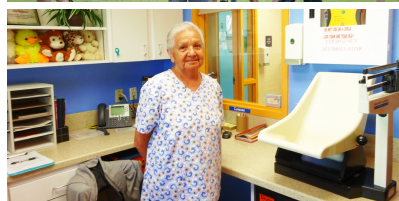
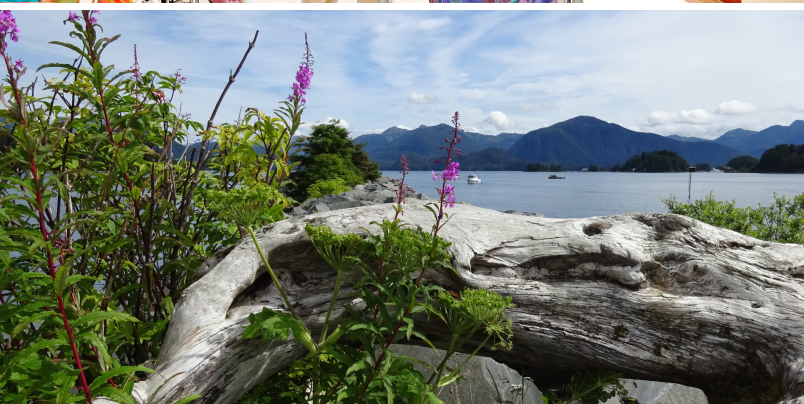




THE HARVARD PROJECT ON
AMERICAN INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
HARVARD KENNEDY SCHOOL • HARVARD UNIVERSITY
ASH CENTER FOR DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND INNOVATION

THE HARVARD PROJECT ON AMERICAN INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

hpaied.org



Understanding and supporting Indigenous nation building

SNAPSHOT

Research: Through case studies, policy briefs, and other reports, the Harvard Project tackles timely issues facing Indian Country.

Teaching: In two courses, Native Americans in the 21st Century: Nation Building I and II, taught by the Harvard Project team, students learn and engage with the contemporary challenges facing Native American tribal nations.

Practice: Resources, such as the Harvard Project's Nation Building Toolboxes, allow tribal leaders to implement lessons learned from other tribes and the Project in real-time.

About the Harvard Project

The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development (Harvard Project) at the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation aims to understand and foster the conditions under which sustained, self-determined social and economic development is achieved among American Indian nations.

At the heart of the Harvard Project is the systematic, comparative study of social and economic development on American Indian reservations. What works, where, and why?

Researching and fostering the conditions under which sustained, self-determined social and economic development is achieved among American Indian nations.

OUR PROGRAM

Founded by Professors Stephen Cornell and Joseph P. Kalt at Harvard University in 1987, the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development is housed within the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Through applied research and service, the Harvard Project aims to understand and foster the conditions under which sustained, self-determined social and economic development is achieved among American Indian nations. The Harvard Project's core activities include research, education, and the administration of Honoring Nations, a tribal governance awards program. In all of its activities, the Harvard Project collaborates with the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management, and Policy at the University of Arizona. The Harvard Project is also formally affiliated with the Harvard University Native American Program, an interfaculty initiative at Harvard University.



Key Initiatives

Honoring Nations Awards

This highly-competitive awards program identifies, celebrates, and shares exemplary programs in tribal governance.

Nation Building Toolboxes

These online, mixed media, learning tools are filled with real-world examples and lessons to assist Indigenous leaders and decision makers.

CONTACT

Reach out to the Harvard Project via email at hpaied@hks.harvard.edu

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Learn more about the Harvard Project and how to become involved at hpaied.org

Among the Project's key research findings:

Sovereignty Matters

When Native nations make their own decisions about what development approaches to take, they consistently out-perform external decision makers on matters as diverse as governmental form, natural resource management, economic development, health care, and social service provision.

Institutions Matter

For development to take hold, assertions of sovereignty must be backed by capable institutions of governance. Nations do this as they adopt stable decision rules, establish fair and independent mechanisms for dispute resolution, and separate politics from day-to-day business and program management.

Culture Matters

Successful economies stand on the shoulders of legitimate, culturally grounded institutions of self-government. Indigenous societies are diverse; each nation must equip itself with a governing structure, economic system, policies, and procedures that fit its own contemporary culture.

Leadership Matters

Nation building requires leaders who introduce new knowledge and experiences, challenge assumptions, and propose change. Such leaders, whether elected, community, or spiritual, convince people that things can be different and inspire them to take action.