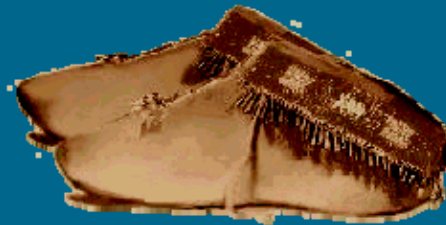


Moccasin Print



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MEMBER OF THE MONTH: mySmartSimulations, Inc.



Since 2003, mySmartSimulations has been developing custom computer based interactive training and education solutions for applications in Healthcare, Manufacturing, Government, and Corporate Training.

They have also created a software application called WILD (Worldwide Interactive Learning Designer). This course authorizing tool allows them—or independent developers—to rapidly design and deploy custom interactive training modules and curricula.

As a nationally recognized leader in simulation training, mySmartSimulations has developed a training solution specific to Native American Communities. This style of training and education is more visual and interactive. Through strategic partnerships with a number of First Nations Communities, they offer a suite of training courses that include topics on Basic Business Skills, Safety and Compliance, Software/Computers, Accounting and HR, Basic Electrical and Mechanical Skills, and more. Communities can also develop their own training courses. Many other products are available; the possibilities for these applications are endless.

Training and education is an \$800 billion dollar industry; with the current economic environment companies are looking for alternative ways to train their employees and to lower their overall training budgets. mySmartSimulations has developed a Reseller program that can empower Native owned business and communities to provide the next generation of learning and education companies. This is a great way to generate revenue and promote economic growth within the community.

Douglas Robertson, VP of Sales and Marketing
518-581-7999 ext 16
www.mysmartsim.com

CORPORATE PARTNER OF THE MONTH:



2009 Conference

Program Book

Sponsor!

Our mission is to form mutually beneficial partnerships with diverse businesses that allow us to deliver superior products and superb customer service, which ultimately increases shareholder value.

We are committed to creating effective competition utilizing all possible sources. We will actively seek targeted diverse businesses and provide them the opportunity to partner with The Home Depot to provide competitively priced, high quality goods and services to our customers.

In our efforts to reach out to diverse businesses, we have chosen several different vehicles to enhance our outreach efforts in order to build upon our program. First, we are national members of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) and the National Minority Suppliers Development Council (NMSDC). We also sponsor and attend national and regional diverse supplier and small business trade shows as well as chamber events. We are proud to be a sponsor to and attend the NABA Fund National Business/Procurement Conference.



New Members

Jan.—Feb., 2009

- Algonquin Design Build Mechanical
- Four Corners Flooring, LLC
- Grayon Industrial
- JDE Machine Service, LLC
- KAM Specialties, Inc.
- Midwest Laser Fabricating
- Moore Trosper Construction Co.
- Native Memories
- Sterling Bank Services
- Tall Eagle Appearance Group
- Value Planning Collaborative, LLC

*NABA welcomes **all** of our New Members! Our full membership list can be found on the NABA website.*

OUR MISSION:

To facilitate mutually beneficial relationships between Native American owned companies and private and public business sectors, and to educate



NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

2009 has begun with a historic and exciting Presidential Inauguration! However, 2009 also presents challenging economic conditions we are all forced to face on many levels. The non-profit sector has been hit very hard with the lack of funding sources available and because of budgetary cuts made by corporations who usually support charitable organizations. Through this challenging time, I have received many telephone calls from our corporate partners and general membership who are sharing their support of NABA and willing to extend their resources wherever possible. We appreciate **YOU**, our members, and your ongoing support for the organization as we continue to journey down this path because our goal is to help you succeed and assist you in finding the resources needed to sustain your business. NABA is seeking creative and innovative ways to find and offer new benefits to our members because we know this is how we can help during these challenging times.

We are pleased to say that in 2009 we making every effort to focus more than ever on helping our small businesses grow and to “go green”. NABA will be providing online business development courses with the assistance of our member of the month, mySmartSimulations, Inc. These online classes will be offered in areas such as Business Plan Development and Minority Certification. Aside from professional development focus, NABA is currently offering our members the convenience of an online travel agency. Read more about NABA Eagle Travel on page 7.

