

North Segment News

December 4, 2012

Vol. 01 No. 01

Accountability



Transparency



Responsibility



Vision

Tribal Councilman Lewis Kenneth Hall Takes Office



L. Kenneth Hall is sworn in by his cousin Kenny Dragswolf

Photo by Mike Stevens



Photo by Maryilyn Youngbird

Greetings from the Council Representative

This is the first issue of our newsletter that we promised to you to ensure we are Transparent, Accountable, Responsible, and, are Governing, with a Vision for our People.

Our first month in office has been a busy and productive time.

First, thank you for trusting me with your vote to be your Tribal Council Representative; I undertake this job very seriously and will be diligent to ensure that your voice is heard in our government. Together we can now Change The Way We Do Business for the Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation.

Tuesday November 6, 2012 was a historic and memorable day for our Segment, our Tribe, our State and our Nation. Thank you for placing your trust in me with your vote and electing me to the Office of Tribal Business Council. Together we all elected North Dakota's first Woman Senator and our "Indian

Vote" and won Heidi Hietkamp a seat in the United States Senate. Furthermore, we re-elected President Obama who has shown his commitment to working with Indian Country and righting the wrongs.

On November 7th, 2012 the TAT Election Board Certified the Election Results and immediately following was an Official Swearing in Ceremony in the Tribal Chambers. The Ceremony held at the Tribal Headquarters was led by the Veterans of the 9061 and 271 posts. The Youngbear drum greeted the three 2012 Newly Elected Tribal Council Representatives who were all wearing War Bonnets, draped in pendletons, and had a full gallery observing the event. The Ceremony requires a public swearing in by Oath and is witnessed by the public.

I was accompanied by Mr. Kenny Dragswolf, my close relative, a cousin, and he held the honor of officially swearing me into office as the North Segment/Shell

Creek Tribal Council Representative. My wife, Cara and our daughter Faith, and other family members were at my side as well. It's very humbling to know that I am the first member of our family on my mother's side [Allison Dragswolf Hall], to hold a Tribal Leadership position since my great grandfather, Chief Dragswolf. Who was the last Chief of the Hidatsa Peoples.

This is an honor for me and I am committed to serving our people. May God bless you all.

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The following is a series of issues that have been addressed since I took office.

TRIBAL BUSINESS COUNCIL:

On **November 8, 2012** – Our first Tribal Business Council meeting was held with the newly elected members and we began taking action on pressing issues. Fellow members remarked that it felt as though the Council was united and working together. Our Agenda was full and we were able to address each item in a methodical and timely manner, able to complete the meeting within the business day – beginning at 10:15 am and adjourning at 3:00 pm. Our Tribal CFO, Whitney Bell, announced that there would be a Tribal Council Budget Retreat the week following and I held to my promise to you; I put into the record, my request, asking for a funding increase for the North Segment. With all of the services that are located in our Segment and the numbers of people living and moving here steadily increasing, we need more funding to serve all of the people. I later held a budget meeting with my staff reviewing and projecting the segment needs and we were able to get a small increase in our annual budget.

Chairman Hall & the Tribal Business Council approved a Budget that will have the Tribe debt free by 2014. We have approved to increase the amount of The Peoples Fund to \$100 Million Dollars and we will pay the first dividend at the end of 2013.

TRANSITION:

I've assembled a group of professionals who will assist me in taking office and they all bring a high level of expertise and experience with them. On November 7th, my Transition Team went into Action to take Office and begin Governing immediately. All of the staff that served in the previous administration were contacted and given an option to remain with my Administration; those who declined, those positions were quickly filled.

We've gathered critical information from the Chief Financial Officer on budgets; from Human Resources on Personnel

& Procedures, and the Chief Executive Officer on North Segment Accounts. We contacted all of the vendors that our Segment utilized and all accounts were frozen until newly authorized personnel were identified. All of this is a necessary process of transitioning into office and enables us to determine what our financial status is and where we need to go.

I have staff working at the Tribal Headquarters & Northern Lights.

Marle Baker will serve as my Chief of Staff and is the most Senior employee. He oversaw an organizational meeting with staff to coordinate clear lines of authority, communication, and to establish a standard of operating that would support a smooth transition into office. Job descriptions are being created that outline specific job responsibilities. The team will serve anywhere from 30 to 90 days as a Transition Team, when evaluations will be done. We will hire people based on the budget.

The North Segment Community Building is being assessed and an inventory has been conducted. There are many factors to operating the building and all of it is under review. In addition to the building operation, we are reviewing the expenses of operating it, which are currently over \$167,000.00 annually. We will be meeting with all of the entities utilizing offices and will be entering into rental agreements by lease contract.

