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INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL

*"Working for the Rights and Recognition of
Indigenous Peoples Internationally"*

ANNUAL REPORT

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A. INTRODUCTION

In 2002, Indigenous Peoples around the world continued to suffer flagrant human rights violations and threats to their lands, cultures, way of life and survival. For more than 29 years, the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC) has been an effective international voice by and for grass roots Peoples and communities, who are most often voiceless and disenfranchised in policy debates at the national levels. In 2002, the IITC worked in close coordination with Indigenous communities, tribes, networks and organizations, strengthening their capacity to assert their rights, present critical concerns, address violations and participate in the development of policies which take their perspectives and struggles into consideration.

IITC's program work in 2002 focused on key issues impacting Indigenous Peoples including: Treaties and Land Rights; Environmental Justice, Biological Diversity and Sustainable Development; Right to Food and Food Security; Youth and Children's Rights; Cultural rights and Freedom of Religion; Prisoners' rights; Health of Indigenous Peoples and Racial Discrimination.

IITC's work on these issues continued to be based upon the recognition of the indivisible relationship between human rights and the protection of the Natural World. IITC worked for full recognition by states and international bodies of the need to protect lands, waters, habitats and sacred sites and to insure the safeguarding of Indigenous Peoples' cultures, health, traditional subsistence practices and self-determination.

B. PROGRAMMATIC OBJECTIVES AND KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1) Defending Human Rights

IITC continued to actively redress human rights violations on behalf of and upon request by Indigenous communities facing critical threats, utilizing UN complaint procedures and other international mechanisms and fora. IITC also provided consultation, legal and technical assistance, and mentoring upon request to impacted Indigenous Peoples and organizations.

- IITC submitted interventions, updates and formal complaints, and monitor current pending cases, in order to bring to light, call world attention and build international pressure on states and increase support in response to critical environmental justice

concerns and crisis situations. Key international bodies and mechanisms included: the UN Commission on Human Rights, Special Rapporteurs (Internally Displaced Persons, Human Rights and Indigenous Issues, Extra judicial Executions, Arbitrary Detentions, and Illicit dumping of Toxics Wastes, Right to Food, etc.), Treaty Monitoring bodies such as ICCPR Human Rights Committee, the Organization of American States Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the ILO, UN High Commissioner on Human Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and the new UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

- Specific serious human rights violations which IITC actively addressed at UN bodies and fora in 2002 included: imminent destruction of sacred sites by proposed development projects threatening Medicine Lake California, Bear Butte, South Dakota, Petroglyphs National Monument in New Mexico, Cave Rock at Lake Tahoe (California/Nevada), Yucca Mountain in Nevada, Black Mesa and Mt. Graham Arizona and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska; timber clear cutting impacting Dine and Cree communities in Canada; denial of water rights and subsistence farming for Yaqui Indian communities in Sonora Mexico as a result of damming, government policies, and high-pesticide agribusiness development in, including cross border exports of banned pesticides from the US; impacts on the health of subsistence fishing, hunting and farming communities, especially women and children and the unborn, caused by contaminants and industrial emissions (i.e. pesticides, POPs, mercury), in particular on fishing communities in many areas; denial of right to traditional foods and subsistence rights for communities in Guatemala, Mexico, U.S. and many other countries; cultural and food security threats from proliferation of GMO's; political prisoners in the US and Mexico; imminent cultural and environmental destruction, including forced relocations, by mining and petroleum companies impacting Indian communities in the U.S., Ecuador, Mexico, Brazil, Canada, and Alaska; and increasing military and paramilitary repression, including death threats, intimidations, incarceration and assassinations of human rights defenders in Mexico, Columbia, Guatemala and Panama.
- 25 Indigenous communities and organizations had direct input into IITC's 14 oral and written interventions to the 2001 United Nations Commission on Human Rights and the written interventions (submitted in December 2001) for the 2002 session, which will meeting in March and April of 2002. Eight Indigenous representatives from five countries were credentialed by IITC to attend the session and present their concerns directly during the session pertaining to right to development, racial discrimination, self determination, health impacts of toxic contamination, rights of women and children, and cultural rights.
- Meetings and briefings were held by IITC representatives during the Commission on Human Rights (March – April 2002) with Rapporteurs and UN experts to alert them to critical concerns affecting Indigenous Peoples and to gain a better understanding of how to effectively utilize their processes and priorities. These included meetings with: a) the UN Expert on the Right to Development Mr. Arjun Sengupta, Mr. Mohamed Salah Dembri, Chair of the Working Group of the Right to Development and Alfredo Sfeir Younis of the World Bank re: developing further understanding of the national and international dimensions of the right to development; b) Mme. Ouachi-Vesely, who requested IITC's help in coordinating the submission of additional substantive and concrete information, especially in cases of impunity and

