

“Working with Native Peoples & Communities”

Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Services Conference
Albany, NY – April 18, 2019



Native American Community Services of Erie and Niagara Counties, Inc. (NACS)
Pete Hill (Cayuga, Heron Clan), “All Our Relations” Project Director

Thanks to

**Department of Homeland Security &
Emergency Services**

Brenda Gausby
Jamie Marcella

**NYS Collaborative Coalition Conference
sponsors & funders**

NACS' "All Our Relations" Project
- Cultural Competency training

Native American Community Services of Erie and Niagara Counties, Inc. (NACS)

1975-2019: 44 Years in a "Tradition of Caring"



Family Services
Economic Self-Sufficiency
Health & Wellness
Community & Cultural Services
"All Our Relations" Project



Serving the Off-Nation Territory
Native American Community & All Persons



Project

“All Our Relations” Project

Funded by W. K. Kellogg Foundation

***To Help Improve the Health & Well-Being of
the Native American Community & Friends***

***To Help Improve Mutual Understanding,
Respect, Communication & Understanding
among Native & Non-Native and
Communities***



Homeland Security and Emergency Services

Emergency Management

State Fire

Counter Terrorism

Interoperable and Emergency Communications

Programs

“Created in 2010, DHSES and its four offices -- Counter Terrorism, Emergency Management, Fire Prevention and Control, and Interoperable and Emergency Communications -- provide leadership, coordination and support for efforts to prevent, protect against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from terrorism and other man-made and natural disasters, threats, fires and other emergencies.”

<http://www.dhSES.ny.gov/planning/state/documents/Planning-Guide.pdf>

TEN STEPS
TO EFFECTIVE
EMERGENCY
PLANNING



EMERGENCY PLANNING GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY OFFICIALS

Step 7. Community Involvement

“Community involvement is vital to the success of the emergency planning process....One means for receiving advice and providing information is to conduct a **public hearing** on the plan.

“Once the plan has been drafted, it should be made available to the public for their input. External review of the plan, before it is submitted for approval, will help to legitimize authority and facilitate community acceptance....

“Your planning team should devise a process to receive, review, and respond to the comments of external reviewers. “

<http://www.dhSES.ny.gov/planning/state/documents/Planning-Guide.pdf>

Question

Who normally or most often attends and actively participates in public hearings?

- Those who have a vested interest*
- Those who have the time to read reports & develop meaningful input*
- Those who feel empowered to speak to governmental representatives*
- Those who participate in governmental systems & operations*
- Those who feel their input will matter*

Cultural Competency also Includes Three Main Areas of Focus

1) Personal attitudes and beliefs

- **What “cultural conditioning” have I been through in my own family, neighborhood, education, etc.?**
- How do I think/feel about differences between myself and others of different backgrounds?
- **What biases/assumptions have I internalized?**
- Developing cultural competence in this area requires a lot of self-reflection, unlearning, and relearning

Cultural Competency

Areas of Focus

2) What's the extent of our knowledge of

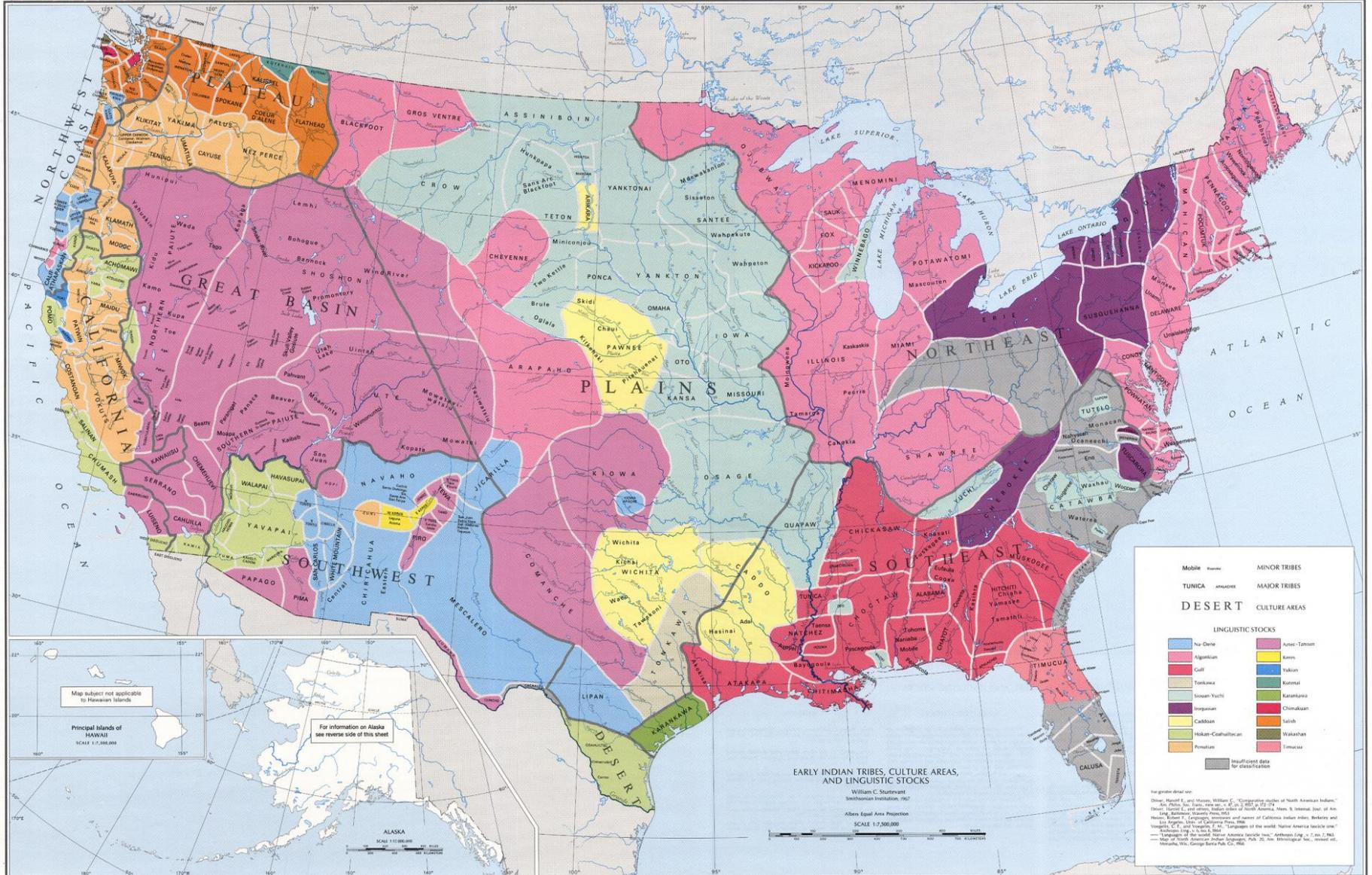
- Other people's cultural heritage, family and community structures
- **Other people's historical and sociopolitical factors that affect other groups, but maybe not my group(s)**
- Knowledge of society's biases, prejudices, "-isms"
- **Knowledge of how institutional barriers affect others & what's my role or benefit from those**

