kept intact. We are all part of the circle and reliant on the interdependence and respect that each contributes.

Ben Black Bear, Jr.  
Chairman

Cris Stainbrook  
President

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**

- Ben Black Bear Jr. **Chair**
- Theresa Carmody **Vice Chair**
- David Tovey **Secretary-Treasurer**

**DIRECTORS**

- Brian H. Collins
- Virgil Dupuis
- Arvel Hale
- Margie Hutchinson
- Ross R. Racine

**INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

- Bye Barsness
- Diana L. Schutter

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**INSTITUTE FOR INDIAN ESTATE PLANNING & PROBATE**

- Douglas R. Nash **Director**
- Cecelia Burke **Deputy Director**
- Rhonda Breiler **Administrative Assistant**
American Indian Homelands: Matters of truth, honor, and dignity — immemorial

The premiere showing of *American Indian Homelands: Matters of truth, honor, and dignity-immemorial* was held at the Minnesota History Center on May 19, 2005. The film is narrated by ABC News correspondent Sam Donaldson, directed and co-produced by Emmy-nominated Barry ZeVan and Cris Stainbrook, President, Indian Land Tenure Foundation.

Twin Cities Public Television held the first televised broadcast of the film in November 2005. The seventy-eight minute film powerfully highlights efforts to remedy more than a century’s work of legal and political moves undermining Indian land ownership and sovereignty beginning with the 1887 General Allotment Act.

Institute for Indian Estate Planning and Probate - Seattle University School of Law

The Institute for Indian Estate Planning and Probate was created by the Board of Directors in August of 2005. The mission is to assist Indian people in making informed decisions about their property by establishing estate planning projects and providing information and training to tribal members, government officials and the legal community.

Located at Seattle University School of Law, the Institute will oversee existing Indian estate planning programs previously funded by the Foundation. Expansion of the Institute’s services in 2006 include the Midwest and Southwest regions.

A $519,564 contract from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Trust Services will provide estate planning and will writing services to tribal members in the Pacific Northwest and Great Plains regions.

2005 ILTF Externship

ILTF funded the University of Wisconsin-Department of Rural Sociology, to support one extern placement with the Lac du Flambeau of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Lands Department, the extern worked with community members of the Lac du Flambeau Tribe on estate planning, education and outreach on land related topics.
The Foundation has established four strategies to advance its mission and the guide its work:

> **Educate** every Indian landowner about Indian land management, ownership and transference issues so that knowledge becomes power when decisions about land assets are made.

> **Increase economic assets of Indian landowners** by gaining control of Indian lands and creating financial models that convert land into leverage for Indian owners.

> **Use Indian land** to help Indian people discover and maintain their culture.

> ** Reform legal mechanisms related to recapturing the physical, cultural and economic assets for Indian people and strengthening sovereignty of Indian land.**

In 2005, a total of $489,388 was granted to the following:

**IDAHO**

**UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO EXTENSION INDIAN RESERVATION PROGRAM, COEUR D'ALENE RESERVATION**

$3,875 for Indian land tenure curriculum integration into the existing science curriculum in grades 6 through 8. Funds will be used to train teachers, provide classroom support, and arrange for classroom speakers and guests.

**MICHIGAN**

**GRAND TRaverse BAND OF OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA INDIANS**

$4,800 to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians to implement land tenure curriculum at the high school level in Kitchi Minogining Tribal Schools.

**MINNESOTA**

**LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE**

$20,000 to research the feasibility of creating a non-profit entity to take ownership of tribally purchased fee land prior to trust status.

**MONTANA**

**BLACKFEET TRIBE, TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE**

$66,893 to identify, document and develop protective measures for Blackfeet Sacred Sites located along the Birch Creek Watershed in the Lewis and Clark National Forest.

**SALISH KOOTENAI TRIBES**

$28,750 to develop effective informational materials to actively educate county commissioners, planning boards, state and federal officials and their staff on critical land tenure issues.

$5,000 to establish an Indian Land Tenure internship that provides a promising student an opportunity to pursue that interest in a specific tribal land office. This year’s intern is DeVina Red Horse.

Ms. Red Horse, a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and Junior at Black Hills State University in South Dakota, gained valuable experience through her participation in the internship. After completing a course designed by Dr. John Glover from curriculum material produced by the Indian Land Tenure Foundation (POLS 492: American Indians and Their Lands), DeVina was selected to work on her home reservation. She spent the summer at the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe’s Prairie Management Program and Tribal Land Office.

Through the experience, DeVina learned about the Tribe’s efforts to integrate Native American values with scientific techniques to promote the restoration of the Tribe’s more than 2 million acres of prairie lands.

The internship directly involved DeVina in processes required to successfully manage reservation land and the “mapping” of towns and rural areas.

“By the end of the summer, I had developed a more thorough understanding of Indian land tenure issues and the concerns facing tribes and individual Indian landowners. I want to learn more about Indian land issues and to use my experience to inform and educate other Indian communities on the management and ownership of their land.”
NEW MEXICO

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM

$5,500 to develop a college internship program for graduate students. Students will develop case studies on tribal land issues among local tribes.

OREGON

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION

$10,000 to increase the amount and quality of color graphics in their Native Place Names Atlas.

SOUTH DAKOTA

BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY

$3,000 to develop and offer a new course titled American Indians and Their Lands using the Indian Land Tenure Foundation college curriculum. In addition, the curriculum will be used in two other courses: AIS/HIST, Modern American Indian History and Culture and AIS/POL, American Indian Government and Politics.

BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY

$5,000 to establish an Indian Land Tenure internship for a promising student interested in a tribal land office of their choice. (See feature on page 5)

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA LAW SCHOOL FOUNDATION

~ $71,050 for a regional pilot project implementing the Indian Land Tenure curriculum in five institutions of higher education in South Dakota.
~ $54,100 to develop an Indian Land Tenure teacher training institute for K-12 public and tribal school teachers.
~ $13,250 for implementation of the Indian Land Tenure curriculum in the American Indian Studies graduate program at the University of Arizona.

WISCONSIN

BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

$87,267 to Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians to research and document the history of their land and produce materials for presentation to tribal members, especially youth.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MADISON

$7,663 to place an extern at the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Land Department office to provide community education and estate planning for Band members.

2005 DEVELOPMENT

COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

The Foundation applied to the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) and was approved under the national/international organization eligibility guidelines in 2005. A total of $11,482 was raised in the first years campaign.

Board and staff members participated in CFC charity fairs in Portland, OR, Seattle, WA, St. Louis, MO, Scott Airforce Base, IL, Kansas City, MO, Fargo, ND, Gallup, NM, and Zuni, NM, to provide added visibility to the campaign efforts.

2005 GOLF CLASSIC

Seventy-six golfers participated in the Foundation’s second annual 2005 Golf Classic held August 3, 2005. Through the generosity of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, the Foundation was the first to hold a charitable golfing event at the new, 7,100-yard par 72-champion golf course at The Meadows at Mystic Lake. The event raised $16,501 in sponsorship and contributions. An additional $8,086 was raised in donated goods and services.

CLYDE H. BELLECOURT SCHOLARSHIP

The First Annual Clyde H. Bellecourt Spirit of Education Scholarship awards dinner was held on May 6, 2005. The purpose of the scholarship is to assist Minnesota American Indian high school seniors obtain education beyond the secondary level at an accredited college, university or other accredited post-secondary educational institution.

Clyde H. Bellecourt, Nee-Gon-Nway-Wee-Dung (Thunder Before the Storm) is a member of the Mississippi Band of the Anishinabe Nation, Crane Clan. Founder and National Director of the American Indian Movement, Clyde continues to volunteer his time and services to advance the lives of Indian people locally as well as nationally.

The Foundation negotiated an agreement with the Board of Directors of Heart of the Earth, Inc. on September 28th to create the Clyde H. Bellecourt Scholarship Fund at the Foundation. An endowment goal of $1,000,000 will be raised by members of Heart of the Earth Inc. and friends of Clyde and his family. This represents the first scholarship fund at the Foundation. The fund will provide approximately $60,000 in scholarships to six students each year.
**2005 DONATIONS**

**DONATIONS OF $2,000 OR MORE**

- The Event Group Inc. on behalf of Clyde Bellecourt
  - $77,728
  - $15,000
- Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
  - $15,000

**DONATIONS OF $1,000 - $1,999**

- Cherokee Preservation Fund
  - $10,000
- Confederated Tribes of the Colville Indians
  - $3,500
- First United Bank
  - $2,820

**DONATIONS $500 - $999**

- American Indian Economic Fund
  - Phyllis Nash
- Best & Flannagan
  - Pechange Development Corporation
- Jason Booth
  - Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- Faegre & Benson LLP
  - San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians
- Fiduciary Management, Inc.
  - Red Lake Gaming Enterprises, Inc.
- Velma Kimsal
  - Cris Stainbrook
- Minnesota American Indian Chamber of Commerce
  - Jo-Anne E. Stately
- Douglas Nash
  - Howard D. Valandra

**DONATIONS $100 - $499**

- Wilson Bradshaw
  - Marketing Incentives Resources, Inc.
  - Audrey Martinez
  - Kim Meyer
  - Amelia Ortega
  - Chad Poitras
  - James Rickett
  - Marnita Schroedl
  - Diana Schutter
  - Frank and Kathy Schweigert
  - Sushi Tango
  - Mala Thao
  - Valley Venture Group, Inc.
  - Whitney Foundation

**DONATIONS UNDER $100**

- American Indian Policy Center
  - John Red Horse
  - Randy Ross
  - Gerald Sherman
  - Alicia Smith
  - Tesla Stainbrook
  - Martin Soulier
  - The Circle
  - TICOM, Inc.
  - Tuolumne Rancheria
  - Ed Vang
  - Lisa Vuong-Deo-Campo
  - Adam Waechter
  - Kathy Denman-Wilke
  - William Yang
  - Clare Zupon

**2005 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**ASSETS**

**CURRENT ASSETS**

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Interest Receivable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pledges/Grants/Account Receivable</td>
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<td>Prepaid Expense</td>
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**PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

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<tbody>
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<td>Land</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building &amp; Improvements</td>
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**OTHER ASSETS**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
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**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

**CURRENT LIABILITIES**

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**LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

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<td>Total Long-Term Liabilities</td>
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<td>Total Liabilities</td>
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**TOTAL NET ASSETS**

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<td>Total Net Assets</td>
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<table>
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<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</td>
<td>$23,049,910.68</td>
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“*We will protect our culture, history and relationship to the land and all that surrounds us in ways that will support and provide for each of us and for our future generations.*”