SEARCHING FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION: THE COLORADO EXAMPLE
Formation of the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs

- Created in 1976 by the Colorado General Assembly
- CCIA lies within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor
- Is the official liaison between State of CO, two resident Ute Tribes, historic tribes of Colorado, and Colorado’s American Indian residents
- Works on a government-to-government basis with Historic Tribes of Colorado (48) and maintains direct contact with the Tribes and urban American Indian communities
- 11 statutory responsibilities/25 members
### Tribes with a legacy of occupation in Colorado

- Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
- Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma
- Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
- Comanche Indian Tribe
- Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
- Crow Nation
- Eastern Shoshone Tribe of Wind River Indian Reservation
- Fort Sill Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
- Hopi Tribe
- Jicarilla Apache Tribe
- Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma
- Mescalero Apache Tribe
- Navajo Nation
- Northern Arapaho Tribe
- Northern Cheyenne Tribe
- Oglala Sioux Tribe
- Ohkay Owingeh (Pueblo of San Juan)
- Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah
- Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
- Pueblo of Acoma
- Pueblo of Cochiti
- Pueblo of Isleta
- Pueblo of Jemez
- Pueblo of Laguna

- Pueblo of Nambe
- Pueblo of Picuris
- Pueblo of Pojoaque
- Pueblo of San Felipe
- Pueblo of San Ildefonso
- Pueblo of Sandia
- Pueblo of Santa Ana
- Pueblo of Santa Clara
- Pueblo of Santo Domingo
- Pueblo of Taos
- Pueblo of Tesuque
- Pueblo of Zia
- Pueblo of Zuni
- Rosebud Sioux Tribe
- San Juan Southern Paiute Tribe
- Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
- Southern Ute Indian Tribe
- Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
- Three Affiliated Tribes of Mandan, Hidatsa, & Arikara Nation
- Ute Indian Tribe (Uintah & Ouray Reservation)
- Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
- Wichita and Affiliated Tribes
- Ysleta del Sur Pueblo
Animas-La Plata Water Project
Lake Nighthorse, Durango, CO

- Part of Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement Act of 2000
- Recreation Plan with Special Tribal Provisions
- Water Delivery System for Ute Mtn Tribe
Brunot Hunting Agreement

- 2008 – MOU with SUIT and State of Colorado regarding Brunot Hunting Agreement
- 2013 – MOU with UMUT and State of Colorado regarding Brunot Hunting Agreement

Brunot agreement area
Colorado’s Ute tribes are allowed to regulate hunting by their members inside the “Brunot area,” which was set in an 1874 treaty. The tribes can establish their own hunting seasons and rules in the area.

Source: Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Durango Herald
State/Tribal Eco Devo Plan

- $1.2 Billion economic impact by American Indian owned companies over a three year span
- Includes tribal data as largest employers in southwest Colorado
- Over 6,000 direct jobs created
- New State/Tribal Contracts Template
State/Tribal Consultations

- State/Tribal Consultation Policy signed – 2011
- CDHS/Tribal Consultation – July 2014
- HCPF/Tribal Consultation – Sept 2014
- CDPHE/Tribal Consultation – Dec 2014
- CDE/Tribal Consultation – Nov 2016

To consult means to ask for advice or to seek an opinion—consultation does not mean obtaining consent.
American Indian Mascots

Gov. Hickenlooper creates Commission to Study American Indian Representation in Public Schools

“One of the goals of the commission is to host open, constructive public discussions among constituents statewide, in both urban and rural communities, who feel strongly connected with these names and images.”
“Today, we gather here to fully acknowledge what happened: the massacre of Sand Creek. There is no rationalizing; there should be no sugar-coating history. We should not be afraid to criticize and condemn that which is inexcusable. So I am here to offer something that has been too long in coming. On behalf of the State of Colorado, I want to apologize.”

Gov. Hickenlooper, Dec 3, 2014
Sand Creek Massacre Memorial at State Capitol Building

Remembersandcreek.org
Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

- MOU with Tribal, Fed, and State partners regarding the reburial of Native American human remains and funerary objects – 2013
- Training for other states/tribes
NAGPRA Cont...

- Repatriation/Disposition
  - 859 individuals and 2,108 associated funerary objects
  - 124 individuals/104 associated funerary objects under the State of Colorado Process
- 46 Notices of Inventory Completion
  - Hundreds of consultations with 74 tribes
- 13 Consultation/Documentation Grants
- 10 Repatriation Grants
Longstanding Relationship between CCIA and History Colorado

Prior to the passage of NAGPRA:
- State Archaeologist regularly reported inadvertent discoveries to CCIA
- Cooperated with CCIA and the two Colorado Ute tribes in the reburial of remains

After the passage of NAGPRA
- MOU with History Colorado in 1999
- Reports continue to be given annually
- Ex-Officio member of CCIA/Reinterment Cmt Member
- Partners to the State Process (2007) and Fed/Tribal/State MOU (2013)
Ute Indian Museum Expansion
Montrose, CO
Future of Ute Tribes

The Spire Building
14th Street & Champa
Downtown Denver, Colorado

Belmar Center
Wadsworth & Alameda
Lakewood, Colorado

Bow & Arrow Brand Corn Meal, Ute Mountain Farm and Ranch Enterprise
Towaoc, Colorado
Future of Ute Tribes

SpringHill Suites – Marriott, Oceanside, CA

Candelas Planned Community, Arvada, CO
Today’s Gov’t-to-Gov’t Relationship

Top – Chairman Clement Frost, Southern Ute Indian Tribe, presents tribal flag and blanket to Gov Hickenlooper.

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