Lastly, I am truly looking forward to the 2009 Business/Procurement Conference because we are in Michigan. Honda and Toyota are serving as this year's Event Co-sponsors, along with many other corporate partners who are planning on attending. This year's Conference is being held at the spectacular Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Reservation in Mt. Pleasant, MI. Look for new and improved workshops and seminars with a focus on the economy and helping your business grow. Read more about our upcoming conference on page 4 or see our website. Online Registration is now available. We especially hope you'll join us if your company provides a “green”, energy efficient, or Earth friendly product.

As we continually seek creative networking opportunities, NABA has created an online business networking group on the professional site LinkedIn. Join the Native American Business Alliance group today and take part in our discussions as well as submit ideas, receive announcements, and network with other NABA members. It's another new way to network with potential customers— **it's time to get linked in with LinkedIn.com.**

Thank you, and I look forward to seeing you at the conference!

—*Jackie Gant (Oneida Nation of the Thames)*, NABA National Executive Director

BOARD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As the economy goes downhill, it is time to remember to support Native American companies that can provide products and services to your company. This should be the case most of the time, and it is critical to keeping our businesses alive. To those companies that provide goods and services, keep the markup down to where you can manage your company and help the larger companies maintain their ability to provide their goods and services to their customers. It is imperative that we support those corporations that support Native American Businesses.

Lee Pepion (Blackfoot)

NABA Board President

Remember to contact your representative of the House or Senate and let them know how you wish them to vote on legislation that affects the Native American and the Minority Community.

In closing, a quote from Tom Ration, Navajo Medicine Man, "Our Fore Fathers struggled for survival so that we can enjoy what we have now. I should think the least we can do is be grateful to them and remember what they stood for. We look back and see how they suffered, and here we are comfortable and have all the wonderful opportunities knocking on our doors. Be ready to accept these: Your future is what you must think about."

NABA MAKING CONNECTIONS

Connecting through Technology



IBM and IFC Launch a Small Business Toolkit to support Native American Business Owners

By: My Luu, Market Development Executive, IBM

IBM and the International Finance Corporation, the private sector arm of the World Bank, have launched a new version of a free small business toolkit specifically for small business owners in emerging markets as well as Asian, Black, Hispanic, Native American, and women entrepreneurs in the U.S. to receive highly developed business information, tools, and training services usually reserved for Fortune 1000 companies.

While small businesses generated between 60 to 80 percent of the new jobs annually in the U.S. over the past decade, they are often hurt by the lack of skills, knowledge and access to the information that larger businesses routinely use to grow and succeed. The Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Toolkit (www.us.smetoolkit.org) is a **free** program that enables entrepreneurs and small businesses to learn how to implement the sustainable business management practices needed for growth in areas such as finance, accounting, international business, marketing, human resources or legal. Small businesses can also receive business training delivered via classroom workshops and partnerships with local support providers. The Toolkit can also help small businesses go global by providing detailed market access, investment and trade information for the 64 countries most exported-to countries.

Among the specially designed free tools are:

- a multilingual business directory so small businesses can link locally, regionally & globally,
- an opportunity to create a webpage to promote your business,
- an online calculator that helps small businesses determine their readiness for financing,
- free business forms for employee performance evaluations,
- free software to build a web site, and:
- community tools such as chat rooms and forums.

The Native American Business Alliance is already listed in the SME Toolkit's Business Directory and has contributed material to this valuable resource. Visit the SME Toolkit and register today (click on "register" on the top right corner) to get listed in the Directory and create a webpage to promote your business. It's free, it's simple, and it will help get the word out about your company.

NEW

Here's what's new at the 2009 NABA Fund Conference:

- Online Travel Agency
- Business Self Profile Stop & Pictures
- Corporate Coffee Time

SPONSORSHIPS ARE STILL AVAILABLE

These are just a few of the available sponsorships:

- Awards Luncheon Sponsor w/Speaker : \$12,000.00
- Conference Golf Mixer Sponsor: \$3,000.00
- Afternoon Break Sponsor: \$1,200.00

Other sponsorships are still available—but they're going fast! Contact the NABA Office for details.

EVOLVE, PROSPER, & SUCCEED

Save the Date

New Date to Announce!

