

ITEMA

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Tribal Emergency Management  
Association

# Mission Statement

*iTEMA promotes a collaborative, multi-disciplinary approach to coordinate and enhance emergency management, response, and recovery to protect all Tribal communities.*

# iTEMA...what does the “i” mean?

- Tribal Emergency Management Association (TEMA) was the name chosen by Indian Country via survey results that were sent to all 566 Federally-recognized Tribes.
- The “i” in iTEMA added to emphasize uniqueness.
  - Ambiguous - multiple meanings
  - Lowercase “i” was chosen to show humility.
  - It gives *individual* ownership in our association
  - “i” becomes one within the context of our Team or TEMA.
  - Stands for: *Indian, indigenous, international, inter-Tribal*; “i” is a source for *information* both from the *internet* and *in-person*, iTEMA will provide support for *incident response*, and provide *immediate* assistance. iTEMA is *innovative, inclusive* and lastly the “i” (eye) provides vision and looks to the future.
  - Leaving the “i” open to individual interpretation maintains the fundamental intention of the association: to collectively create, sustain, and support a national association from, with, and for all Tribal communities.

# Survey

- Purpose

- To capture input concerning the creation of the association and to provide a snapshot of services currently available and desired within Tribal communities.

- Results

- 148 responses as of January 2013.
- Of those, 95 Tribal Nations were represented, meaning:
- 17% of all 566 Federally recognized tribes have provided feedback.
- Of the 91 people who answered the question, 97% support the creation of the association.

# Survey

- Top needs regarding emergency management and services in each Community
  1. Training and exercises.
  2. Tied: Funding and Resources (including personnel).
  3. Buy-in from leadership and community.
  4. Coordination/Communication/Information
  5. Tied: Communications/Interoperability and restructuring of funding.

# iTEMA's Purpose

- Promote, facilitate and support emergency management and services through a collaborative, multi-disciplinary approach;
- Enhance and improve efforts to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against all hazards that may befall Tribal communities;
- Encourage and facilitate participation in education, training and preparedness activities in a manner that promotes cooperation and equality for the whole community;
- Secure for all Tribal people the rights and benefits afforded to them through treaties, the United States Constitution, executive action, federal legislation and United States Supreme Court decisions as they relate to the trust responsibility of the federal government with regard to Homeland Security, Emergency Management and Emergency Services;

# iTEMA's Purpose

- Recognize, promote, and support, through all Association activities, the preservation and protection of traditional forms of government, cultural values and heritage;
- Develop partnerships with Tribal, Federal, state, and local agencies and organizations for the advancement of emergency management and services;
- Educate the public, iTEMA partners and other stakeholders about Tribal sovereignty, self-governance and cultural awareness.

# iTEMA's Organizational Vision

Six different divisions within the organization:

- Division of Fire
- Division of EMS
- Division of Emergency Management
- Division of Homeland Security/Law Enforcement
- Division of Incident Management
- Division of Public Health



# iTEMA's Organizational Vision

- Each division would be further broken down to specific committees or groups that would focus on specific elements within that discipline.

For Example:

- *Division of Fire:*

Committees: Search and Rescue, Haz-Mat, Wildland Firefighting, Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF), Fire Chiefs, Fire Prevention, Arson, Fire Explorers, etc.

- *Division of Emergency Management:*

Committees: Preparedness, Response, Recovery, Mitigation, Risk Management, CERT, Amateur Radio, Public Works, etc.

# iTEMA Membership

- Voting Membership:
  - Council: shall consist of those *Federally-recognized Tribes, Pueblos, Rancherias, Nations, Villages, and Communities* who provide a resolution of membership and annual dues.
    - There is a seat reserved for each Federally-recognized tribe on the Council.
    - 1 vote per Tribe.
    - Annual membership dues are \$2,000 per year, per Tribe. Dues will be evaluated on an annual basis by the Council and adjusted as necessary.

# iTEMA Membership

- Non-Voting Membership
  - Partner: *Any organization, company, or association.*
    - Annual membership dues are \$2,000 per year. Dues will be evaluated on an annual basis by the Council and adjusted as necessary.
  - Individual: *Any individual who supports mission of iTEMA.*
    - Annual membership dues are \$100 per year. Dues will be evaluated on an annual basis by the Council and adjusted as necessary.