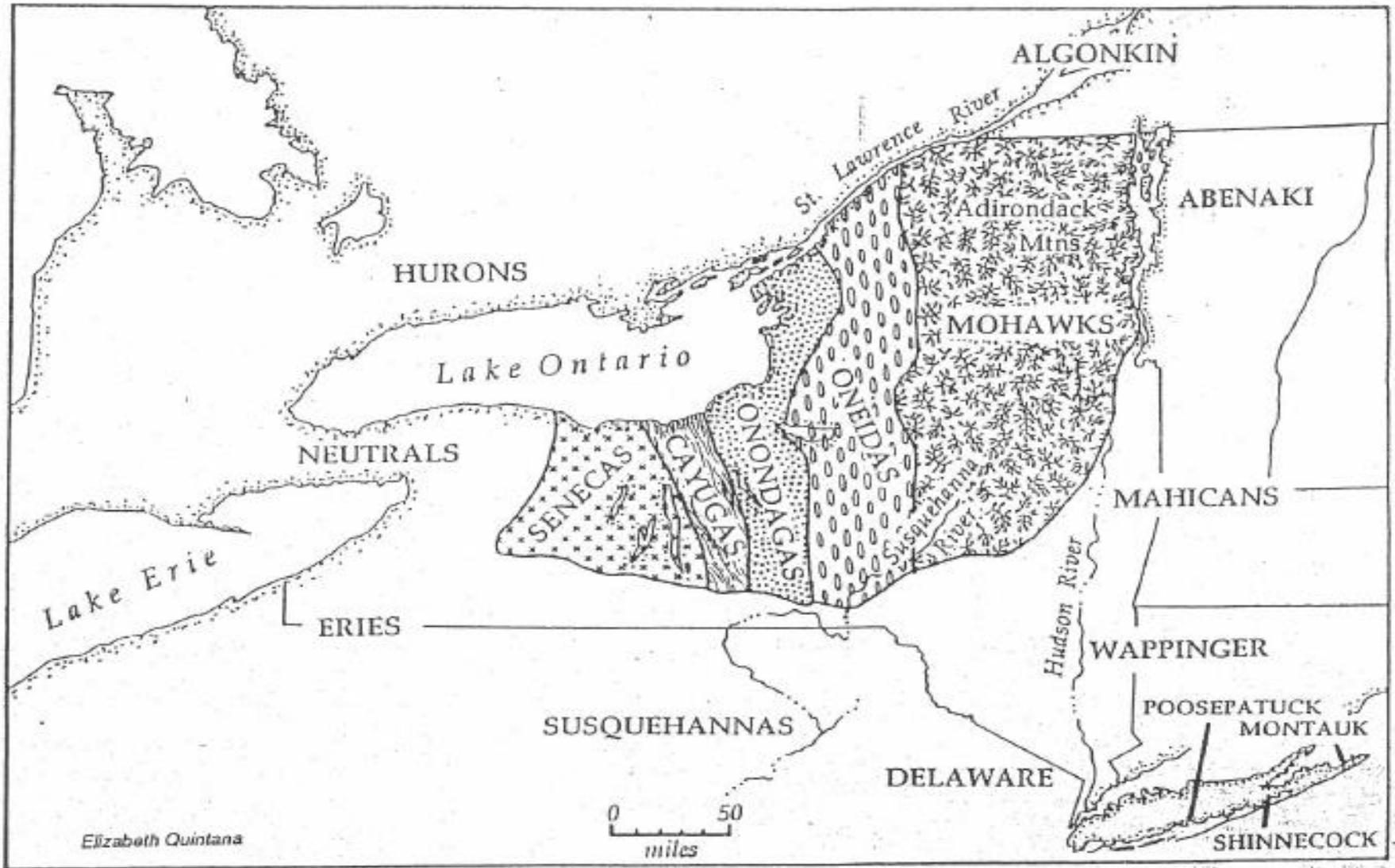
Cultural Competency

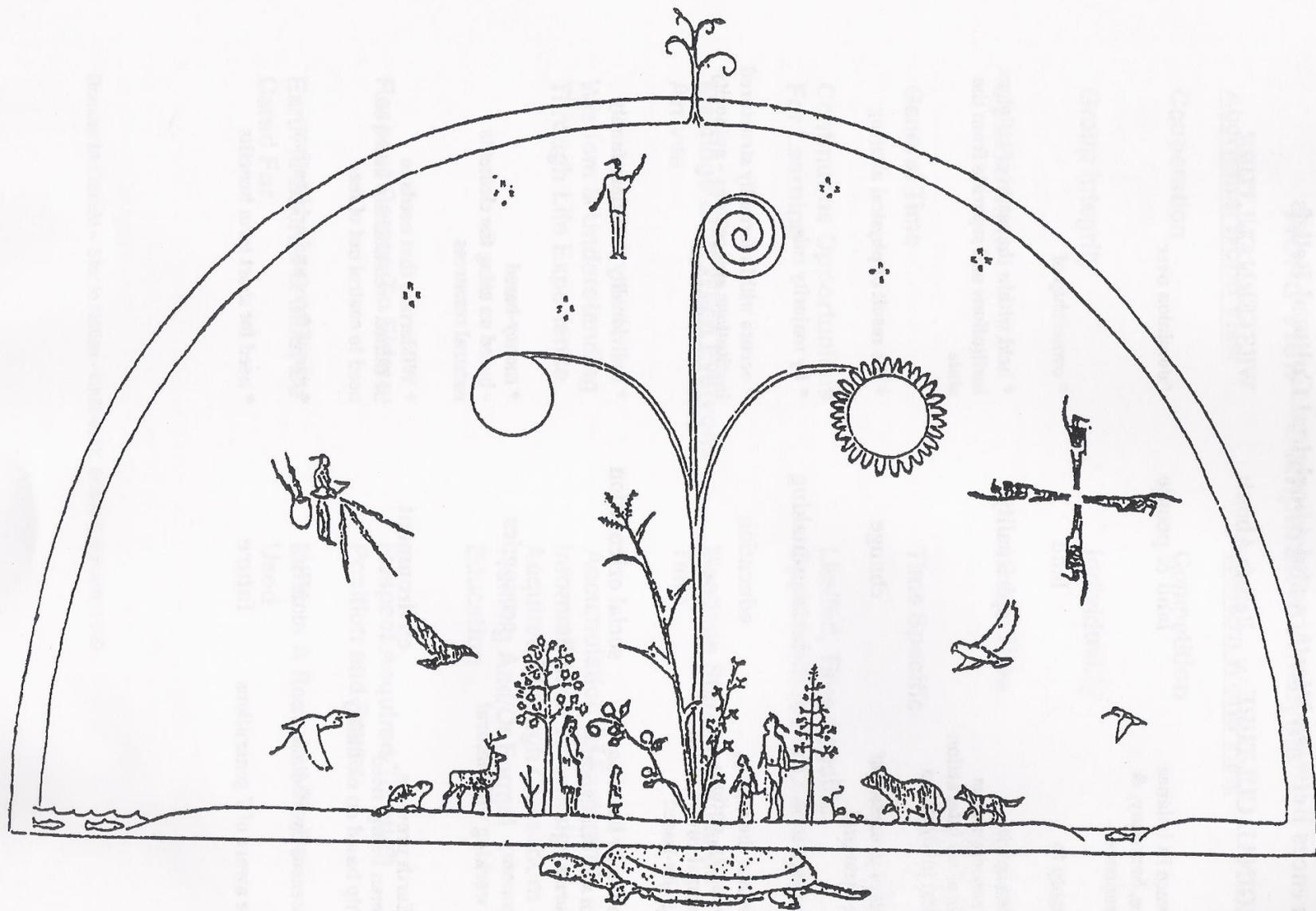
Areas of Focus

3) Skills to effectively interact with people of different backgrounds

- Ability to engage in customs and traditions
- Fluent in common verbal and nonverbal communication patterns
- Able to interpret social cues
- Comfortable working with people in both professional and casual settings

