

State Tribal Economic Development Commission

9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Friday, May 1, 2026

Little Shell Tribe Ceremonial Center

1315 Stuckey Road

Great Falls, MT

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Agenda

Updated April 22, 2026

- 9 a.m. Call to order: Chairman Gerald Gray
- Roll call: Marilyn Willson
- Opening prayer: TBA
- Welcome: Chairman Gerald Gray
- 9:10 a.m. Public comment on non-agenda items
- 9:15 a.m. Approval of Feb. 6, 2026 written minutes

 **COMMERCE**

- 9:25 a.m. Commissioners round robin discussion
- 9:40 a.m. Possible date and/or location change to Nov. 13, 2026, STED Commission meeting
- 9:45 a.m. Letter of support policy: Marilyn Willson
- 9:50 a.m. Request for letter of support regarding survey of native nations: Heather Sobrepena, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
- 10 a.m. Misko Rock: Jim Row and Brian Adkins
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. Mountain Plains Native CDFI Coalition and update on Indigenous People's Day: Jael Kampfe and Kayla Gray
- 11:30 a.m. Montana Department of Commerce's division updates: Mackenzie Espeland
- 11:45 a.m. Honoring Richard Sangrey's retirement from STEDC
- Noon Lunch
- 1 p.m. FY 2022 Indian Equity Fund recipient: Carrie McCleary, Plains Soul
- 1:30 p.m. FY 2021 Indian Equity Fund recipient: Clayton KillEagle, KillEagle Construction
- 2 p.m. Reports
- Office of Indian Country Economic Development Program update and 90-1-105, MCA, update: TJ Altekruise
 - Tribal Tourism: Rachelle Brown
 - Tribal Tourism Program proposed activities for FY2027 requiring executive action (vote):
 - Continuation of event sponsorship agreements offered to eight tribal nations for summer 2027: vote
 - Tribal Tourism Grant: Vote on changes to guidelines; increase in maximum award amount and match requirement adjustment from 50% to 20%.
 - Tribal Tourism Small Business Grant: Vote on changes to guidelines; raise maximum award amount back-to-back awards, applicability of matching funds, should eligibility be expanded to

 **COMMERCE**

descendancy and what is considered eligible official tribal enrollment or descendancy documentation.

- Conference sponsorships: Vote on sponsored attendance and who qualifies, how they are selected and what should be covered with the use of Tribal Tourism Program funds (when funding is available and approved by Commerce).
 1. Preconference Summit and Governor's Conference on Tourism, Sept. 15-18, 2026, in Great Falls
 2. American Indigenous Tourism Association in Tulalip, Washington, October 2026
 3. Montana Agritourism Conference, November 2026
 4. International Indigenous Tourism Conference in Canada, February 2027
 5. Made in Montana Trade Show: Native American Made in Montana pavilion, March 2027
- Indian Equity Fund and Native American Business Advisor programs:
Bryan Singer

2:55 p.m. Other business

Next meeting: Aug. 7, 2026 in Polson, MT

3 p.m. Adjourn