

## Travel Report

National Congress of American Indians

Niagara Falls, NY

*June 15-17, 2009*

Submitted by: Fawn R. Sharp, President, QIN

June 15, 2009 (Monday):

7:00AM – left residence in Amanda Park, WA to meet VP Mail in Aberdeen.

12:30AM (EST) – arrived at the Days Inn in Niagara Falls, NY

June 16, 2009 (Tuesday):

7:30AM – met with VP Andy Mail to prepare for the days events.

### Morning General Assembly Sessions Attended:

9:20AM – Attended Joint Toxic-Assessment Project: A Successful Multi-Jurisdictional Environmental Science Research Partnership.

10:00AM – Attended Improving Health Care Access in Native American Communities

10:20AM – Attended Historical and Current Trauma: Examining Community Memories for the Health of a Nation

11:00AM – NCAI presentation on Tribal Labor Ordinances

11:20AM – Participated in Tribal Leader Responses

### Lunch

12:00 – 1:10PM – Had lunch (at Starbucks) with Chairman Frank Ettawageshik, from Little Traverse Band in Michigan, Chairman Bruce Parry, from Northern Shoshone in UT, Michael Devine, CEO, Northern Shoshone, and Robert Gough, Secretary of the Intertribal Council on Utility Policy. We talked about the upcoming session of COP15, climate treaty negotiations in Copenhagen, Denmark this December and strategies to get tribal representation at the table. They have followed up with the contacts they gave us pre-COP14. We also talked about the work federal agencies are advancing and the use of tribal lands to meet emerging technology and alternative energy needs. Along with that discussion, we talked about strategies to preserve/ protect tribal interests. We also talked extensively about the REDD initiative.

### Afternoon Breakout Session

1:30-4:00PM – I moderated a session entitled, “Beyond Boundaries: Working Together to Protect Our Air, Wind, and Water.” The session focused on three approaches to tribal management of natural resources: assessing health risks associated with air toxics; strategies to protect water quality; and, opportunities for renewable energy as economic development.

## Evening Resolutions

4:30PM – Jurisdiction and Tribal Government

Debated and worked on 8 pending resolutions related to governance, taxation and jurisdiction.

5:30PM – Full Committee Resolutions

8:30PM – Drafted Climate Change Resolution for NCAI Executive Committee's 8:30AM Meeting.

9:30-11:30PM – Dinner with Chairman Frank Ettawageshik and Chairman Henry Cagey.

June 17, 2009

6:30AM (EST) – Flight Home

7:30PM – Arrived at home in Amanda Park.