exporting of forbidden pesticides as a follow up to presentations made in the session IITC coordinated in December 2001; and c) the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food Mr. Jean Ziegler to present plans for the Global Indigenous Peoples Consultation on the Right to Food and Food Security in Guatemala (April 2002).

- IITC assisted Indigenous communities in Oklahoma, Guatemala, South Dakota, Sonora Mexico, Montana and Alaska to prepare and submit urgent action alerts, present critical issues and send formal communications to Special Rapporteurs on the Right to Food (Mr. Jean Ziegler), Transboundary Illicit Dumping of Toxic Wastes (Mme. Ouachi-Vesely), and Indigenous Issues (Rudolfo Stavenhagen).
- In 2002, IITC Initiated planning for 3 new programs addressing critical human rights concerns with maximum participation by impacted Indigenous communities from various countries: 1) an international network of Indigenous Peoples on Food Security and Food Sovereignty 2) an Indigenous Network Against Pesticides and 3) a program in support of the Rights of Indigenous Women and children focusing on health impacts of toxic contaminants and militarism in the Pacific rim.

2) International Policy Development and Standard Setting

In 2002, IITC continued its efforts to build the direct and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in development and implementation of international standards, policies and structures that address their concerns. In recent years concrete gains have recently been made which provide new opportunities for participation and the development of policies reflecting Indigenous Peoples' perspectives and traditional understandings.

IITC has a long history of bridging gaps and making links between inter-related areas of concern, in particular Human Rights, Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection, which are too often addressed as separate and distinct concerns in both international and domestic policy-making arenas. IITC also challenged UN Human Rights bodies to formally recognize the glaring inconsistencies in the current application of existing standards, particularly regarding the rights of Indigenous Peoples, and continued to work for the full recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Rights under international law.

- IITC continued to work for the adoption of the UN Draft Declaration for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples without amendments proposed by the US and other states to limit recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights to land and self-determination. IITC participated in the 7th and 8th Intersessional Working Groups for the Draft Declaration in Geneva (February and December 2002). IITC's delegations included Indigenous representatives from US, Mexico, Panama, Guatemala, Aotearoa and Canada, with two first time participants (including one youth from Kuna Nation, Panama). Over 150 Indigenous representatives from around the world participated in each session, successfully maintaining the current text and building increased support among states for its adoption by the UN General Assembly. IITC representatives were selected as co-president of the caucus and chair of the report committee.
- IITC continued to disseminate information to build awareness and activism among Indigenous Peoples and tribal governments as well as non Indigenous NGOs in this critical issue, and to encourage Indigenous Peoples to begin using the existing text and specific articles of the Draft Declaration to assert their rights, support their

negotiations and advance the adoption of new policies on the local and national levels.

- A historic breakthrough was achieved in non-discriminatory recognition and application of international standards through the IITC delegations' efforts, in coordination with other Indigenous delegations, in the WSSD final Declaration. The Declaration of Johannesburg adopted on September 4th in the final plenary, paragraph 22bis, reads as follows: "We reaffirm the vital role of indigenous peoples in sustainable development". This is the first time the unqualified term "Indigenous Peoples" has been used in a UN Declaration!
- IITC continued to disseminate information and providing training about the international standards insuring equal rights and condemning racial discrimination, including the Convention for the Elimination of Racism Discrimination (CERD) and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, as well as their relevancy to local racial justice organizing and issues including environmental justice, as a key component of building national and international solidarity and alliances addressing racism and its impacts.

3) Training, Networking and Capacity-Building

IITC is firmly committed to the guiding principle that "Indigenous Peoples speak for themselves before the world arena". As an integral aspect of self-determination, IITC works to build the effective participation of Indigenous Peoples, tribes, organizations and communities in addressing situations and developing policies that affect their rights and survival in the international arena. Input by IITC's affiliates and other Indigenous communities also directly impact IITC's programs and positions in the international arena.