November 10, 2012 – The first blizzard of the season arrived and we were under a blanket of snow when we awoke, but Marle, Scott and the Northern Lights Staff were on top of the issue recovering Segment Owned Snow Removal Equipment - a very well-coordinated effort to keep roadways and passageways clear took place. Partnerships are necessary when these kinds of things occur: we recruited the help of a local owned trucking company, Beaver Creek, to clear roads in the Sanish area and an MOU was issued to the Tribal Roads Department to provide snow removal on 7th, 8th, and 9th streets North in New Town.

HOUSING:

We received many calls from the residents of the Riverview Mobile Home Park, that they did not have water for extended periods of time. The Mobile Park is a Tribal Project which is overseen by Toni Starr but the location of Riverview is within North Segment. I have appointed Arne Sorenson as a Special Project Director and he is working closely with Toni Starr to address the resident's needs, find solutions, and to move this forward to completion..

Recognizing the Housing needs; we are collecting all legal documentation on all of the properties that the North Segments Owns and is responsible for.



VETERANS:

I attended a number of functions over the Memorial Day weekend to honor our Veterans. It's an honor to share a meal with the men and women who served and to hear them tell their stories when they served, and, of how they're still committed to serving today. We will continue to work toward creating a Veterans Museum for our Warriors and next year in 2013, our Segment, along with the West Segment and Councilman Phelan, have announced that we will commit to hosting a Veterans Powwow Celebration for all of the Veterans of Fort Berthold next year on Veteran's Day. We will invite our fellow Council Representatives to join with us.

PEOPLES CELEBRATION AND THANK YOU DINNER AT NORTHERN LIGHTS.

I committed to working closely with the Segment Board to build and strengthen

our community so we hosted a Celebration and thank you dinner in conjunction with the Community Board Monthly meeting. This cooperation and partnership will continue during my administration.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE:

November 19, 2012 – My Administration formed an Emergency Response Team to respond to the crises our community was facing.

The Tribal Council met with Chairman Hall and the Chief of Police. “Our prayers and sincere sympathies go out to the families of the victims in yesterday’s tragedies. The incident is still under investigation. As soon as the investigation is completed, we will have a full statement for the media and the people on our homelands and surrounding communities. The police have suspects in custody. I ask the people here to remain calm; we will have more information throughout the day.” A “Call to Action & Prayer Service” for the victims and families of all those involved was held on November 19, 2012 at 6pm at the Northern Lights Community Building in New Town. Local Law enforcement and Federal authorities utilized all their resources to respond to the incident.

We made a decision not to cancel the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner, but instead, to have A Call to Action & Prayer Vigil. Dr. Bob Edwards of the N.D. Department of Emergency Services facilitated a meeting of 45 specialists from Government, Law Enforcement, Counselors, Clergy and Community. He then facilitated the Call to Action & Prayer Vigil of 250 Community Members.

Councilman Hall & Chairman Hall both addressed the people. Chairman Hall announced that a Drug Task Force will be formed, Training and Recruiting of Law Enforcement Officers will be increased, and, there will be an Increase in local Security.

Dr. Twyla Baker Demaray with her colleague, Dr. Jacqueline Gray came from UND and continued with many other agencies, to serve our community with counseling services following the tragedy’s. They were able to counsel EMT’s, citizen’s and the Edwin Loe Elementary students.

TRIBAL & SEGMENT BUDGET:

The Budget and Finances are the most important component of our Segment and how we are able to function. My staff continued reviewing budgets, program and facility needs, and preparing recommendations.

The Tribal Business held the Budget Retreat in Bismarck and a thorough review of the proposed/approved budget was conducted. The North Segment requested for and did receive an increase in funding.

SENATOR HEITKAMP:

Senator Elect, Heidi Heitkamp returned to say, “Thank You” for supporting her in her victory. She promised to be an ally and will never forget. Together with Chairman Hall and fellow Tribal Council Representative, Randy Phelan, and with Tribal Elder Tony Mandan leading the ceremony, we adopted and named Mia e du gash-Lead Woman. Senator Heitkamp was moved by the prayers that were rendered over her in the four directions for protection & wisdom. She stayed to visit the people and took many photographs and signed autographs for everyone. She is now of our people and we are proud to have her as a key member of our Congressional Delegation.

