



the National Center

for American Indian Enterprise Development

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MEDIA RELEASE

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR AMERICAN INDIAN ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT RECOGNIZES INDIAN BUSINESS LEADERS AT NATIVE AMERICAN PROCUREMENT CONFERENCE 2010

CHANDLER, AZ. – AUGUST 05, 2010 – The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) honored several individuals and entities that have demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication in Indian business and economic development during the sold-out Native American Procurement Conference 2010 (NAPC) held at the Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino in Chandler, Arizona.

Eric S. Trevan, NCAIED President/CEO told the crowd, “Can you feel the energy? Now is the time to focus on business, commerce and economic development all throughout Indian country. Through events such as the NAPC, the National Center provides an avenue to help do just that.”

Arizona Congressman Harry Mitchell served as the guest speaker for a luncheon honoring this year's award recipients. Congressman Mitchell issued praise to the award recipients and the NCAIED for their role in aiding business development in Indian Country.

"Despite tremendous signs of progress, there is still a long way to go. The social economic conditions for our Arizona tribes and the four and a half million tribal members throughout Indian Country are the worst of any population group in the United States. This is not acceptable and that is why the National Center is so vital and important," said Congressman Mitchell.

The Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development (DED) received the Tribal Advocate of the Year Award. Under the guidance of Director Allen S. Begay, the DED helps build successful businesses on the Navajo Nation and works hand-in-hand with clients to assist them in the application process, review, and approvals.

Rosemary Middleton of the Hensel Phelps Construction Company received the Minority Business Advocate of the Year Award. Middleton, as the Western District Minority Women Owned and Small Business Outreach Coordinator, identifies native-owned subcontracting firms to include in the subcontracting process and helps to educate and integrate them into the construction community and advocates for all native-owned businesses.

"It is an honor to receive such an award for doing something that I love to do so much," said Middleton. "It is my pleasure to do the work that I do for Hensel Phelps Construction Company in reaching out to the Native American community."

The Raytheon Company received the Corporate Advocate of the Year Award. In 2009 alone, Raytheon procured over \$222 million dollars of goods and services from Native American and tribally owned businesses. Raytheon Vice President John Harris accepted the award on behalf of Raytheon.

"The advocacy that we do is not for recognition, but simply to make a difference. We need to get to a point in our lifetime where successful business in Indian Country is the norm, not the exception," said Harris.

David Montiel and Zoar Fulwilder of Mavid Construction Services, L.L.C., were the recipients of the Indian Business of the Year Award. Montiel and Fulwilder, both members of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa, established their business in 2008 and have watched their business flourish at a steady pace. Employing approximately 60 employees, Mavid Construction Services is currently working on projects such as the Menominee Transportation Center, UW LaCrosse, UW Stevens Point, and UW Madison School of Human Ecology.

Sponsored by the Raytheon Company and co-presented by the Native American Business Enterprise Center (NABEC) and UIDA Business Services, the NAPC provides small business suppliers the opportunity to meet one-on-one with government agencies and prime contractors and brings small business communities together to encourage partnership/teaming relationships and increase competitiveness and opportunities in contracting.

For more information, please visit: www.ncaied.org.

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