



STATUS REPORT

TO: Members of the Nevada Indian Commission
FROM: Kostan R. Lathouris, Chairman of the Stewart Indian Preservation Alliance
DATE: February 9, 2018
SUBJECT: Status Report re the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance

It has been expressed to the Stewart Indian School Preservation Alliance (“SISPA”) that the Nevada Indian Commission (“Commission”) is interested in receiving updates and reports from SISPA, and SISPA is more than happy to do so.

As you probably already know, SISPA is a Nevada non-profit corporation formed in 2015 with the mission to promote, fundraise, advocate, and support the Commission’s efforts to protect and preserve the history of the Stewart Indian School in Carson City, Nevada. Generally, SISPA has maintained regular monthly meetings and has been actively seeking or engaging in efforts to accomplish its mission.

Examples of SISPA’s efforts include the May 21, 2016, “Under the Stewart Stars” fundraising event, which included tours of the historic Stewart Indian School campus, and was even attended by Governor Sandoval, Chairman Hawley, U.S. Congressman Amodei, Assemblyman P.K. O’Neill, and Mayor Crowell; providing testimony during legislative hearings to protect existing funding sources for the Stewart Indian School; providing status updates to the Stewart Advisory Committee; and becoming more structured and established, including developing membership forms, exploring insurance options, consolidating bank accounts to prevent unnecessary fees, and creating internal Google Docs to provide a common access point for SISPA’s documents and various activities.

Significantly, SISPA also applied for and received a grant from the Nevada 150 Foundation for the financial support of the Stewart Indian School Documentary Project (“Stewart Documentary”). The Stewart Documentary tells the story of the Stewart Indian School and includes interviews with and oral histories of alumni who attended the school, visuals of the campus, Stewart-related events, historic photos, and a compelling narrative. The NV 150 Foundation grant was to directly pay for the costs associated with the project, including production, creative design, marketing, and copies of the Stewart Documentary for distribution; however, additional funding was ultimately needed to finalize production. As a result, additional funding is now needed for marketing, distribution, and the premiere.

Accordingly, SISPA’s number one priority is marketing, distributing, and premiering the Stewart Documentary. SISPA is currently establishing a budget, including, but not limited to, where SISPA plans to screen the Stewart Documentary, how many screenings it wants to do, and the cost per screening. This budget will be used to help create grant proposals for new, and potentially existing,

funding resources. Additionally, SISPA is currently exploring options to minimize the cost of Stewart Documentary-related expenses. For example, one of the goals is to use donated venues that may already have existing marketing strategies in place that SISPA can utilize.

In sum, the Stewart Documentary can easily be considered SISPA's biggest project to date . . . and, if done right, can be SISPA's most successful effort to promote, fundraise, advocate, and support the Commission's efforts to protect and preserve the history of the Stewart Indian School.

In conclusion, SISPA will have a representative present at the next Commission meeting to address any questions, comments, or concerns that the Commission may have.

Thank you.