**What is Happening with ITA! By: Mary Beth Frank Clark, ITA President**

I hope this finds all of you healthy and safe. ITA has held various conference calls since the annual meeting last December 2019. ITA executive team and membership have been working hard toward transparency, accountability and restoring the integrity of ITA. ITA has not been the exception to the drawbacks of the pandemic; this has presented ITA an enormous challenge to grasp Tribal interest back with Intertribal Transportation Association. However, ITA will continue to move forward and looks forward to welcoming tribes back to ITA.

Minutes/Records: Mr. Jonah Begay, Secretary, has been keeping records of the meetings, correspondence and resolutions of ITA business. Having these records provides ITA’s history and movement forward.

ITA Financials: The Treasure, Sara Yockey, has been working diligently on moving the financials to a “quick book” application. ITA continues to utilize Wells Fargo for banking needs; all passwords and records have been updated so ITA can continue fiscal accountability.

Working Committees: Two committees have been established earlier this year: 1) Governance Committee-Gerry Hope Chair; and 2) Operations Committee-Kim Stube Chair. ***Governance Committee*** has been watching the movement of draft “transportation bills” that Congress had drafted. Investing in America Act and Moving America Act came out earlier this year but now is on hold with the senate side. Mr. Hope is planning a conference call for the Governance Committee in approximately 3 weeks. If you would like to be included in the call, please email Gerry Hope at gerry.hope@sitkatribe-nsn.gov ***Operations Committee*** plans to hold a meeting when agenda items arise. If you have any discussion items, please email Kim Stube at kstube@cowlitz.org

Annual Meeting: ITA had planned to have an Annual Meeting for the week of October 12, 2020 that was to be held at the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) in D.C. However, due to the pandemic and unknown travel protocols for Tribes and federal partners, this physical meeting has been postponed. During the conference call on August 13, 2020, it was discussed to plan a virtual annual meeting for some time in December 2020. ITA plans to announce the virtual platform and date of the meeting by the end of September 2020. If you have any suggestions or would like to help the planning efforts, please email Mary Beth Clark at marybethf@nezperce.org

ITA ‘draft’ Strategic Plan: Barak Meyers has completed a questionnaire that he will utilize in drafting of the ITA Strategic Plan. Mr. Meyers plans to email this out by Monday, August 17th and will request a quick turn-around with a deadline of August 28th. ITA plans to have a rough draft completed so tribes are able to review before and discuss during the virtual annual meeting. ITA will try to place on the website <http://www.tribaltransportation.org/>

Membership: During the annual meeting last December 2019, priorities of ITA for the upcoming year was discussed in length. The main topics were: transparency, accountability, integrity of ITA business and increasing membership. This year has been challenging to visit Indian country to gain tribal nations interested plus provide the value of ITA to tribes. Before the cease of travel happened, ITA was to make presentations in various regional conferences. As President of ITA, I can honestly share that movement toward a positive direction is happening (a little slower than I would have liked, but we all need to be safe and healthy during this time). Please consider submitting your membership to ITA; November is the call for membership applications for 2021.