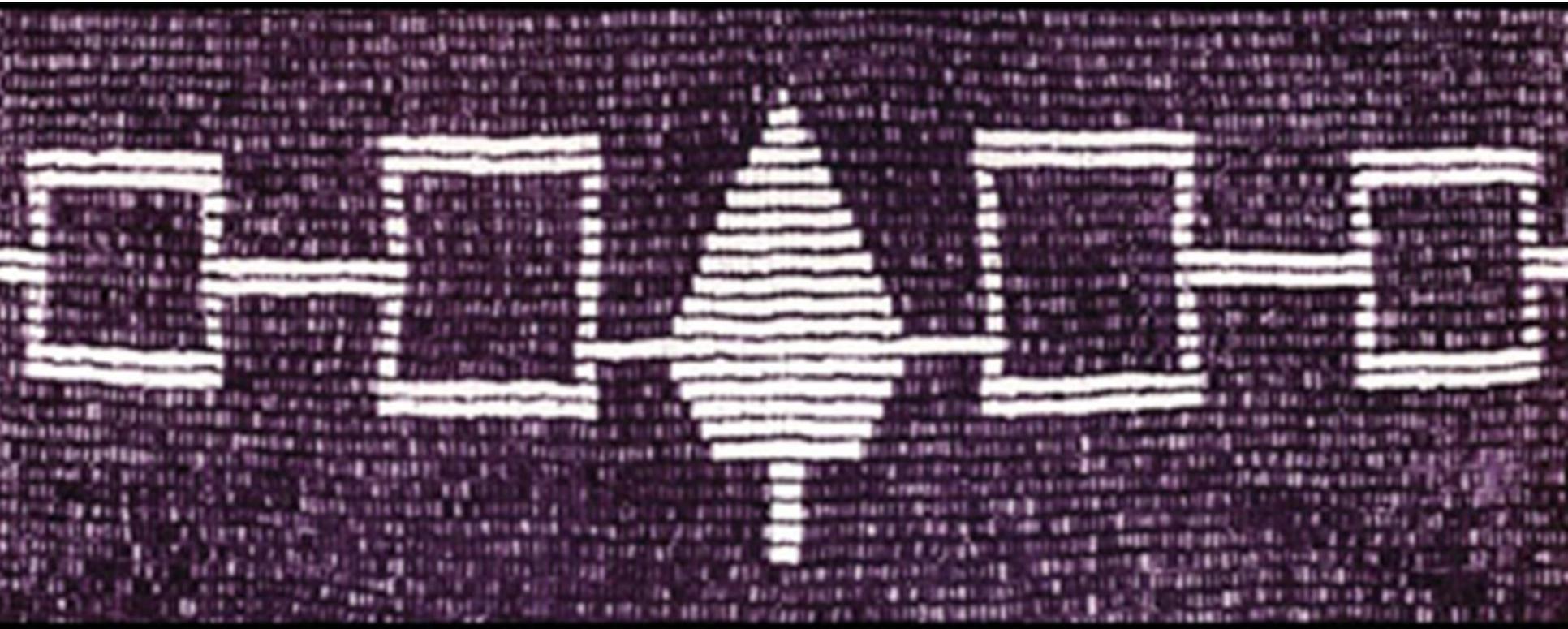




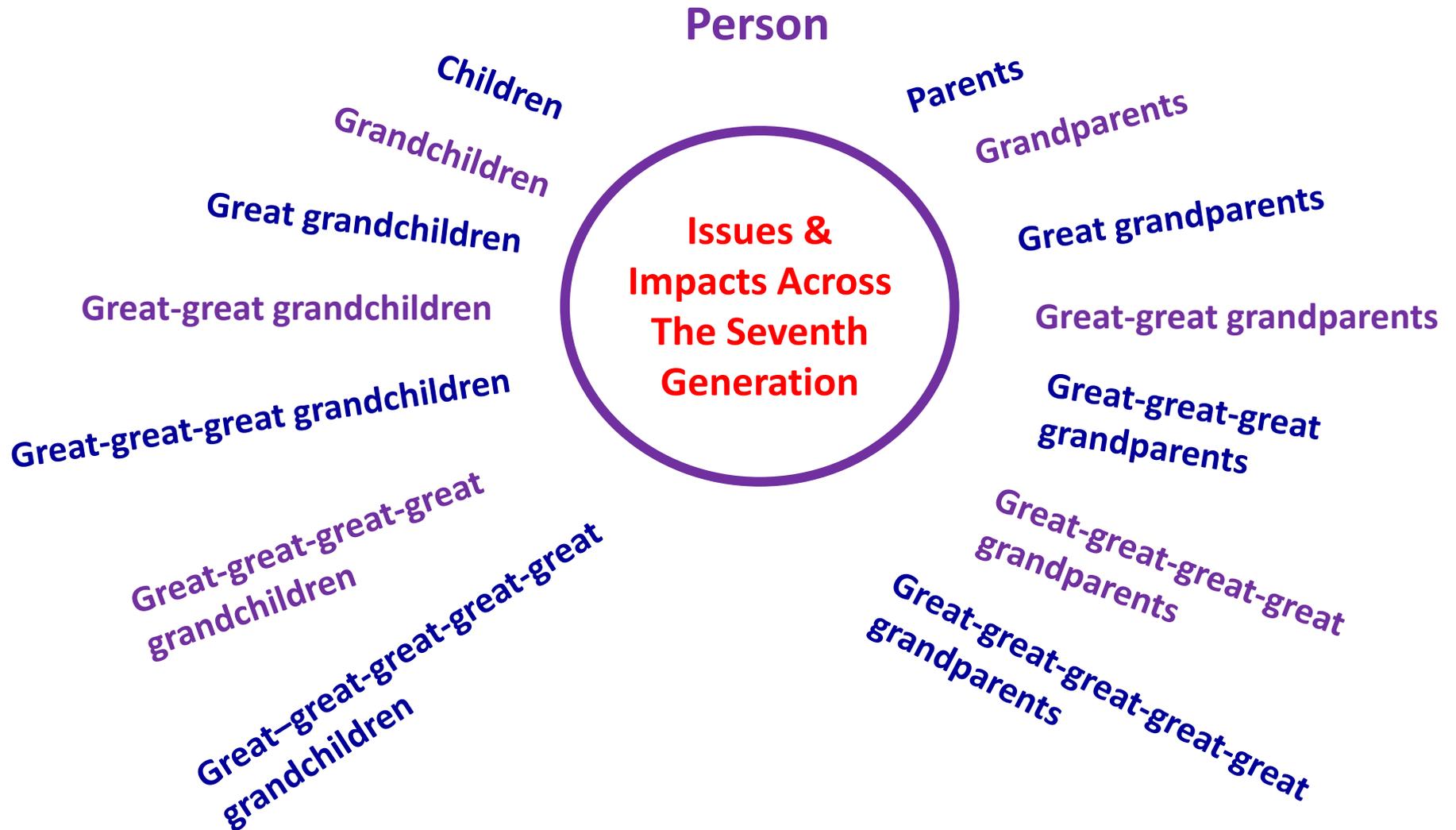


Many Haudenosaunee people recognize
their nation's sovereignty

Hiawatha Wampum Belt



SEVEN GENERATIONS



Guswenta

Two Row Wampum Belt



Alcohol abuse, addictions, **diabetes**,
domestic violence, **obesity**, asthma,
cancer, STIs/STDs, **suicide**, deaths from
drunk driving accidents, **HIV**, elder
abuse, **child abuse**, gang involvement,
incarceration, homelessness, **teenage**
pregnancies, poverty, **negative self-**
images, stereotypes, **heart disease**,
mental health issues, **developmental**
disabilities...