# iTEMA Membership

- Non-Voting Membership
  - Associate: Open to any *Tribe, organization or individual* who supports the mission of iTEMA.
    - Associate members are not required to pay annual membership dues and are therefore ineligible for the rights and privileges of full membership. If an Associate member wishes to upgrade their membership status but is unable to pay the annual membership dues, said member may petition the Board for a waiver of membership dues. Each petition will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Board.

# Why iTEMA?

- The Value Added Benefits of iTEMA:
  - Current discussion:
    - Tribal Disaster Response Fund
    - Tribal Incident Management Teams
    - Tribal Incident Response Officers
    - Tribal Emergency Management Assistance and Self-Determination Act (TEMASDA)
    - EOP, Hazard Mitigation and COOP Support
    - Centralized Tribal Training Program/Master Training Calendar.
    - Quarterly Emergency Management and Services Magazine
    - Legislative Advocacy

# Scope

- Coordinating body
- Project delivery
- Programmatic support
- Training delivery
- Education partnerships with Tribal colleges
- Centralized communication and coordination
- Centralized resource database
- Information sharing (Website and Magazine)
- Resource sharing (Tribal Mutual Aid, Subject Matter Experts)
- Networking
- Legislative advocacy
- Annual conference

# Education

- Partnership with University of Nebraska, Omaha.
- Concepts in development:
  - Create a Tribal Emergency Management curriculum that can be utilized by current Tribal Emergency Managers or Emergency Service providers to formalize their education.
  - Distribute curricula to other Tribal colleges and universities to develop future leadership and successors.
  - Support current student development by bringing them in as iTEMA reporters and support staff. This may support community service requirements for their degree.

# Funding and Sustainability

## Funding Possibilities:

- Tribal sponsorship (Diamond, Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze levels)
- Vendor sponsorship
- Annual conference
- Membership dues (Council, Partner, Individual)
- Federal grants
- Donations
- Advertising in Magazine and Website



# Past iTEMA Activities

- National Survey:
  - Provided a snapshot on emergency management and emergency services (EM/ES) in Indian Country.
  - Updated the list for EM/ES POCs in Indian Country.
- Hurricane Isaac:
  - Provided the TAC-G a roster of Tribal EM Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) available for deployment upon request.
- Hurricane Sandy
  - Based on the roster of SMEs provided to the TAC-G, iTEMA was requested to deploy to the NRCC. Lessons learned from this experience will be shared and made available when the After Action Report is complete.

# Past iTEMA Activities

- Stafford Act Amendment:
  - Passage of H.R. 2903: Coordinated a massive last-minute response from Indian Country to Representative Bennie Thompson (D-Mississippi) and asked him to reconsider his position on H.R. 2903 and to retract his position against this critical piece of legislation. It passed later that day.
  - S. 2283: Preparing, Coordinating, and facilitating key discussion on moving this legislation out of committee to the floor for a vote.

# Recent iTEMA Activities

- First Annual Conference
  - Inaugural Native American Emergency Services & Management Conference
  - March 21-22, 2013 in New Orleans, LA.
- UNO/iTEMA MOU Signed
  - Partnership to creating the Nation's first Tribal Emergency Management Certificate.
- NCAI Annual Convention
  - iTEMA CERT and medical support.
- Website: [www.itema.org](http://www.itema.org)
  - Under development.

# Upcoming iTEMA Activities

- Second Annual Conference
  - March 17-21, 2014
  - Southern California, location TBD shortly.

# iTEMA Board

## Executive Board

- President; CEO Jake Heflin, *Osage*
- Vice-President; COO Ken Tiller, *Pueblo of Laguna*
- Secretary; CAO Regina Marotto, *ITERC/ITCN*
- Treasurer; CFO John Taylor, *Squaxin Island*

## Board Members

- Sophi Beym, *Dine'*
- Dore Bietz, *Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians*
- Jason Dobronz, *True North Emergency Management*
- Theresa Gregor, *Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, ITLTRF*
- Michael Russ, *San Manuel Band of Mission Indians*
- Willo Sylestine, *Alabama-Coushatta Indian Nation*
- Roger Tungovia, *Hopi*

# iTEMA Partners

- Inter-Tribal Long Term Recovery Foundation (ITLTRF)
- Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN)
- Inter-Tribal Emergency Response Commission of Nevada (ITERC)
- AMERIND Risk Management Corporation
- Wisconsin Tribal Emergency Management Alliance (WiTEMA)
- United South and Eastern Tribes (USET)
- True North Emergency Management, LLC
- Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Blue Lake Rancheria
- Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria
- Cocopah Indian Tribe
- Hopi Tribe
- Pala Band of Mission Indians
- Pueblo of Acoma
- Pueblo of Laguna
- Pueblo of Laguna Emergency Management
- Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
- Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians
- Seminole Tribe of Florida
- Snoqualmie Indian Tribe