ENERGY:

As Chairman of the Board of the Tribal Owned Oil Company, Missouri River Resources, I travelled with Scott Baker to Denver for a Board Director Meeting. We were given a presentation on Water Recycling Technologies that we are very interested in bringing to our Tribe as a

viable Business Opportunity. We are very excited about this technology opportunity for our people & tribe.

LAW ENFORCEMENT:

The National Criminal Justice Association, National Congress of American Indians, and USDOJ, held a roundtable session in Bismarck to identify a list of challenges or issues in public safety & criminal justice. Sessions like this enable us to look at partners and joint efforts to address on our Reservation.

◆ **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Attention North Segment Community Members:

Until the North Segment budget is developed and finalized, all requests for assistance should be routed to these programs for review. In this order:

- Fuel Assistance (Utilities)
- (Social Services): 701.627.8159
- Small Loans Program (Tribal Bldg.): 701.627.8296
- Elder’s Program (Northern Lights Building): 701.627.3506
- North Segment Comm. Board (Northern Lights Bldg): 701.627.3456

This is for the purpose of providing fair and equitable services to all North Segment Community members. Your Cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

◆ **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Dec 08** | Elders Story Telling
12pm-3pm
Earth Lodge Village

- Dec 13** | Tribal Business Council Meeting
Tribal Chambers

- Dec 19** | Elders Christmas Bonus Distribution & Dinner 11pm
Four Bears Event Center

- Dec 21** | Tribal Employee Christmas Dinner 6:00pm
Four Bears Event Center



North Segment Administration

North Segment Office
Northern Lights Community Building
710 9th Ave. N.
New Town, ND 58763
Phone: 701.627.3456
Fax: 701.627.3220

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T.A.T. Tribal Administration Building
404 Frontage Road
New Town, ND 58763
Phone: 701.627.4781

◆ **TRIBAL HEADQUARTERS**

L. Kenneth Hall, Tribal Councilman
Marle Baker, Chief of Staff
N. Scott Baker, Deputy Chief of Staff
Kelly McGrady, Office Manager
Janice Smith, Administrative Staff

◆ **ADVISORS**

Arne Sorenson, Special Projects
Mary Fredericks
Bernadine Young Bird
Cara Currie Hall

◆ **NORTH SEGMENT/NORTHERN LIGHTS STAFF**

Arthur T. Mandan, Tribal Liaison
Doris Fox, Administrative Assistant
Nicole Young Bird, Administrative Assistant
Dennis Nash, Security Officer
John Bruce, Security
Tom Nash, Security/EMT

Enos Baker, Northern Lights Facilities Mgr
Dana M. Chase, Maintenance Technician
Justin Grinnell, Maintenance Technician
Dallas McGrady, Maintenance Technician
Melvin Heavy Gun, Water Hauler

◆ **NORTH SEGMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROCESS**

Family First	
Social Services	701.627.4781
Mountrail County Assistance	
Domestic Violence	701.627.4171
4 Bears Food Pantry	
General Assistance	
Child Program	701.627.2458
Fuel Assistance	701.627.8160
Bethel Lutheran Church	701.627.4434
MHA Elders	701.627.3506
477 Program	701.627.4752
North Segment Community Board	701.627.3456
North Segment Office	

This edition of North Segment News is Sponsored by:



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◆ **STAFF SPOTLIGHT**

Noel Scott Baker



Deputy Chief of Staff
Noel Scott Baker – came on board as my Deputy Chief

of Staff and each day demonstrates his integrity and commitment to our people. He is a diligent worker and has been leading the assessment of the Northern Lights Community Building Operations. We call him our in-house Scientist. I don't know how many others can say that, but I can – I have a scientist on my staff. His expertise in Environmental Science is a crucial element to our team and to our Tribe. As a Tribe that is producing our Mineral Resources in Oil & Gas, we must draw upon the expertise of professionals like him; especially if they're our tribally enrolled members.

He is applying his education/credentials in a way that helps us safeguard our resources and create a strategic plan for continued development in a responsible manner. Recently, he was selected nationwide with 3 other scientists from Texas A & M, Humboldt University, and Colorado State University, to participate with the Irelle Institute of Lawrence, Kansas to study "Niche interaction between gecko's" in the country of Namibia, which is in the southern hemisphere on the most southern tip of the African continent.

Scott and his family to live and work in our community and are recognized leaders. He is a member of the North Segment Community Board, President of the Student Senate at the Fort Berthold Community College and a Nationally Awarded Scientist through the American Indian Science and Education Society.

He was featured in the recent publication of the MHA Times News Paper and we proudly share in recognizing and celebrating his success.