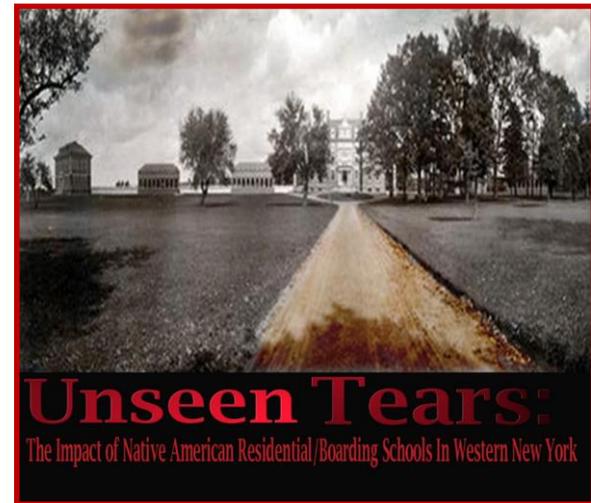
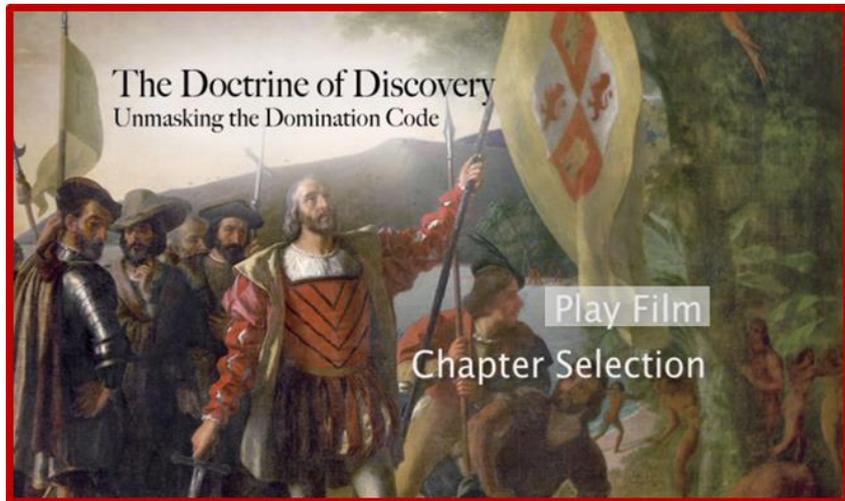
Trauma-Informed Care

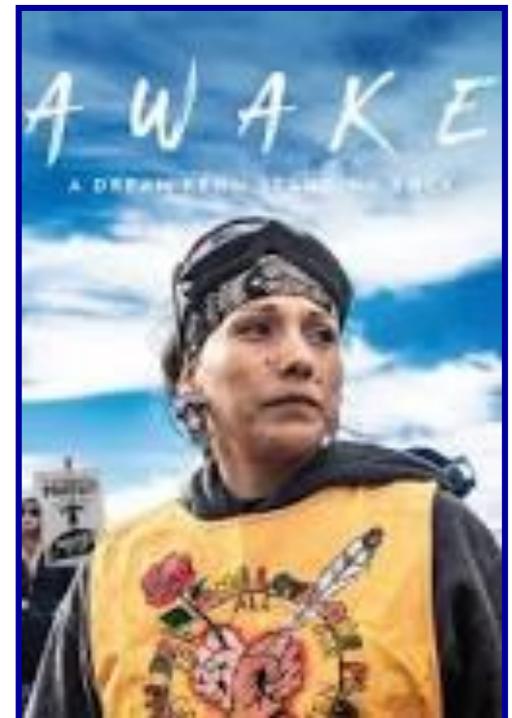
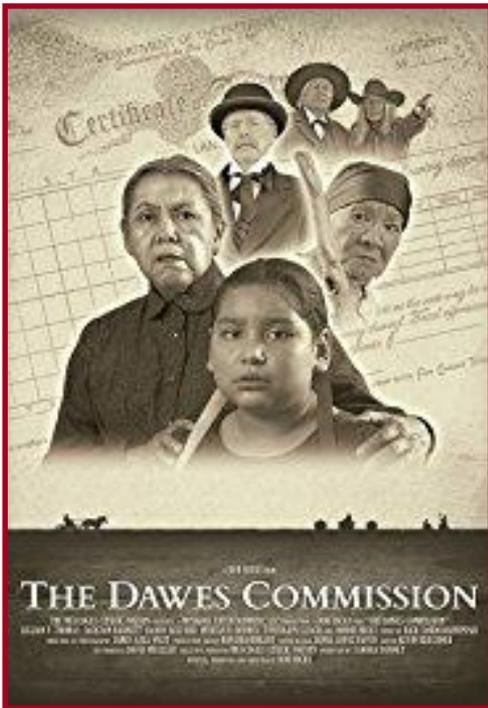
From early childhood through adulthood

