



American Indian/Alaska Native Employees Association for NRCS

“Respect, Harmony, and Beauty”

January 2007

AIANEA Members:

Happy New Year and best wishes to you and yours. It is truly an honor to serve as the 2007 President of the American Indian Alaska Native Employees Association. It is my opinion that we have the best association and that is attributed to all the great leaders and members that are a part of the AIANEA. Due to the strong leadership our past Presidents have given, we have a sure foundation on which we can stand. As we look on 2007 as the ten year anniversary of our association for the American Indian Alaska Native employees, we can be assured that the accomplishments made have been worth all the sacrifices. Not only do we have an association, but a family of individuals who have a concern for one another. We are a team and a team is only as strong as the weakest link; therefore, I challenge you to be the best you can be in this New Year. Remember, as we pass through on our journey of life, we hold a brush in our hand and are painting a picture that will last for generations to come. May we seek wisdom and guidance from our Elders, make wise decisions, and have pure hearts and clean hands, and our picture will be one of love, hope, and peace for all people.

Our 2007 annual training conference will be held in Corpus Christi, Texas on August 27 - 31, 2007. We are planning a great conference that will provide training needed to improve our employee skills in working within our native lands. We will be going through a visioning process as AIANEA members, which - as leaders - will give us direction to help us better serve our members and continue the goals of our association. We will have our Elders sharing their wisdom and culture, and also providing guidance to help us better understand their ways of the past, present and future.

I would like to remind you to visit our association web site at www.aianea.com to complete the 2007 membership dues form and return them. We are always looking for new members, so put in a good word for the association. You will also find the list of the 2007 national council members and their contact information on the web site. Please feel free to contact any of the national council members with any concerns or suggestions that you may have to improve our association. We also have our Elders council members listed and their bio's. I truly appreciate our Elders and their willingness to serve our association.

I look forward to a great year. If I can be of any assistance contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

David Elliott
2007 AIANEA President