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**Update for May 27, 2015 Nevada Indian Commission Board Meeting**  
**Submitted by: Chris Ann Gibbons, Secretary/Treasurer, Nevada's Indian Territory**

- The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference was held April 28-30, 2015 at the Nevada State Museum in Las Vegas. The theme of the Conference was “Our Time is Now: Preparing our Communities for Tourism” and speakers included Emerson Vallo from the Acoma Pueblo, Mark Thompson from IDRS Inc., Dr. Don Hawkins from The George Washington University, Edward H. Hall III from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Kyle Horvath from the Carson City Visitors Bureau, Rachel Cromer from AIANTA and Melissa Melero and Ben Aleck from the Great Basin Native Artists. The Conference included a mobile workshop in collaboration with the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe with visits to the Springs Preserve, Red Rock Canyon Visitor's Center, Corn Creek Visitor's Center and the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe Golf Resort. Kenny Anderson, Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, was the tribal tour guide on the bus. Also, the Moapa Band of Paiutes donated the speaker gifts and there were approximately 60 Conference participants which included 4 Nevada Tribal Leaders. Lastly, the Territory received just under \$5,000 in grant funds from the AIANTA Regional Outreach Program Funds and a \$7,200 marketing grant from the Nevada Division of Tourism for the Conference. Outreach for the Conference included the entire AIANTA Southwest region (Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado).
- Current Indian Territory Projects (all projects funded by the Nevada Division of Tourism Marketing Grants)
  - Indian Territory Photo Library: The grant will fund the remainder of the Indian Territory project which will primarily focus on Southern Nevada. Photographer Larry Burton was again chosen to work on the project and has already taken photos of the following areas: Corn Creek Visitor's Center, (Desert National Wildlife Range), Red Rock Canyon, Las Vegas Paiute Golf Resort, Springs Preserve, Nevada State Museum - Las Vegas, Mt. Charleston, Calico Basin, Ash Meadows and Death Valley. Also, Larry took photos during the Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference.
  - Tribal Communities Tourism Assessment: The Territory has completed a research-based project with Dr. Carla Santos from the University of Illinois to assess tribal tourism opportunities in Nevada. During the month of August 2014, Dr. Santos and Sherry Rupert met with the following tribes: Summit Lake Paiute Tribe, Elko Band Council, Walker River Paiute Tribe, Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Tribe and the South Fork Band Council. Dr. Santos has compiled all of the information into a report, which will primarily be shared with the tribes included in the assessment.
  - 2015 Nevada Tribal Tourism Conference: As mentioned above, the Territory received a grant in the amount of \$7,200 from the Nevada Division of Tourism. The grant covered expenses related to speaker travel, postage, conference materials and the mobile workshop.
  - 2015 Stewart Father's Day Powwow: The Territory received a grant in the amount of \$2,500 for the Powwow. The grant will cover radio ads, postage, Facebook ads and postcards to mail out to alumni of the Stewart Indian School.
  - Stewart Website Upgrade: The Territory is working with Charter Advertising to redesign the Stewart Indian School website. The new website will be launched by June 30<sup>th</sup> and will adjust to both smartphones and tablets.

- The Territory has applied for a Nevada Division of Tourism Marketing grant for members to attend the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual American Indian Tourism Conference. This year the Conference will be held September 13-17, 2015 at the Sky Ute Casino Resort in Ignacio, Colorado.
- The Territory is currently working on updating its Flickr page and will add selected photos from the IT photo project to include on the page.
- Territory members attended the 2015 Rural Roundup April 15-17, 2015 in Minden, Nevada. The annual conference is hosted by the Nevada Division of Tourism and is aimed toward strengthening Nevada's rural tourism. Also, Melissa Melero, co-founder of the *Great Basin Native Artists*, was the recipient of the 2015 Indian Territory Excellence in Tourism Award.