


# CALIFORNIA TRUTH & HEALING COUNCIL

## SUBCOMMITTEE PLANNING SESSION





In joining today's convening, you agree to adhere to the following principles for respectful engagement. A copy of the principles is available for your use and review at [tribalaffairs.ca.gov/cthc](https://tribalaffairs.ca.gov/cthc).

Refusal to adhere to these principles, which apply to all participants including Governing Council Members, staff, and community members, whether present or not, may result in your removal from today's meeting.



# COUNCIL MEETING PRINCIPLES

In order to create a space where participants feel welcomed, respected and able to speak comfortably, we will uphold the following principles in all convenings of the Council; we ask that all participants (Council Members, Authorized Representatives, Staff, moderators and the public) work towards sharing in their stewardship.

If you are a participant in a convening with the Council, we ask that you:

- Engage in the work of the Council and with others in an open and respectful way.
- Engage in behaviors that will make others feel welcome.
- Take care of your emotional, mental, spiritual and physical well-being.
- Seek support as you need it.



# RESPECTFUL ENGAGEMENT

- Affirm the person, critique the ideas. Provide feedback constructively and with the intent for mutual growth and healing; welcome feedback and challenges to your opinions.
- Avoid contributing to assumptions or generalizations about tribes, tribal communities or other groups. Do not ask individuals to speak for their (perceived) group; speak only for yourself.
- Offer participants the benefit of the doubt. Spirited discussions are expected on these topics; see this as a sign that folks are engaged and care, and remember to be respectful as you speak, read, and listen.



# RESPECTFUL ENGAGEMENT

- Honor confidentiality; do not share others' experiences or information without permission.
- Assume that you have relative privileges and both explicit and implicit biases.
  - Know that others may or may not have had similar opportunities, experiences, and background as you. Recognize that their contributions are equally valuable.
  - For those from dominant identity groups, refrain from contributions that prioritize dominant experiences over those who have been marginalized.



# WELCOMING BEHAVIOR

- Make behavioral adjustments for virtual communication:
  - If you wouldn't say something to someone's face, refrain from saying it virtually (by voice or text).
- Know that use of strong language, capital letters, and exclamation marks can be easily misinterpreted online as unwelcome yelling or aggressive behavior.
- Remember that tone does not carry via text: people might not realize you're joking or being sarcastic.
  - Leave space for others to engage and express comments and ideas if you have spoken recently by letting people finish their thoughts before adding new ones.





# PERSONAL WELLBEING

- Take steps to ensure your physical comfort. Some examples in virtual meetings include: shift your sitting/standing position often, take a purposeful deep breath regularly, raise your eyes to look beyond the screen and/or sit back from the computer when possible to relieve eyestrain, keep a glass of water nearby and take sips throughout sessions. Please consider physically leaving the computer during breaks.
- Participate as you are able to and adjust your presence as needed, whether that be turning off video or stepping away entirely. It is not expected that all participants will or should be present for the entirety of the Council's work. We know and support that you will take time to eat, take care of your families and pets, etc., but be aware that virtual convenings will be recorded and available to the public.



# PERSONAL WELLBEING

- Set up supportive resources such as food, water, ergonomics and privacy while offloading responsibilities (if possible) in advance of convenings. Plan for breaks and stick to them.
- Seek support from your own networks or from provided resources as needed.
- Please alert Council Staff to any concerns as soon as possible (by emailing [info@catruthandhealing.com](mailto:info@catruthandhealing.com)).





# SEEK SUPPORT

- We recognize that participants bring their entire selves and histories with them to the Council, and that topics explored during the course of this work may stimulate emotions and thoughts that would benefit from accompaniment and support. Although trauma responses can come from a variety of sources and contexts, the Council understands that those who have experienced disparate treatment due to their Native identities may specifically want to seek assistance related to historical trauma and related issues discussed with the Council.
- Council Staff will be providing supportive resources for participants to be available for the duration of the Council's work.





