



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

MAR 16 2012

Dear Tribal Leader:

Pursuant to Pub. L. 108-270, the Western Shoshone Claims Distribution Act (Act), Section 4(c)(2), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has established the Administrative Oversight Committee (Committee) to oversee the Western Shoshone Educational Trust Fund. The Act stipulates that the Committee shall be comprised of seven members of which, six must be appointed by each Western Shoshone Tribe, and one by the Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

I am pleased to announce that the Secretary of the Interior Salazar has appointed Ms. Norma Darrough, a member of the Yomba Shoshone, to represent the general public. Ms. Darrough was selected based on her 15 years of service in the education system with various school districts in the State of Nevada. I ask that the Western Shoshone Tribes receive her into this Committee.

Additionally, the BIA received tribal resolutions from the Te-Moak Tribe, Duckwater Shoshone Tribe, Ely Shoshone Tribe, Yomba Shoshone Tribe, Western Shoshone Committee Duck Valley Reservation, and the Fallon Band of Western Shoshone identifying one member from each of the Tribes to serve on the Committee. The list of the individuals appointed by each respective Tribe is enclosed.

In accordance with Section 4 of the Act, the Committee shall be responsible for the distribution of education grants and assistance under the Western Shoshone Educational Trust Fund. I have asked Mr. Keith Moore, Director, Bureau of Indian Education to work with the Committee. He will contact the Committee members to schedule a meeting to begin developing written rules and procedures for approval by the Secretary of the Department of the Interior. Mr. Moore can be reached at (202) 208-6123.

If you have any questions concerning the Act, please contact Mr. Matt Crain, Deputy Director Indian Services, Western Region, at (602) 379-6600.

Sincerely,

For Larry Echo Hawk
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

Enclosure

**Western Shoshone Educational Fund Administrative Committee
Elected Tribal Representatives by Resolution**

- 1. Duckwater Shoshone Tribal Representative:** Virginia Sanchez
- 2. Western Shoshone Committee of Duck Valley Representative:** Rozilyn Jones
- 3. Yomba Shoshone Tribal Representative:** David W. Smith
- 4. Ely Shoshone Tribal Representative:** Diana Buckner
- 5. Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe Representative:** Laura Nihoa
- 6. Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Representative:** Leah Brandy