



Talking Feather News for the week of October 8, 2007

Business Opportunity



NEW! Detroit Water & Sewerage Department Preliminary & Detailed Design, Construction Administration and Related Services for the Flint Transmission System

The **Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD)** is requesting written proposals from Consultant firms to provide studies, engineering, design, construction administration and other related professional services in connection with the design and construction administration of DWSD's proposed Flint Transmission System Project. This is DWSD Contract No. cs-1486. They anticipate awarding three construction contracts: two for the water main and a separate contract for any appurtenant facilities. They are accepting proposals **only** from firms or project teams demonstrating **a minimum of ten years' experience** in the work of the contract. **RFP packages may be obtained beginning October 10, 2007** from the DWSD, 1501 Water Board Building, 735 Randolph Street, Detroit MI 48226 on business days between 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. **A non-refundable charge of \$50.00** in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Detroit Board of Water Commissioners **is required to secure this RFP**. You may contact Thelma Mitchell at (313) 964-9482 for more information on the RFP distribution. **Proposals are due on November 8, 2007 at 12:00 noon to the attention of Mr. Darryl A. Latimer, DWSD's Contracts and Grants Manager**, at this address: Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, 735 Randolph Street, Room 1501, Detroit, MI 48226.

Upcoming Events



NMSDC National Conference October 28-31, 2007 Miami Beach Convention Center Miami Beach, FL

The **National Minority Supplier Development Council's** 35th Anniversary celebration will bring together meetings, special events and minority businesses and corporations on **October 28-31, 2007** in Miami Beach, Florida. This conference will deliver up-to-date information on minority business development and features plenary sessions and workshops to enhance your knowledge and an 850-booth Business Opportunity Fair. To register, go to <http://www.nmsdcus.org/events/conference07.html>.



Honigman's 2nd Annual Great Lakes Tribal Economic Development Symposium – Oct. 31 & Nov. 1, 2007 Mount Pleasant, MI

The **Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn, LLP Second Annual Great Lakes Tribal Economic Development Symposium** will be held **October 31 – November 1, 2007** in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. This 2-day conference will be held at the Soaring Eagle Resort and Casino, and will bring together leaders from Native American Tribes, business leaders, entrepreneurs, and federal, state, local and Tribal representatives. During the Symposium, attendees will explore the current environment for tribal economic development and cutting-edge ideas and strategies for creating and sustaining strong and diverse tribal economies in the Great Lakes region. The registration deadline is **October 22, 2007**. You can register online at www.honigmanteds.com.



Toyota Opportunity Exchange November 13, 2007 Duke Energy Center – Cincinnati, OH

Toyota's Opportunity Exchange is a one-day event where MBEs have the chance to build relationships and do business with Toyota Tier I Suppliers. This annual trade fair and conference is hosted by the Toyota Supplier Diversity section and was created with the intent to build lasting relationships between their Tier I suppliers and MBEs. 2007's event will be held on November 13, 2007 at the Duke Energy Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. More information can be found at: www.toyotasupplier.com/sup_diversity/activities.html.



NCAIED 22nd Annual National Reservation Economic Summit & American Indian Business Trade Fair March 3-6, 2008 – Las Vegas, NV

The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development's 22nd Annual National Reservation Economic Summit & American Indian Business Trade Fair (RES 2008) will be held **March 3-6, 2008** at the Las Vegas Hilton in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Trade Fair will feature 16 workshops in four tracks, compelling keynote speakers, and access to business leaders among other attractions. For information, see their website: www.ncaied.org or call 800-4-NCAIED, ext. 228.



2008 NABA Fund Business & Procurement Conference April 27-29, 2008 Pearl River Resort - Philadelphia, MS

The Native American Business Alliance is partnering with the **Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians** to bring the **2008 NABA Fund Business & Procurement Conference** to the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw, Mississippi. This event will be held on **April 27-29, 2008** and is being sponsored by DaimlerChrysler Corporation. Registration for the Conference will begin on January 1, 2008. Beginning in November, you will be able to find more details on the NABA website: www.native-american-bus.org.

Announcements



Reconnecting the Circle Announces 2nd Annual Essay Contest

Reconnecting the Circle (RTC), a national essay contest for high school students throughout the United States, is designed to bring together Native and non-Native students in a discussion about Indian Country and to identify common values. Their contest promotes open and honest dialogue amongst students of all cultures with an emphasis on increasing knowledge and awareness of Indian Country. This essay contest awards cash prizes to students who explore issues related to Native Americans. NABA National Executive Director Jackie Gant has been asked to participate as a judge for the second year. RTC depends on donations from companies and individuals to provide prizes to the winners. For information on how you can help, please see their website: www.reconnectingthecircle.com.

Request for Support



Michigan State University Multicultural Business Programs, Eli Board College of Business To Develop Native American Business Institute

MSU's Multicultural Business Programs in the Eli Board College of Business (MBP) is developing a **Native American Business Institute (NABI)**, an intensive week-long summer institute for up to thirty Native Americans in 10th through 12th grades, from across Michigan and the United States. This program will offer Native American students a one-of-a-kind residential learning experience designed to maximize their college experience and prepare them for careers in business, while working within a culturally supportive learning environment. The MBP will also work within students' family and communities to build the kind of support needed for Native students' long-term success. They are seeking financial support to launch the **1st Annual Native American Business Institute**, to be held during the Summer of 2008. For a copy of the proposal or to learn how you can help make the NABI a reality, contact Allard Teeple, Jr. by e-mail at teepleal@gmail.com or by phone at (313) 415-2009.