In 2002, IITC continued its capacity building programs for Indigenous communities providing outreach, training, technical assistance and education focusing on these key objectives 1) to inform Indigenous communities about their recognized rights under international law; 2) to empower them to effectively utilize the mechanisms currently in place to defend the natural world and redress their rights; 3) to enable communities to understand the direct links between international decision-making and policies and local concerns for community health and environmental protection, and; 4) to encourage Indigenous Peoples to become informed, direct and effective participants in ongoing standard setting and policy debates at the international level, both as representatives of adversely impacted communities and as traditional experts with key contributions to offer in international discussions addressing human rights, environmental protection and global sustainability.

- In 2002 IITC conducted over 30 consultations, training workshops and presentations, at the invitation of communities, schools and universities, tribes and organizations, in San Francisco, Clear Lake, Redding Rancheria, Berkeley, Pitt River Reservation, Mt. Shasta, Oroville, Oakland, D-Q University (Davis), California (focusing of human rights and the Gold, Greed and Genocide project about the ongoing environmental and cultural impacts of the California Gold Rush); Wairoa Marae, Aotearoa (New Zealand, February, Introduction to Human training and the United Nations, including youth participation); Cork Ireland (addressing Environmental Justice and proposed toxic incinerator contamination, January); Western Shoshone Nation, Nevada (July); Mole Lake Reservation, Wisconsin (North American Indigenous Peoples' Mining Summit, June); Wairoa Marae, New Zealand

(human rights in the UN structure, February, youth and general attendance); Honolulu, Hawaii and Greenbay Wisconsin (First Nations Development Institute Conferences, May and July); Tucson, Arizona (Sustainable Communities Conference, 7th Generation Fund, workshop on the Right to Food and Food Security, February); Guatemala City, Solola, and Quetzaltenango, Guatemala (March, April and August, focusing on human rights mechanisms, the Right to Food, environmental and racial justice, and cultural rights); Baguio City, Philippines (the International Indigenous Youth Conference, April); Geneva Switzerland (3rd UN Conference on Children and Youth Rights, July); Yukon Territory, Canada (Gwich'in Gathering, presentation on Right to Food, report from the World Food Summit, August); the National Peoples of Color Environmental Leadership Summit (October, Washington D.C; IITC was also a Steering Committee member, presented on international issues and conducted a round table on globalization); Intertribal Bison Cooperative Nation Conference (Denver, November); and the First Nations Development Institute Native Food Summit (Albuquerque, November).

- Over 300 Indigenous organizers and leaders in Guatemala from over 50 organizations and communities attended 3 technical assistance consultations/training workshops conducted by IITC (including one session on cultural rights for 30 Mayan spiritual leaders) in August 2002. During these “hands on” working sessions, IITC assisted participants in preparing formal complaints to UN Special Rapporteurs on Indigenous Human Rights and Elimination of Discrimination based on Religion or Belief. As a result, IITC presented an invitation to Rudolfo Stavenhagen, the UN Rapporteur on Indigenous Human Rights to visit Guatemala, which he did on September 5th.
- IITC facilitated the participation of over Indigenous 50 delegates to attend 10 different UN, international and UN-related sessions addressing implementation of current rights and creation of new standards, to present issues of concern to their communities; these delegates including 14 Indigenous youth, and 20 community-based delegates (youth, adults and elders). IITC provided training and mentorship at these sessions for new and continuing community-based delegates.
- IITC's Bay Area "Native Youth For Human Rights" Mentorship Program, implemented in 1997, had provided youth leadership development, activism and advocacy training, and community-based organizing opportunities to over 50 high school and college-age Indian youth in the Bay Area and Northern California, including 8 in 2002. Training and organizing for youth program mentees in 2002 focused on completion of the “**Gold, Greed and Genocide**” video and curriculum project addressing impacts of the California Gold Rush on California's environment and Native Peoples and calling for an end to racial bias in the teaching of California's history in public schools. This project also began to focus attention on ongoing mercury contamination from abandoned gold mines.
- Youth mentees and the Youth Program Coordinator made regular presentations to students, organizations, tribes, events and agencies including Teachers for Social Justice, the California Indian Education Association, and the Bay Area Indian Agency Representatives. In addition to impacts of the California Gold Rush and truth in education, youth mentees were directly involved in key local organizing efforts including High School Indian mascot issues, protection of local shell mounds (cultural sites) and organizing to stop industrial emissions in poor urban communities.

