Dear Tribal Leader:

Several topics related to programs administered by the Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Affairs warrant discussion with you, as Tribal leaders. I am scheduling consultation sessions on each of those topics to ensure those discussions happen. The topics and consultation details are provided below.

1. Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on Public Law 102-477

Several Federal agencies, including the Department of the Interior, are party to an interagency memorandum of agreement (MOA) to implement Public Law 102-477, the Indian Employment, Training, and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992 (477 Program). Indian Affairs proposes to recommend to its Federal partners to reopen the MOA to amendments. Further, Indian Affairs proposes to recommend to its Federal partners that federally recognized Tribes or Tribal consortia of federally recognized Tribes participate in the MOA amendment process. This consultation session will provide the opportunity for Tribes to provide input, raise concerns and suggestions for this process and how the MOA can best support Federal implementation of the 477 Program.

**Consultation session – MOA on PL 102-477:**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time (Eastern Time)</th>
<th>Call-In Number</th>
<th>Passcode</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 26, 2021</td>
<td>2 p.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
<td>(800) 475-8401</td>
<td>1075085</td>
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</table>

An additional session is being planned for the week of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Winter Executive Session (February 21-25, 2021). The specific date, time, and location will be listed in the NCAI agenda and announced on www.bia.gov.

**Written input:**
- Email (preferred): consultation@bia.gov
- Mail (if email not possible): Anthony Riley, Chief (Acting) Division of Workforce Development, Bureau of Indian Affairs - Office of Indian Services, 1001 Indian School Rd, NW, Unit 225D, Albuquerque, NM 87104

**Point of contact:**
- Anthony Riley, Anthony.riley@bia.gov, (505) 563-3745 (office); (907) 802-8750 (mobile)

**Comment deadline:**
- Friday, April 2, 2021
2. Indian Preference in Hiring for BIA Office of Justice Services (OJS) Positions

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Office of Justice Services (OJS) continues to struggle to fill public safety positions throughout the United States. Critical positions are advertised numerous times, receiving limited highly qualified Indian Preference candidates to fill these positions. Also, the BIA OJS currently does not have a pass-over mechanism like other Federal agencies to remove individuals from the hiring list that have documented personnel issues. By not having that mechanism in place, the BIA OJS is often required to select the individuals and go through a lengthy clearance process. Often times, applicants on the Indian Preference certification cannot clear this hurdle, and the process must start again. This contributes to significant delays, hiring latency, law enforcement personnel shortage, and denies the BIA OJS the opportunity to review additional qualified candidates. The BIA OJS is seeking parity with Tribal requirements. Tribes are not required to implement the Federal Indian Preference standards when hiring public safety staff.

The BIA OJS would like to consult on potential options to assist with alleviating obstacles to the Federal hiring process so critical public safety positions can be filled with highly qualified applicants more quickly.

Consultation session – Indian Preference for OJS Positions:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 28, 2021</td>
<td>2 p.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
<td>(888) 947-8932</td>
<td>4626160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, February 2, 2021</td>
<td>2 p.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
<td>(800) 779-1436</td>
<td>5464486</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, February 4, 2021</td>
<td>2 p.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
<td>(800) 988-9510</td>
<td>2262206</td>
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Written input:
- Email (preferred): consultation@bia.gov
- Mail (if email not possible): Charles Addington, Deputy Director of Justice Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 1849 C Street, NW, MS-4660, Washington, DC 20240

Point of contact:
- Charles Addington, Deputy Bureau Director, Office of Justice Services, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Charles.addington@bia.gov, (202) 302-0216 (office)

Comment deadline:
- Friday, April 30, 2021

3. Eligibility Criteria for Construction Assessments of Public Safety and Justice Facilities

Recently, Indian Affairs implemented a revised approach to improving the condition of school facilities funded by the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE-funded schools). Indian Affairs is now considering adopting this approach for public safety and justice facilities, such as detention centers. The approach would comprehensively assess the conditions of all public safety and justice facilities, and determine a holistic site-by-site solution to get all the facilities to a “good” status and keep them there. Indian Affairs would then use that comprehensive assessment to
replace, renovate, and/or repair public safety and justice facilities. We would like your input on the eligibility criteria for these construction assessments.

**Consultation session – Eligibility Criteria for Construction Assessments:**

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<td>Tuesday, March 23, 2021</td>
<td>2 p.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
<td>(888) 982-7291</td>
<td>6884022</td>
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**Written input:**
- Email: consultation@bia.gov

**Point of contact:**
- Judith Wilson, Director, Office of Facilities, Property and Safety Management, judith.wilson@bia.gov, (703) 390-6314

**Comment deadline:**
- Friday, April 30, 2021

Thank you, and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Tara Sweeney
Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs