



STATE OF MONTANA
BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLE
POLICY DIRECTIVE

Policy No. BOPP 1.4	Subject: TRIBAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
Chapter 1: ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT	Page 1 of 2
Section 4: General Administration	Effective Date: June 1, 2022
Signature: /s/ Joseph McElroy, Chief of Staff	Revised:

I. POLICY

The Board of Pardons and Parole (BOPP) and Department of Corrections (DOC) recognizes the distinct and unique cultural heritage of American Indians and is committed to maintaining the government-to-government relationship with the recognized tribal governments of Montana by inter-departmental communication, policy/procedure development and implementing programs for the greater good of the tribal members and all Montana citizens.

II. APPLICABILITY

All BOPP and DOC divisions, facilities, and programs

III. DEFINITIONS

Tribal Government – A state or federally-recognized Indian tribe within the State of Montana.

American Indian Liaison – The point of contact for American Indian offenders and their families who serves as the liaison between the BOPP and tribal entities.

IV. BOPP DIRECTIVES

A. General Requirements

1. The BOPP will consider impacts on tribal members and tribal governments when developing policy, procedures. The BOPP recognizes that communication between the BOPP and tribal governments in Montana enhances the BOPP’s ability to make reasoned parole decisions, particularly in cases involving American Indian offenders. To facilitate effective communication, the BOPP also recognizes the importance of BOPP member training in areas such as American Indian culture, social problems, family, and social structure.
2. The BOPP American Indian liaison will serve as the point of contact to provide ongoing culturally competent consultation and guidance to BOPP members and staff to serve as the primary point of contact between the BOPP, DOC, and tribal entities.
3. The BOPP will acquire cultural training in accordance with 46-23-218(2) on the unique nature of tribal culture and governments, including knowledge of, and sensitivity to, issues of tribal relations, and legal concerns.

V. CLOSING

1. Questions concerning this policy should be directed to the BOPP’s American Indian Liaison.

VI. REFERENCES

- A. 18-11-101; 2-15-141; 2-15-142; 2-15-143; 53-30-302, 46-23-218(2) MCA
- C. DOC Policies 1.1.3, *Organization and Responsibility*; 1.1.4, *Department and Board of Pardons and Parole Coordination*

VII. ATTACHMENTS

None.