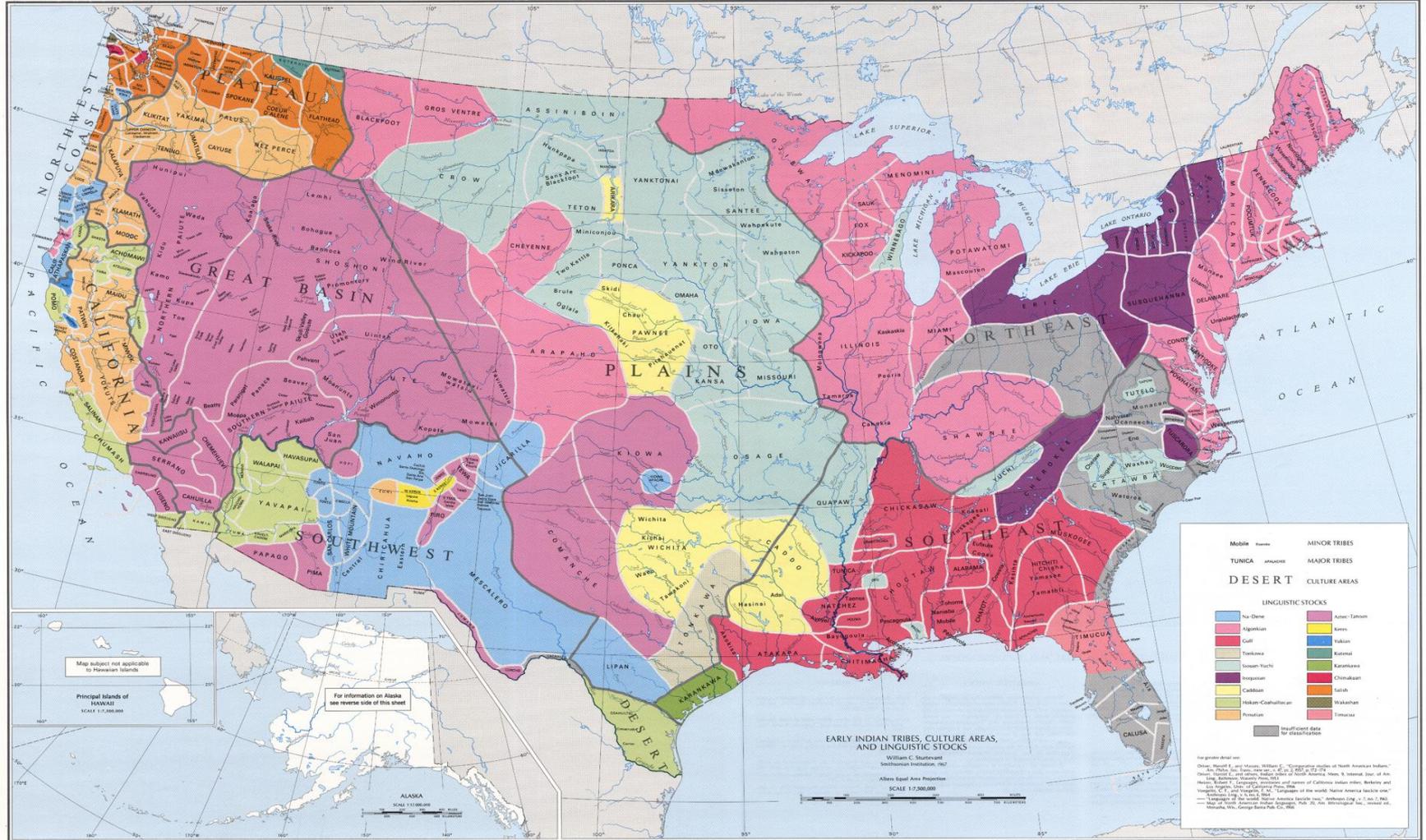
What's Missing?

***Awareness of Inter-generational
Patterns & Consequences as
affected by Historical Traumas***

Some Documentaries that Explore the Complex & Multiple Issues of Historical & Continuing Traumas



