

The 23 Native Nations

Bois Forte Band of Chippewa
Cheyenne River Sioux
Crow Creek Sioux
Flandreau Santee Sioux
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Grand Portage Band of Chippewa
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
Lower Brule Sioux
Lower Sioux Community
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe
Oglala Sioux
Prairie Island Indian Community
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians
Rosebud Sioux
Shakopee-Mdewakanton Sioux Community
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
Spirit Lake Nation
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
Three Affiliated Tribes – Mandan, Hidatsa,
& Arikara Nation
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
Upper Sioux Community
White Earth Band of Ojibwe
Yankton Sioux



Information Sheet

Native Nations Rebuilders Program

Next application deadline: Fall 2012

Program Background

The **Native Nations Rebuilders Program** is the Bush Foundation's response to a need expressed by leaders of the 23 Native nations the Foundation serves—those that share the same geography as Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.

These elected leaders say that developing and support **emerging Native leaders**, as well as **existing community leaders**, will be crucial to their nation-building success over the long term.

In 2008, the Foundation committed itself to a 10-year effort to support the nation-building activities that each of the 23 Native nations chooses to pursue, understanding that each tribe knows best the ways in which nation-building will help its people.

In early 2009, Foundation staff began meeting with the elected leaders of these nations. Many of these leaders already had a strong commitment to nation-building and were leading tribes that had made significant progress in rebuilding their nations. It is through these meetings that the importance of building a cadre of Rebuilders emerged.

The Native Nations Rebuilders Program complements the nation-building work of elected tribal leaders. It offers up to 30 emerging leaders each year an opportunity to strengthen their leadership skills and nation-building knowledge so they may be instrumental in moving their nations, in cooperation with elected leadership, toward realization of their tribes' unique goals.

The Foundation selected its first cohort of Rebuilders in early 2010. Between 2010 and 2018, it expects to form eight cohorts of Rebuilders for a total of up to 200 Rebuilders over the length of the program.

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How the Program Works

Each Rebuilder will participate in a two-year process. In the first year, the Foundation and its partner, the Native Nations Institute/Harvard Project, will support Rebuilders by providing access to ideas and information, expanded networks, leadership training and other resources for nation-building through in-person educational sessions and distance learning.

In the second year, Rebuilders will implement the action plans created in the first year and engage in practical nation-building efforts within their communities.

Eligibility & Selection Criteria

The Foundation seeks candidates who are at least 25 years of age, an enrolled citizen of one of the 23 Native nations who is living on or near his or her nation's lands (or in urban communities) and is significantly engaged in his or her nation's work. A selection committee composed of individuals knowledgeable about and with expertise in the challenges of nation-building will evaluate each Rebuilder candidate according to the candidate's commitment to Native self-governance, knowledge of the issues facing his or her nation and current involvement with his or her nation.

The Rebuilder's Commitment

Each Rebuilder is asked to commit to attending all and entire Rebuilder sessions; actively participating, communicating and learning with other participants; actively sharing knowledge with his or her government; developing and implementing nation-building action plans; and participating consistently in ongoing Rebuilders' activities throughout the two-year period.

Financial Support

The Foundation will cover the cost of instruction, materials and facilitation for Rebuilder events, the cost of transportation and meals to and from events, as well as meals and lodging while at events.

How to Apply

Applications will open for Rebuilders Cohort 4 at **BushFoundation.org** in Fall 2012. To be added to the Rebuilders mailing list and receive notification when applications open, email us at jwells@bushfoundation.org.

Questions or Assistance

Please contact Julie Wells of the Bush Foundation at (651) 227-0891 if you have questions or need assistance. Find complete details of the Native Nations Rebuilders Program at **BushFoundation.org**.

Important Dates in 2011-12

October 15	Rebuilders are notified
November 30 - December 2	First Rebuilder session
April 10-12	Second Rebuilder session
July 10-12	Third Rebuilder session
November 28-30	Fourth Rebuilder session

About the Bush Foundation

Our mission is to be a catalyst for the courageous leadership necessary to create sustainable solutions to tough public problems and ensure community vitality.

Today, we are involved in two decade-long commitments:

- To dramatically improve educational achievement by assuring the effectiveness of the next 25,000 teachers that will enter our classrooms by changing how they are recruited, prepared, placed and supported.
- To improve the conditions of the people of Native nations by working with their elected leaders to improve their institutions of self-governance based on sovereignty and self-determination.

In addition, we help communities develop their capacity to solve their own tough public problems through a combination of leadership development and by providing research, data, tools, and opportunities to connect with others needed for developing innovative and sustainable solutions.

BushFoundation.org