Greetings

I hope these few lines find you, your family and your community in the best of health and happiness.

I’m writing you on behalf of the Native American and Pacific Islander Club of Sierra College to let you know about a few important changes to our Indigenous Peoples Days and Big Time programs.

To begin with, we changed the format of our Indigenous Peoples Days program. Rather than having events in just one week of the year, we will now be hosting at least one event per month throughout the academic year. We thought it wise to spread our efforts throughout the year so that we can continually remind our community about the importance of indigenous issues. We also do not want just one week to be considered indigenous peoples days, because, after all, all days are indigenous peoples’ days.

Our first event in the new monthly format is a collaboration with the Maidu Museum on March 17th. The Club is hosting the “Night Out at the Museum” presentation by Dr. Melissa Leal entitled “Alter-NATIVE – The Evolution of Bethany Yellowtail – Indigenous women in fashion activism”. We’re excited about the event and very much hope you can make it. We are also in the process of planning a workshop in April, travel to the NAISA conference in Los Angeles this May and a Hand Game tournament on the Rocklin campus in October. We’ll post updated information as soon as we can.

We would also like to inform you that the annual Big Time event at Sierra College is postponed. The Club has been in a process of revitalization, you might say, with an almost entirely new membership as of Spring 18. We’re just getting our legs under us now, with an amazing group of mostly Native students who are eager to make a positive impact on our campus and community. We know that a Big Time is an important celebration which we really want to do well in order to honor the tradition and the people. So, we decided to postpone the event until late April or possibly next Spring. That will allow us to consult with experts and develop a more timely and effective process.

Thank you in advance for your understanding. We hope that you like these changes, that nobody is inconvenienced by them and that you’re still looking forward to our programs and events. If you have any questions or concerns, please just let us know.

In community,

Michelle Higginbotham
Chairperson of the Native American and Pacific Islander Club of Sierra College