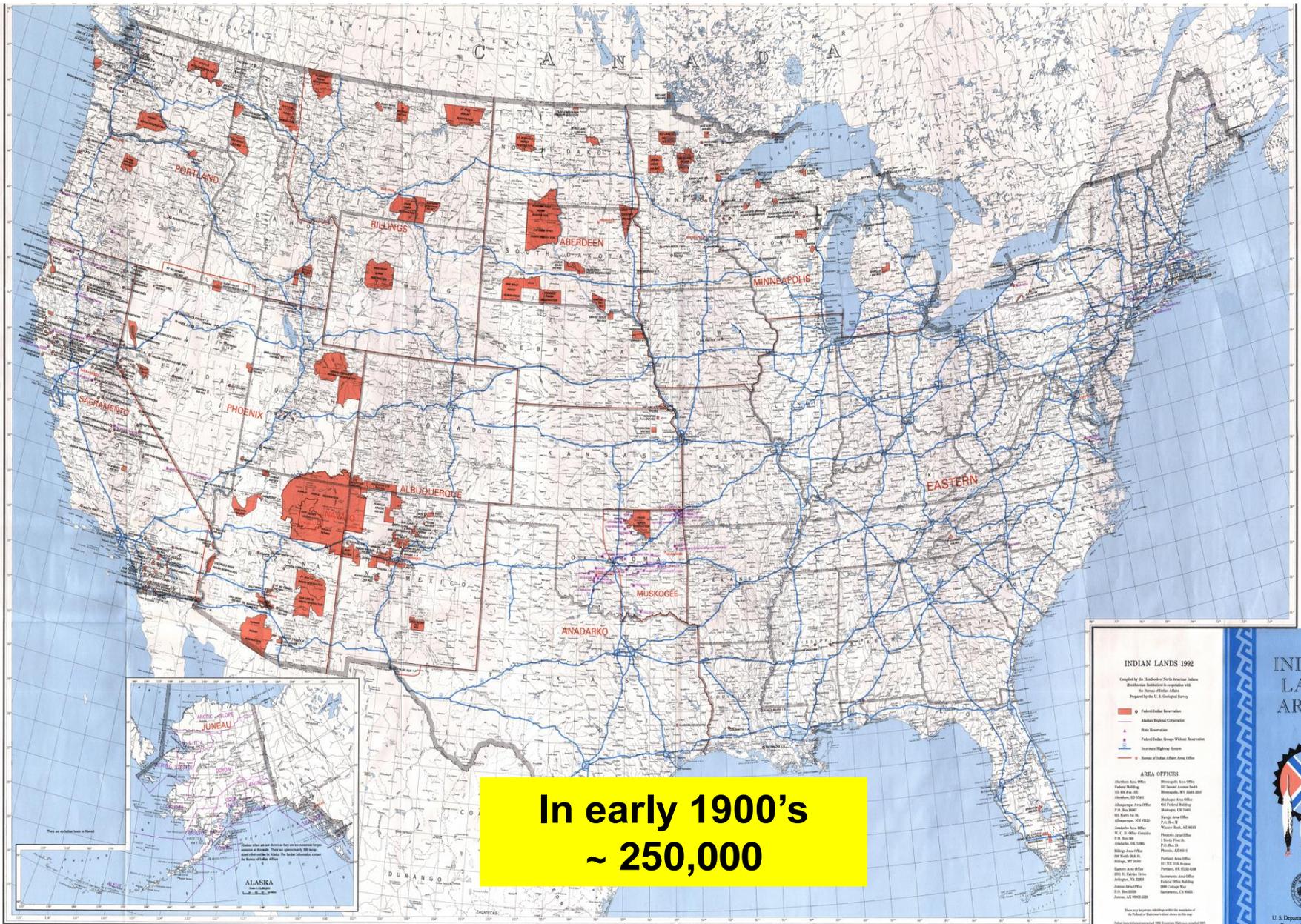




NATIONAL ATLAS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

INDIAN TRIBES, CULTURES & LANGUAGES
 FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 DENVER, COLORADO 80202 OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
 2007-04-NATH-040

**Native Population,
 In 1492 ~ 50 – 250 million people**



**In early 1900's
~ 250,000**

INDIAN LANDS 1982