July 19-20, 2009

9th Annual NABA Fund National Business/ Procurement Conference

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort—Mt. Pleasant, MI

The 2009 NABA Fund National Business/Procurement Conference promises to be an outstanding experience for all of our members. This year's conference is being held at the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort in Mt. Pleasant, MI. Enjoy the beauty of Northern Michigan and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Reservation. We know times are challenging for all our members and their businesses. To show our understanding, we have shortened the conference and decreased the costs to help with your budget. While it may be shorter, the 2009 conference will still present amazing workshops, networking opportunities, and fun. We have also added some exciting new features! Be sure to check out our new feature The Business Self Profile Stop. Wear your best smile as you receive a professional head shot and a Business Bio Review. We have many more surprises in store, and we look forward to seeing each and every one of our members at the 2009 Business/ Procurement Conference!

SPONSORS INCLUDE: TOYOTA HONDA



NABA Events

1st Annual Native American Heritage Month Celebration



Jackie Gant and Navajo Code Talker Frank Chee Willetto Sr.



Rev. Calvin Hill and his family performed traditional Native American dances.



Refer a Friend Program!

Refer a friend to join NABA and receive \$50.00 off your membership renewal dues. You will also receive a \$25.00 gift card. Your friend will receive \$25.00 off their new membership. In addition, you both will receive special marketing on our web page. Your company logo will be featured, along with a link to your webpage, for one full year. This is your chance to share all the benefits of NABA with a friend, while both receiving some special incentives!

NABA Bowling and Fundraising Event!

NABA held its first annual bowling fundraiser on April 23, 2009 at Lucky Strike Lanes in Novi, MI. Those in attendance had a great time! A BIG THANK YOU to all who attended and supported NABA and our mission. Also, we extend a special THANK YOU to our sponsors. **Honda** served as the event sponsor, while **Six Nations Inc.** and **Oneida Resource Group** were our Lane Sponsors. We look forward to the return and watching it grow throughout the years!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Wish List

Making the best possible first impression is very important for any business. As NABA continues to grow, we are reaching out to our members and asking for your help with improving the impression that the NABA brand and the NABA office make on our visitors.

Here is our 2009 wish list for non-event sponsorships:

- **Contribution for our organization — \$25,000.00**
- **Website support — \$5,000.00**
- **Native American art-work- \$2,000.00**

Tom Smith Industries has recently made a generous donation toward our wish list. Thank you, TSI, for your continued support of NABA!

Please contact the Native American Business Alliance Office if you are able to help us obtain any

MAY, 2009

May 05-07, 2009 - MMBDC Business Opportunity Fair. This event will be held at the Cobo Conference and Exhibition Center in Detroit, Michigan. You can find information on their website: www.mmbdc.com.

July, 2009

July 19-20, 2009 - NABA Fund 9th Annual National Business/Procurement Conference. This year, the Conference will be held at the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Reservation in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Registration will be open May 11! Early registration discount so don't delay. See www.native-american-bus.org for details.

August, 2008

August 31, 2009 - NABA Fund Golf Outing & Cultural Event. Our annual Golf Outing will once again be held at the Indianwood Golf and Country Club in Lake Orion, Michigan. Register and pay by June 15, 2009 and receive a special limited time offer. Receive two admissions for \$295.00! More details can be found at: www.native-american-bus.org.

**Find more minority supplier events on the NABA website:
www.native-american-bus.org**

WHO NEEDS YOUR HELP?

The Dreemseekers Youth Group from American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan needs your help! These Native Youth from Detroit are fundraising in an effort to visit Washington DC this July. The Dreemseekers youth group offers cultural teachings, pow wow dance lessons, drug/alcohol prevention, tutoring, and a safe and fun environment. For many of the youth, this will be their first big trip. They are hoping to visit the White House, the Lincoln Memorial, and most important— the National Museum of the American Indian. They have been working hard selling raffle tickets and 50/50, and collecting donations at pow wows. But they still need your help! The cost to sponsor one Native youth is \$400.00. They are also seeking a tee shirt sponsor to provide matching shirts for the youth to wear on the trip. Their biggest obstacle is the costs of the transportation to DC. If anyone can provide help with securing a private charter bus to make the trip or can provide donations to help with the costs of Amtrak, any and all donations would be appreciated and helpful! For more information, or to donate, please contact Nickole Fox or Martha Hinojosa- (313) 846-3718 ext 1113, or email NFox@aihfs.org.

FIRST ANNUAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

NABA would like to thank Kellogg Company for hosting our first Annual Native American Heritage Month Celebration and Networking Event. This successful event was held at Kellogg's Headquarters in Battle Creek, MI on November 17, 2008.

