NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR AMERICAN INDIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 6, 2009

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OST Advances Financial Skills Training for Indian Trust Beneficiaries

The Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation and the Four Bears Casino management invited trust specialists with the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST), in partnership with First Nations Development Institute, to offer financial skills training to approximately 400 employees of the Four Bears Casino and to tribal members. Multiple training sessions will take place each day, August 10-12, at the Four Bears Casino in New Town, North Dakota. The casino is owned by the Three Affiliated Tribes.

"This is the second round of financial skills training we have supported on the Ft. Berthold Reservation," said Acting Special Trustee Donna Erwin. "This training is an opportunity for OST personnel to provide beneficiaries with an in-depth understanding of trust reforms that have been, and continue to be, enacted to improve the operation and oversight of the Indian trust."

With an emphasis on budgeting, investing and planning for the future, financial literacy gives Indian trust beneficiaries the tools to grow personal wealth. Each training session will be three hours in duration. The sessions will be flexible—with morning, afternoon, and evening training—to accommodate casino employees' schedules.

First Nations Development Institute (FNDI), through a strategy of education, advocacy and capitalization, works to strengthen American Indian economies. FNDI has created financial training materials suitable for individuals at all levels of experience with cultural and traditional components designed specifically for Indian country.

For more information about the schedule and the training, call Austin Gillette, Fiduciary Trust Officer, Ft. Berthold Agency, at 1-701-627-4475 or OST's Trust Beneficiary Call Center (TBCC), toll free, at 1-888-678-6836. TBCC operates six days a week—Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon, Mountain time.

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The mission of OST is to perform our fiduciary trust responsibilities to American Indian tribes, individual Indians and Alaska Natives by incorporating a beneficiary focus and beneficiary participation while providing effective, competent stewardship and management of trust assets.