# iTEMA Supporters

- Margaret Muhr (*Citizen Potawatomi Nation*), Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Glenn Boothe, Ak-Chin Indian Community, Emergency Management
- Willo Sylestine (*Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas*)
- Rod Crawley (*Muscogee Creek Nation*),
- Melinda McCartney (*Bishop Paiute*), Eastern Sierra Fire & EMS Council
- Gina Lewis (*Muscogee (Creek) Indian Nation of Florida*)
- Michael Fila, Cocopah Indian Tribe
- Dan Martinez (*The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs*)
- Virginia Sanchez (*Duckwater Shoshone Tribe*)
- Debbie O'Neil (*Duckwater Shoshone Tribe*)
- Mollie Grant (*Eastern Band of Cherokee*)
- Alfreida Jake (*Elko Band, Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone*)
- Rod Mendes (*Hoopa*)
- Roger Tungovia (*Hopi Tribe*)
- Denise Banker
- Josh Allan (*Dine'*)
- Jake Heflin (*Osage*)
- Bobby Tallchief (*Osage, Creek, Shawnee*)
- Kelly Zunie (*Zuni*)
- Al Jimenez, Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
- Sophi Beym (*Dine'*)
- Dan Thayer (*Shoshone Paiute*), Nevada Inter-Tribal Emergency Response Commission (ITERC); ITCN
- Loretta Greycloud (*Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux Tribe*)
- Terry Bohl, Moapa Band of Paiutes
- Daryl Crawford, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN)
- Regina Marotto, Nevada Inter-Tribal Emergency Response Commission (ITERC); ITCN
- Theresa Gregor (*Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel*), Inter-Tribal Long Term Recovery Foundation
- Adam Geisler (*La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians*)
- Mike DeSpain, Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria
- Marty Antone, Oneida Nation
- Robert Smith (*Pala Band of Mission Indians*)
- Zygmunt Orłowski, Ponca Tribe of Nebraska

# iTEMA Supporters

- Fred Camacho (*Prairie Band Potawatomi*), Wisconsin Tribal Emergency Management Alliance
- Brian Torivio, Pueblo of Acoma
- Randall Vicente (*Acoma Pueblo*)
- Richard Luarkie, Pueblo of Laguna
- Ken Tiller (*Laguna Pueblo*)
- Vince Rodriguez (*Laguna Pueblo*)
- Monte Fronk (*Red Lake Band of Chippewa*), Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
- Jim Tilford, Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
- Dick Watenpaugh, Rincon Band of Luiseno Indians
- Bill Giroux, Rosebud Sioux Tribe
- Dave Bunce, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community
- Michael Russ, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
- Donald Arnold, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians
- Mike Gates, Seneca Nation of Indians
- Lee Shipman (*Shoalwater Bay Tribe*)
- Brent Hunter (*Duck Valley Shoshone Paiute Tribe*)
- Fuzzy Fletcher
- Shelley Burch (*Snoqualmie Indian Tribe*)
- John Taylor, Squaxin Island Tribe
- Crista Stewart
- Mitch Villalpando, Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation
- Alec Grandon, AMERIND Risk Management
- Mike Hostler (*Hoopa*)
- Dore Bietz (*Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk*)
- Tyler Davis, University of Nebraska, Omaha
- Patrick O'Neil, University of Nebraska, Omaha
- Rodney Bales, University of North Texas, Denton
- Molly Feldick (*Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*)
- Josh Pyatskowitz, Wisconsin Tribal Emergency Management Alliance
- Arlen "Thumper" Moses (*Yakama Nation*)



# For Further Information...

- Send an email to: [info@itema.org](mailto:info@itema.org) or contact:
- Jake Heflin  
iTEMA President; Interim CEO  
949.500.1224  
[jake.heflin@itema.org](mailto:jake.heflin@itema.org)
- Ken Tiller  
iTEMA Vice-President; Interim COO  
505.508.9975  
[ken.tiller@itema.org](mailto:ken.tiller@itema.org)
- Regina Marotto  
iTEMA Secretary; Interim CAO  
775.445.9132  
[regina.marotto@itema.org](mailto:regina.marotto@itema.org)