

Draft Pending Adoption

Superintendent Toal gave a shout out to New Mexico tribes and pueblos who did so well in getting vaccines delivered, and he said he really appreciates their efforts. Commissioner Rude asked if any ongoing partnerships had been formed through their efforts in Montana. Ms. Evers said some tribes did, and others did not.

4. Heard a Presentation on Consumer Outreach and Education About Fraud Within the American Indian Culture

Matthew Smith (Coalition Against Insurance Fraud—CAIF) said he has been working with Alaska as they take steps to include fraud in their mission statement. He said fraud always targets the most vulnerable parts of consumers. He said American Indians and Alaska Natives are very trusting people, which is why fraudsters prey on them. He asked the Liaison Committee members to check out the graph in his slides for more information about how to protect tribes from fraudsters and educate tribal members on what is good insurance so they can recognize bad insurance when fraudsters try to thrust it upon them. He said 78% of tribes are not hearing from their state insurance department. He referred state insurance regulators to the public information and outreach templates on the CAIF's website. He said customized videos and advertising are also available for any insurance department to use. He said the CAIF will train antifraud staff and teams on how to report and be protected from fraud. Director Wing-Heier said elders with cell phones are the most vulnerable sector of the country.

5. Discussed Other Matters

Commissioner Downing said he would like to address a few deliverables and time frames for the Liaison Committee. He said the first deliverable for consideration would be to produce a document on communication and cultural awareness with American Indian and Alaska Native communities. To gauge interest in an ad hoc group to define this tool to help bridge communications gaps between members of native communities and non-native industry and regulatory representatives, he asked members of the Liaison Committee to volunteer to be on the first ad hoc group.

Commissioner Downing said the second deliverable he would like to suggest is an ad hoc group to explore access to non-IHS health plans. He said this second ad hoc group would investigate issues with access and navigation of ACA Exchange Programs for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Finally, Commissioner Downing said he would like to suggest an ad hoc group to explore deficits in access to coverage and put together suggestions for closing any market gaps. He said he would like any member of the Liaison Committee who is interested in being on one of the three ad hoc groups just noted to contact Lois E. Alexander (NAIC) and him so ad hoc group meetings can be scheduled. He said each group will have two to three members and will meet for a limited time to produce a specific product or deliverable.

Commissioner Downing said he would like to note that the Liaison Committee has two presenters from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico lined up for an interim meeting that will be scheduled sometime before the Summer National Meeting at a date and time yet to be determined.

Commissioner Downing said he would like to use the rest of the meeting time to recommend that Liaison Committee members review the results of the two surveys—i.e., one for state insurance regulators and one for NAIC consumer representatives—about the goals of the Liaison Committee for 2022 in their head table member packets.

Having no further business, the NAIC/American Indian and Alaska Native Liaison Committee adjourned.

SharePoint/NAIC Support Staff Hub/Member Meetings/2022 Spring National Meeting/AIAN_04min