# PLANNING SESSION AGENDA

## – APRIL 2023 –

- I. Overview of the Subcommittees
- II. Expectations for Subcommittee Member Participation
- III. Process for Joining Subcommittees
- IV. Listening & Discussion



# COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES

- Elders
- Youth Council
- Education
- People with Disabilities
- Status and Identity
- Urban Communities
- Funding Partnerships (closed)
- Academic Partnerships (closed)
- Deliverables (closed)



# COUNCIL ISSUE AREAS

- Culture
- Education
- Financial Survivance
- Safeguarding Knowledges
- Land and Lifeways
- Public Safety
- Wellness



# SUBCOMMITTEE OVERVIEW

- The Council has formed each Subcommittee to apply a specific focus or lens to each issue area under examination of the Council.
- While all Native peoples and allies are welcome to join Subcommittees, California Native voices and participation will be prioritized.



# SUBCOMMITTEE OVERVIEW

Specifically, each Subcommittee will be tasked with:

- Defining their community or issue and why it is important that there be special consideration of the community or issue,
- Describing the history of the issue as related to the historical actions of the State of California and
- Reviewing and applying this lens to the discrete issue areas under Council review.



# SUBCOMMITTEE OVERVIEW

- For example, the Elders Subcommittee will consider and review the history, status and recommendations related to culture using a focus on elders and their specific needs, considerations and opportunities.
- Proposed language and recommendations will go through the Deliverables Subcommittee for review and approval for inclusion in the draft report.





# ELDERS

Council Leads: Council Members Harper and Lucas

- Open to ages 55+
- Advises the Council on historical efforts by California Native peoples to inform the work of the Council
- Leads the oral histories initiative





# YOUTH COUNCIL

Council Leads: Council Members Bojorquez, Elliot-Santos and Manzano (pending Council confirmation)

- Youth counterpart to the Council
- Open to ages 12-24
- Interested youth will organize their own structure with Staff support



# EDUCATION

Council Leads: Council Members Giovannetti, Turner and Manzano

Current Members: Robert Levi

- Examines issues of (1) the status of education in California Indian Country and (2) changes needed to dominant education systems and curricula to better serve Native peoples





# PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Council Leads: None at this time.

- The People with Disabilities Subcommittee will examine unique needs, history and barriers for Native people with disabilities
- This Subcommittee also advises the Council in how to adjust processes to provide greater accessibility





# STATUS AND IDENTITY

Council Leads: Council Members Turner and Elliott-Santos (pending Council confirmation)

- The Status & Identity Subcommittee will be facilitated by a moderator to ensure that recommendations and proposed outcomes feel fair and objective
- This Subcommittee will discuss the additional stressors, needs and challenges of California Native peoples who lack federally recognized status or struggle with California Native identity



# URBAN COMMUNITIES

Council Leads: None at this time.

- The Urban Communities Subcommittee will examine the work of the Council through the lens of urban relocation, urban resources and California Native expression in urban areas
- The Urban Communities Subcommittee may also assist the Council with planning listening sessions and meetings in urban locations



# SUBCOMMITTEE EXPECTATIONS

- Subcommittees will meet a minimum of four (4) times a year, with an expectation of preparation and meaningful input in the interim between meetings. Reasonable accommodations for participation may be available upon request.
- All Subcommittee participants shall adhere to the Council's Principles for Respectful Meetings.
- Meetings will take place virtually as well as in person aligned with Council Quarterly Meetings.



# SUBCOMMITTEE EXPECTATIONS

Subcommittee members will be tasked with the following assignments:

- Define your Subcommittee's issue or community.
- Provide the historical background of your Subcommittee's issue or community as related to the State's historical treatment of California Native people (Staff will assist with materials as needed).
- Review work of the task forces related to discrete issue areas and apply the lens of your Subcommittee to those chapters.



# NEXT STEPS

- Anyone interested in serving on a Subcommittee should sign up by June 1, considering your unique contributions to the Council's work.
- You may join more than one Subcommittee.
- Subcommittees will meet in person during the July Quarterly Council Meeting, but will convene on a staggered basis virtually after that time.





# SIGN UP TODAY!

- Sign up for your preferred subcommittee(s) using the google form by June 1 at <https://forms.gle/JM9CgmLnJqdVgwpA6>
- Subcommittee participation will be considered on a rolling basis after June 1.





# - LISTENING & DISCUSSION -



# THANK YOU

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More information on the Council, including materials and tentative meeting dates, is available at [tribalaffairs.ca.gov/cthc](http://tribalaffairs.ca.gov/cthc). Follow the Council at [cthcupdate.wordpress.com](http://cthcupdate.wordpress.com).

To contact the Council with any follow up comments, questions or concerns, please email [info@catruthandhealing.com](mailto:info@catruthandhealing.com).