- IITC continued to build and facilitate the effective participation of new, community-based representatives at a wide variety of international fora and conferences, working side by side with highly experienced IITC Indigenous "mentors". In 2002 a special emphasis was made to credential youth as new mentees in UN fora and to provide them with "on the job" training and orientation. A total of 15 Indigenous youth from the US, Guatemala, Canada, Panama, Alaska and New Zealand attended their first UN sessions as mentees/ youth trainees with IITC's delegations to: the Intersessional Working Group on the Draft Declaration for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Geneva, January – February 2002); The World Food Summit + 5 Rome (June); preparatory conferences for the WSSD (January, February and June 2002, New York and Bali) and the WSSD (South Africa, August – September); and the new UN Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues (May 2002, New York).
- IITC continued to build and participate in strategic alliances with Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations, networks, tribal governments and coalitions to build support, share information, advance dialogue, strategize and organize to address key issues. Examples include: Eyak Preservation Council, Rethinking Tourism Project; Rainforest Action Network, Sinkyone Wilderness Council, Military Toxics Network, Alaska Community Action on Toxics, Indigenous Environmental Network, Project Underground, North American Indigenous Peoples Bio-Diversity Project, American Indian Law Alliance, Alaska Intertribal Council, Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice, Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Network, Gwich' in Steering Committee, International Subcommittee of the EPA National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, Calvert Investment Group Advisory Council, Alliance of Indigenous Peoples of the Tropical Rainforests, World Council of Churches, National Congress of American Indians, 7th Generation Fund, Tebtebba Foundation, International Indigenous Health Commission, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the First Nations Development Institute, National Lawyers Guild, Inter-Tribal Bison Cooperative, Amnesty International, Nordic Saami Council, Confederacy of Treaty 6 First Nations, , the American Civil Liberties Union, Inter-Tribal Bison Cooperative, American Indian Law Alliance, Sinte Gleska University and the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Amnesty International, Indigenous Initiative for Peace, the Amazon Alliance, DANA (a Mexican NGO providing consultation to Indigenous communities in social and economic Development) and the Asesoría Técnica de Cultivos Orgánicos (ATCO, Chiapas Mexico) and Land O' Lakes international development and Farmer to Farmer Programs and a wide range of tribal and traditional governments in and outside the US.
- Active working relationships with both Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations and agencies also contributed to the development of coordinated national and international strategies and positions in response to critical concerns. IITC continued to play a key role in co-drafting and disseminating key declarations on the interrelated issues of imposed development, globalization, environmental protection, human rights and self-determination. These have included the Indigenous Peoples' Seattle Declaration on the WTO (1999); the No Patenting of Life Declaration to the World Intellectual Property Organization (1999); the Albuquerque Declaration on Climate Change (1998); the Heart of the Peoples Declaration on Biological Diversity (1997); and the UN Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (beginning in 1982, with discussion ongoing), the Declaration of Atitlan on Indigenous Peoples' Food Security and Right to Food (April 2002) and the Indigenous Peoples' Kimberly

Declaration from the World Summit on Sustainable Development (August 2002. In 2002, IITC continued to distribute these documents widely and to promote their use in education, organizing and international policy development.

- Resolutions made by more than 400 Indigenous representatives at the February 2002 Treaty Conference in Aotearoa (New Zealand), hosted by Maori tribal communities for the first time provided the positions on key issues upon which IITC based its work at the UN and in other fora.

4) Creating Mechanisms for Access to Decision-Making:

In 2002 historic strides continued to be made by IITC, working in coordination with other Indigenous organizations, in building informed participation through the creation of formal mechanisms for participation in policy discussions in bodies such as the UN Commission on Human Rights, World Intellectual Property Organization, International Union for the Conservation of Nature, the World Bank, UNESCO, UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), the UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the UN Environmental Program Treaty negotiation bodies for Climate Change, Biological Diversity and Persistent Organic Pollutants, Intergovernmental Forum on Forests, UN Development Program and the World Health Organization

The result has been growing recognition by the international community of Indigenous expertise in vital areas affecting the survival of all Peoples, as well as an increased interest by Indigenous Peoples about participation in these and other bodies which address the concerns and affect the lives of their communities.