Several NABA members and suppliers of Kellogg attended. There were many special moments in this celebration of Native American Culture and History. Rev. Calvin Hill began the night with a special prayer. Chris Holman of the MEDC was on hand to speak of what the state can do for small businesses. The highlight of the evening for many was meeting and hearing first hand account from Navajo Code Talker Mr. Frank Chee Willetto, Sr., United States Marine Corps. Rev. Calvin Hill and his family performed traditional dances while explaining the history of the dance. Kellogg's generously provided the drum group Southern Strait, along with the wonderful Native Cuisine.

NABA extends a special thank you to Cathy Kutch, Elizabeth Drake, and the other staff members of Kellogg for all of their hard work in making this event a success. We truly appreciate all of the support from everyone involved. You can learn more about Kellogg at their website: www.Kellogg.com.

We look forward to seeing you at our Second Annual Native American Heritage Month Celebration and Networking Event! November, 2009

WEBSITE UPDATES

NABA is pleased to now offer our members the convenience of online travel service. The NABA travel Agency, NABA Eagle Travel, offers flights, car rental, hotel, cruises, vacation packages, and even flower delivery! When you use this service, a portion of the proceeds directly benefit NABA. This is a great way to book your next trip while helping our organization! For your convenience, you will be able to register for our 2009 Business/Procurement Conference and make your travel arrangements on the same site. The link, www.YTBtravel.com/nabatravel, can found on our homepage. Just look for the airplane logo on the right hand side.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Since the start of the New Year:

- **62 Native American businesses have renewed their memberships with NABA, and:**
- **We have added 12 new members.**

Timely payment of your membership fees helps us provide networking events and other services to all of our members. Current members also receive discounts on their Conference registrations and other benefits.

To those of you who have already renewed your membership, **thank you!** If your membership fees for 2009 are still due, please contact the NABA Office right away. We don't want you to miss out on all of the great things that NABA has to offer.

For more information about the benefits of membership in NABA, please go to our website: www.native-american-bus.org.

NABA HAT AND GLOVE DRIVE

Our First Annual Winter Hat and Glove Drive was a great success. A big **THANK YOU** to all who gave generously and supported our mission of providing warmth to needy Native American families this winter. We collected nearly 1,000 new hats, gloves, and scarves in children and adult sizes. The collected items were distributed to American Indian Services, South Eastern Michigan Indians Inc., North American Indian Association, and American Indian Health and Family Services. It has been a cold winter, and challenging times for many local families; which means more families than ever are seeking help. All the organizations were pleased and honored by your kindness. We have decided to make this our yearly tradition and will be collecting hats and gloves in children and adult sizes starting in October. We look forward to your continued support!

NON-PROFIT



Native American Business Alliance Fund

23400 Michigan Ave
Suite 504
Dearborn, MI 48124

Please update our new address, if you haven't already done so. We have experienced some difficulties with the US Post Office forwarding our mail. We apologize if you have had any problems getting mail to us.

Phone: 248-988-9344
Fax: 248-988-9348
E-mail: naba@n-a-b-a.org
www.native-american-bus.org

NABA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD OFFICERS

- Lee Pepion (Blackfoot), *President*
The Blackfoot Company
- Stormy Hicks, PhD (Shawnee), *Vice President*
- Bill Moon (Blackfoot), *Secretary*
United Parcel Service (Retired)
- Will Hunt (Lumbee), *Treasurer*
Harvard Resource Group

DIRECTORS

- Stephen Barr (Ojibway) - E.L. Hollingsworth & Company
- Sharon Cannarsa (Mohawk) - Systrand Manufacturing
- John Griffin (Muskogee) - Griffin Foods
- Teresa Magnuson (Potawatomi) - Red Paint Printing
- Andra Rush (Mohawk) - Rush Trucking Corp.
- Kenny Tubby (Mississippi Choctaw) - Choctaw Glove, Choctaw-Kaul Distribution Company
- Mark "Kingfish" Wasler (Shawnee) - Kingfish Worldwide Inc.

TIYOSPAYE DIRECTORS

- Robert Kufta, The Ideal Group
- Jethro Joseph, DaimlerChrysler Corporation
- Stephen Larson, Access Events, LLC
- Nancy Jones, Global Diversity Business Technologies
- Lisa Thomas, Total Polish Solutions

OFFICE STAFF

- Jackie Gant (Oneida Nation of the Thames)
NABA Executive Director
- Victoria Guzman, NABA Executive Assistant
- Martha Jackson, NABA Administrative Assistant