 Compiled by the Handbook of North American Indians
 Smithsonian Institution in cooperation with
 the Bureau of Indian Affairs
 Prepared by the U. S. Geological Survey

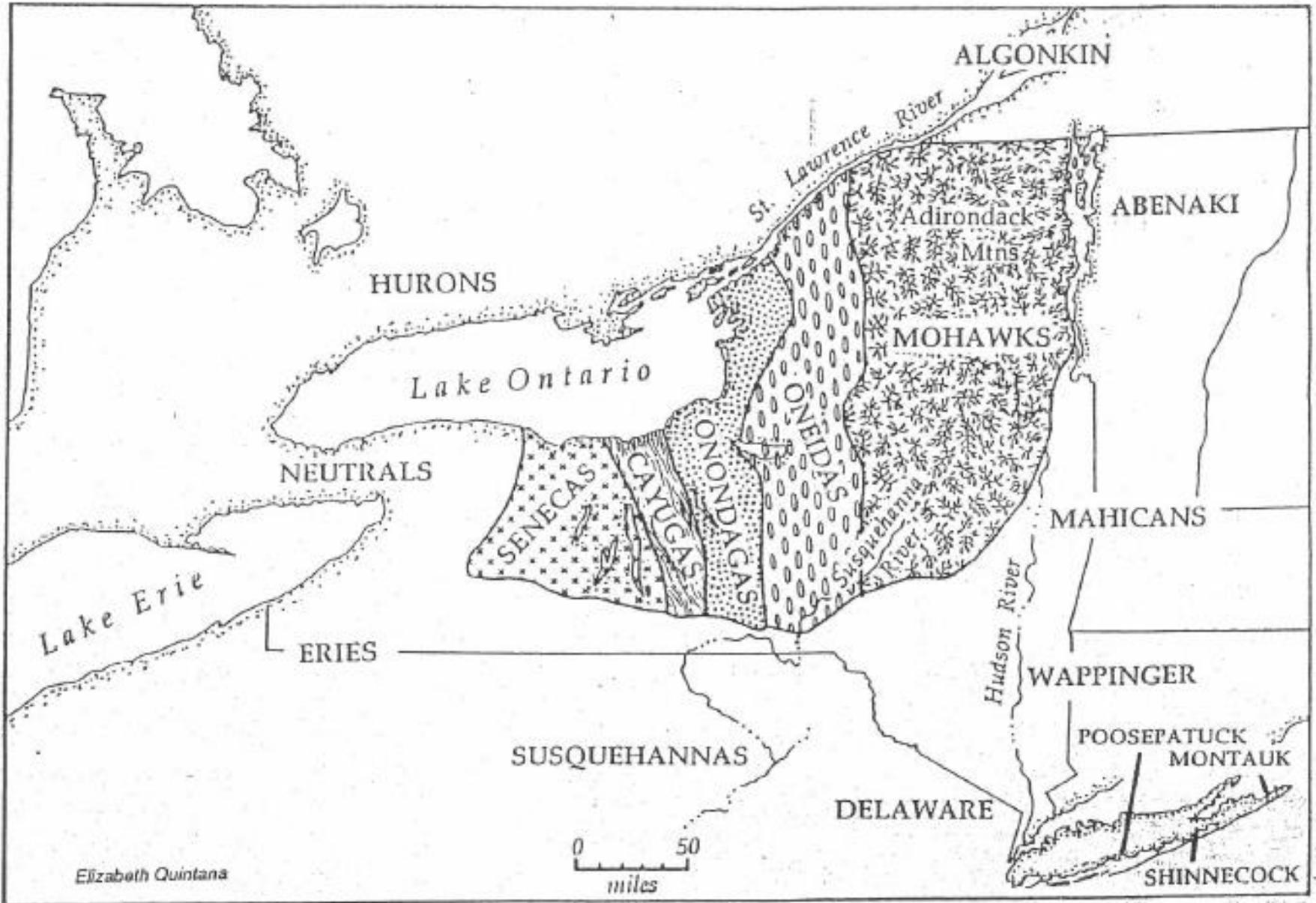
- Federal Indian Reservations
- Alaska Regional Corporations
- State Reservations
- Federal Indian Groups Without Reservations
- Interstate Highway System
- Reserves of Indian Affairs Area Offices

