



September 1, 2010

**For Immediate Release**

Marysville, Washington, USA - The North American Indigenous Games (NAIG) Council is pleased to announce, with the assistance of the Aboriginal Sport Circle (ASC), the development of the '2012 North American Indigenous Sport Championships'.

The NAIG Council held an emergency meeting at Brokenhead First Nation in Manitoba, Canada from August 12-13, 2010, to discuss the recent cancellation of the 2011 NAIG, as well as alternative competitive opportunities for our youth.

NAIG Council has stated, "In response to the cancellation of the 2011 NAIG and out of a deep commitment by the NAIG Council to support competitive opportunities for Indigenous youth across Canada and the USA, members approve the motion to develop and stage 15 North American Indigenous Sport Championships in the summer of 2012 (competition based on the approved 2011 NAIG Sport Technical Package) and sites to be selected through a competitive bid process that will be launched September 30, 2010."

The NAIG Council and the ASC will work together to develop the framework for the Championships with a well defined bid/application process to be distributed September 30, 2010. The bid application process will run for two months. Athlete criteria will be adjusted for the 2012 Championships to account for the loss of a year in eligibility.

The anticipated completion date for identifying hosts of the 2012 Championships will be December 2010. This will allow time for the hosts to transition from bidding to hosting and begin formal plans following guidelines set by the NAIG Council and the ASC. The timeframe will also provide for provincial, territorial and state teams to alter their plans to prepare for, travel to and participate in the 2012 North American Indigenous Sport Championships.

The NAIG Council and the ASC will work with Federal-Provincial/Territorial Governments and Provincial/Territorial Aboriginal Sport Bodies to provide team preparation and travel funding for the Championship events.

For more information, please contact:

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