

Agency Purpose

The Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC) was established in 1963 (M.S. 3.922). MIAC is the official liaison between the state of Minnesota and the 11 tribal governments within the state. The MIAC provides a forum for and advises state government on issues of concern to Indian communities. The MIAC administers three programs designed to enhance economic opportunities and protect cultural resources for the state's American Indian constituents. The MIAC plays a central role in the development of state legislation and it monitors programs that affect the state's American Indian population and tribal governments. Minnesota was the first state in the nation to establish an Indian affairs agency that still provides a model for other states to follow.

At A Glance

American Indian Population: 54,967

Employment:

U.S. unemployment rate: 5.5%

MN unemployment rate: 4.8%

American Indian males: 22%

American Indian females: 16%

Poverty levels:

All Minnesota children: 12%

American Indian children: 55%

Cultural resources: 3,000 human remains acquired in 1989; 436 remain for reburial.

The mission of the MIAC is to protect the sovereignty of the 11 Minnesota tribes and ensure the well-being of American Indian citizens throughout the state.

The vision of the MIAC is to strive for social, economic, and political justice for all American Indian people living in the state of Minnesota, while embracing their traditional cultural and spiritual values.

Core Functions

The MIAC coordinates with the various state agencies, appointed liaisons, American Indians residing outside reservation boundaries, and tribal and Indian programs to ensure that services are delivered by reviewing and analyzing data and trends, and providing the findings to their respective agencies, tribes, and other American Indian programs. Core functions include:

- ◆ providing information and technical assistance to Indian reservations in Minnesota through the administration of the Indian Economic Opportunity Program by inter-agency agreement with the Department of Human Services;
- ◆ monitoring and ensuring enforcement of federal and state laws to protect American Indian human remains and associated burial items through the Cultural Resource Program; and
- ◆ providing a vehicle for the urban Indian population to determine issues affecting the represented Indian populations through the Urban Indian Advisory Council.

Operations

The agency serves the 11 Minnesota tribes and their enrolled members, and all Indians residing in the state of Minnesota.

The Indian Economic Opportunity Program coordinates with the Department of Human Services and the 11 reservations to provide management and technical assistance to the reservations for community service grants including the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), the Minnesota Economic Opportunity Grant (MEOG), the Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESGP) and the Rural Housing and Stability Program (RHASP). The Economic Opportunity Program also advises area service providers on the impacts of government programs on low-income people and their progression toward self-sufficiency.

Cultural Resources provides protection of American Indian human remains and associated burial items under the Minnesota Cemetery Act, M.S. 307.08, and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, Public Law 101.601, by serving as a repository for human remains and associated burial items from state agencies, public museums, private individuals, and institutions, and processes them for proper repatriation.

Key Measures

The primary objective of the MIAC is to monitor policy issues to protect the laws and rights of American Indian people. The MIAC has also come to be recognized and utilized as a clearinghouse for information and projects. The MIAC is called upon to participate and/or initiate a variety of activities and programs as they relate to Indians in Minnesota, and acts as an incubator for these special projects by providing administration and financial services for the overall benefit of Indians in Minnesota.

Budget

The agency's FY 2005 budget includes a General Fund appropriation of \$482,000, and a federal grant of \$60,000 for administration of the economic opportunity program.

Contact

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Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium 2006-07
	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
General					
Current Appropriation	482	482	482	482	964
Forecast Base	482	482	482	482	964
Change		0	0	0	0
% Biennial Change from 2004-05					0%
 <u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Direct Appropriations					
General	446	570	482	482	964
Statutory Appropriations					
Federal	60	60	60	60	120
Gift	0	3	1	1	2
Total	506	633	543	543	1,086
 <u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	377	402	417	417	834
Other Operating Expenses	129	231	126	126	252
Total	506	633	543	543	1,086
 <u>Expenditures by Program</u>					
Indian Affairs Council	506	633	543	543	1,086
Total	506	633	543	543	1,086
 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)					
	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.4	