- In 2002, IITC was instrumental in the continued development of two new international mechanisms providing historic opportunities for Indigenous Peoples to redress a wide range of human rights violations. One is the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, with a broad mandate and the direct, full and real participation of Indigenous Peoples, which met for the first time in New York in May, 2002. IITC credentialed 8 delegates (including a first time youth mentee from Beaver Lake Cree Nation, Canada) to the first session in May 2002. IITC's interventions called for implementation of current as well as proposed new standards pertaining to food security, health and land and resources, and recommendations to UN bodies and member states for concrete, effective and timely solutions. The other is the UN Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Issues, Rudolfo Stavenhagen, who began to actively receive testimony and direction from Indigenous communities and Peoples about the impacts of imposed development on Indigenous Peoples human rights and survival. Examples include mining, damming, land appropriation, clear cutting, water rights violations and withholding of funds for programs as a means of political pressure
- IITC's ongoing role at the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) includes advocacy for development policies that promote global sustainability, protect the environment and socio-cultural integrity of Indigenous Peoples, and also foster economic well-being of their communities. IITC helped to coordinate participation by Indigenous community representatives to present positive community-based sustainability models in forestry, land management, tourism, agriculture, sustainable energy and culturally appropriate animal husbandry (i.e. bison, salmon hatcheries, etc.), as well as to discuss the detrimental impacts of

imposed non-sustainable practices in their communities (mining, drilling, pesticides, alien species introduction and wild habitat destruction). IITC also continued to co-facilitate the "multi-stakeholder" process adopted by the 2000 CSD as a means for discussing, among other things, the results of consultations with communities that practice sustainable agriculture.

- IITC took a lead role to insure the meaningful policy level input of Indigenous communities at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio + 10) in September, 2002 and its preparatory sessions throughout the year.
- In 2002 IITC continued to be instrumental in creating unprecedented opportunities for the perspectives and concerns of Indigenous Peoples to be included in international policy discussions addressing Sustainable food systems, food sovereignty and key related issues of ecosystem and habitat protection. These include the preservation and re-establishment of traditional agricultural practices; subsistence rights (hunting, fishing and gathering); impacts of imposed development and ecosystem destruction; land and treaty rights; traditional spiritual and cultural relationships; protecting biological diversity (integrity, diversity and use of traditional seed knowledge, opposition to patenting and genetic modification, etc.); health effects of food system disruption; support and recognition for local food system and sustainability models; environmental protection; and impacts of economic globalization and trade policies. .
- IITC continued to serve as the "Indigenous focal point" in the CSD's Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Caucus, providing unprecedented opportunities for input in international policy discussions on sustainable local food systems and food security at the CSD and the UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO). In this capacity IITC insured that Indigenous input was included at FAO's World Food Summit + 5, June 10 – 13 (IITC facilitated and coordinated the participation of 16 Indigenous delegates from all regions) and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (August - September 2002). and provided on site and preparatory mentorship. IITC's delegation to the WSSD included experienced mentors as well as 8 first-time delegates and 6 youth. Strategic emphasis was placed on issues of environmental racism, climate change, toxics proliferation, non sustainable resource extraction (mining and drilling), food security and the role of Indigenous Peoples in defining and advancing sustainable development.
- As Indigenous Focal Point of the NGO-Civil Society International Planning Committee working in collaboration with FAO, IITC also secured firm commitments by FAO at a meeting in November 2002 by FAO Director General Jacques Diouf: consider establishment of a FAO Open-ended Working Group on Indigenous Peoples; publish Indigenous Peoples' articles in FAO series on Ethics, Land Reform, etc.; allow NGOs and Indigenous Peoples' to participate in its Committee on Food Security (IITC and diverse NGOs will organize a "Food Sovereignty" panel); continue support for its Indigenous Peoples Focal Points Network of FAO staff, which will sponsor its first seminar in 2003. A this time, FAO also committed funds for IITC to coordinate an Indigenous consultation on "Cultural Indicators" as a component of assessing food security for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD).

- FAO also provided significant financial and political support for (and to participate in) the first Global Consultation for Indigenous Peoples on the Right to Food and Food Security (April 2002, Guatemala), which was coordinated by IITC and hosted by 8 Guatemala Indigenous organizations including IITC's Guatemala Office. It was attended by over 125 Indigenous delegates from 28 countries, mainly traditional food systems practitioners. The resulting "**Declaration of Atitlan**", adopted by consensus, was widely presented and disseminated at several UN bodies and fora in 2002, including the World Food Summit +5 (nearly all of its recommendations were included in the NGO Declaration on Food Sovereignty), the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and the World Summit on Sustainable Development. IITC agreed to coordinate follow-up and information dissemination.
- In December, 2001 IITC coordinated at the UN's request, a meeting of Indigenous representatives with Mme. Ouhachi-Vesely, nee Ksentini, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the illicit dumping of toxic wastes in her first fact finding visit to the US. The Rapporteur's focus included the human rights impacts of the illegal traffic in toxic and dangerous products and wastes and the enjoyment of human rights, and the IITC coordinated the presentation of testimony and documentation by Indigenous representatives of impacted communities and tribes focusing on toxic contamination resulting from waste dumping, pesticide use, industrial and military emissions and waste incineration in Alaska, the Great Lakes, Montana, and along the Mexico-US border. The Rapporteurs' findings were presented to the UN Commission on Human Rights at its 2002 session (March-April).

In addition to the effective input into a UN process that occurred, the Indigenous representatives from Alaska, Mexico and Guatemala decided to form a coalition to provide education to their communities and develop coordinated strategies for creating political and public pressure to combat the ongoing export of prohibited substances such as banned pesticides by the US. This new "North-South Indigenous Network Against Pesticides" began to coordinate work and collect additional testimony from impacted communities in various regions for presentation to the Rapporteur and other international bodies in 2002.

5) Communications and Information-Dissemination

In 2002, IITC continued to provide information to educate the general public through print, broadcast media, electronic dissemination and public speaking about issues and concerns of Indigenous Peoples at international, national and local conferences. IITC staff and representatives were speakers and presenters in a variety of community and organizational conferences and events at the invitation of Indigenous Peoples and other supportive organizations. Overall, an estimated 8000 participants were reached directly by IITC's presentations at various gatherings and conferences, and many thousands more were reached through information dissemination via Indigenous and non-indigenous print, radio, video and electronic media.

Extensive dissemination of information and increased technical assistance provided to communities by IITC in 2002 resulted in increasing levels of interest about new opportunities for input into policy development which truly reflects Indigenous Peoples' concerns.

- IITC continued to develop and disseminate training tools and materials designed for grass roots communities and organizations as well as the general public, creating increased awareness of international developments and their impacts on Indigenous local communities, as well as supporting organizing campaigns through community capacity building. Examples in 2002 included:
 - 1) IITC was contracted by the First Nations Development Institute to write a 30 page policy paper, **“An Analysis of United States International Policy on Indigenous Peoples, the Human Right to Food and Food Security”** for Indian tribes and communities in the US to help them understand the international rights of Indigenous peoples pertaining to Food Security and Food Sovereignty as well as the US position in this regard. The paper was presented at FNDI’s Native Food Summit in November 2002 (Albuquerque), and is available on IITC’s and FNDI’s web sites.
 - 2) IITC’s web page, www.treatycouncil.org, received between 300,000 and 600,000 “hits” each month, providing a tremendously effective tool for IITC’s networking, educational, urgent action, document distribution, delegate preparation and campaign coordination. The web page developed into a central tool and strategy for capacity building, as well as for accountability and reporting back to communities. Increasing numbers of organizations and communities also submitted updates, urgent actions links and information for posting.
 - 3) The **“Gold, Greed and Genocide”** video was completed in December 2002, along with an accompanying study guide for students and teachers. Over 150 educators, teachers and communities signed up in 2002 to the video curriculum in their classes beginning in January 2003. In addition to presentations made throughout California and the US, the video was also presented at the 3rd UN Consultation on the Rights Of Children and Youth (July, Geneva).
- An internal capacity building process addressing communications and technology needs of IITC’s main office in San Francisco was initiated in January 2002 in collaboration with the Community Technology Foundation of California. A CTFC grant included the purchase and installation of equipment (4 computers, a new phone system with voice mail, a new printer and router for networking, and a DSL line, and also provided for consultation and training for staff in the use of the new technology. In November 2002, CTFC provided an additional grant for strategic planning to continue improving IITC’s outreach, communications, training, youth mentorship and human rights capacity building programs integrating new technology.

“ ... Somewhere in this world I want my Indian People to be heard, no matter how small a group they are. Everyone has a right to be who they are ... ”

***Phillip Deere
Muskogee Creek Spiritual Leader***

