

**NCAI Policy Research Center: Crafting a Collective Vision
for the Future of Indian Country
Notes from World Café (11/2/05)**

Question #1: In thirty years, what do we want our tribal communities to look like?

Major Goal (Vision): “Healthy, Vibrant, Thriving and Self-Reliant Tribal Communities”

Components to realizing vision:

- Protect and advance tribal sovereignty
- Educated, informed, business savvy tribal leadership
- Preserve history and tribal languages
- Increase cultural and spiritual awareness
- Increase tribal economic development opportunities
- Increase tribal educational opportunities (create more schools)
- Preserve natural resources
- Enhance land use and physical infrastructure

Question # 2: What authorities, flexibility, and resources will our tribal governments need to create the future we want for our communities?

Major Goal (Vision): “Enhanced Tribal Self-Determination”

Components to realizing vision:

- Expand legislative authority under Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act
- Increase revenues (tribal/state/federal) to address community needs and priorities
- Develop innovative cooperative agreements (federal, state, inter-tribal)
- Increase networking and collective tribal voice – greater tribal unity
- Acquire more trust land
- Expand tribal jurisdictional rights

Question #3: What actions and conversations are most critical in moving toward this vision?

Major Goal (Vision): “Educating our Tribal Youth: Protecting and Creating our Future”

Components to realizing vision:

- Invest in our students; most valuable tribal resource
- Improve government to government relationship (among/between tribes, national, state and local levels)
- Develop varied economic development venues (don’t depend on gaming resources solely)
- Preserve history and language
- Increase dialogue with the international Indigenous communities
- Create an “Embassy of Tribal Nations”; permanent presence in Washington, DC