AREA OFFICES

Albuquerque Area Office Federal Building 2100 4th St. SW Albuquerque, NM 87102	Minneapolis Area Office 801 Summit Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55401
Chicago Area Office 211 N. Dear St. Chicago, IL 60601	Phoenix Area Office 1000 Park Building Phoenix, AZ 85001
Denver Area Office 1915 North 4th St. Denver, CO 80202	Portland Area Office 1000 Commercial St. Portland, OR 97201
Indianapolis Area Office W. C. O. Office Complex 111 N. Meridian Indianapolis, IN 46204	San Francisco Area Office 1000 Market St. San Francisco, CA 94102
St. Louis Area Office 500 North 3rd St. St. Louis, MO 63101	Seattle Area Office 1000 4th Avenue Seattle, WA 98101
Wash. D.C. Office Complex 1900 M Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20540	Portland, OR (FWS) Office 1000 4th Avenue Portland, OR 97201
Albuquerque Area Office 2100 4th St. SW Albuquerque, NM 87102	San Francisco Area Office 1000 Market St. San Francisco, CA 94102
Chicago Area Office 211 N. Dear St. Chicago, IL 60601	Seattle Area Office 1000 4th Avenue Seattle, WA 98101
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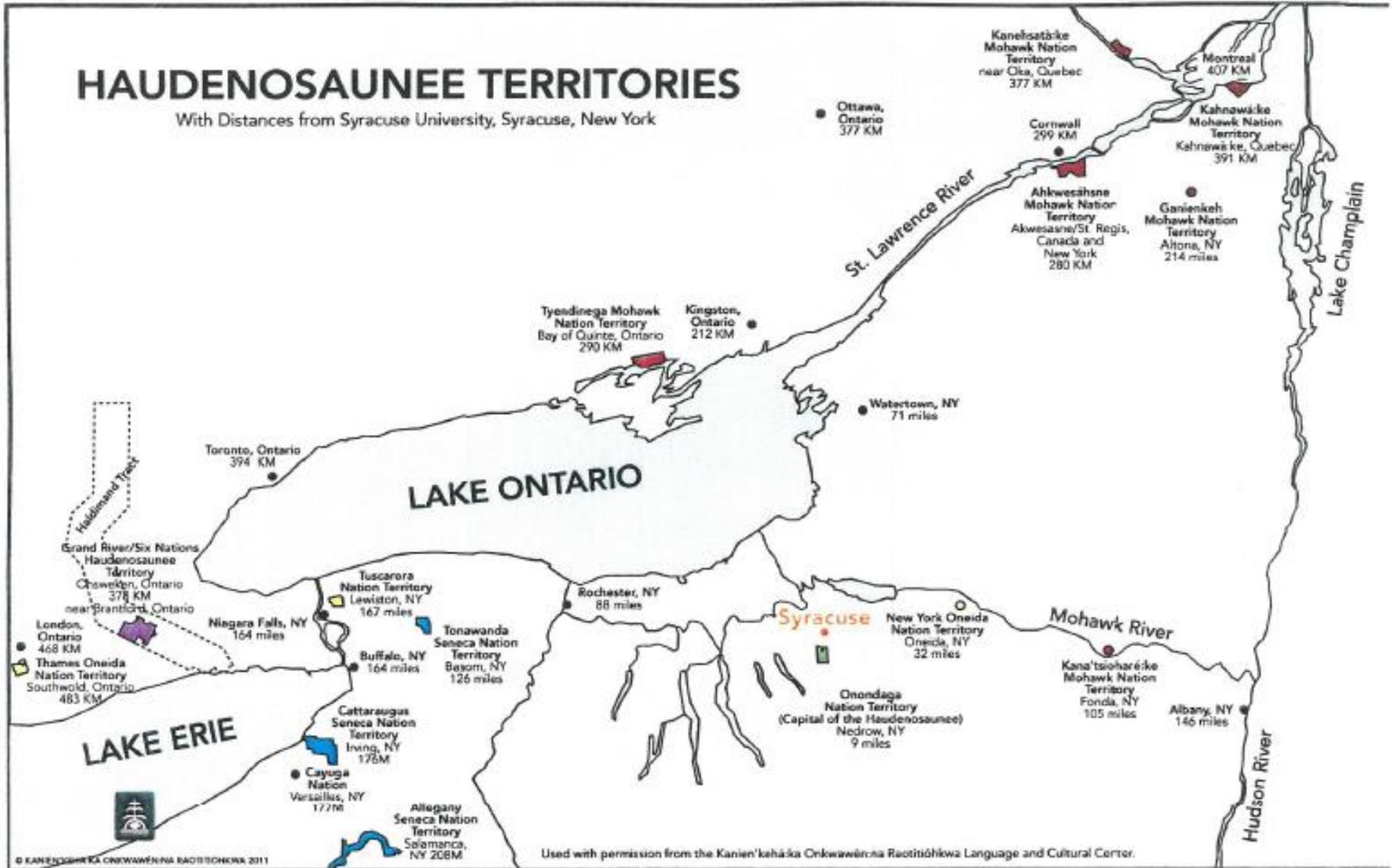
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs

NACS' "ALL OUR RELATIONS" PROJECT - CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING



HAUDENOSAUNEE TERRITORIES

With Distances from Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York

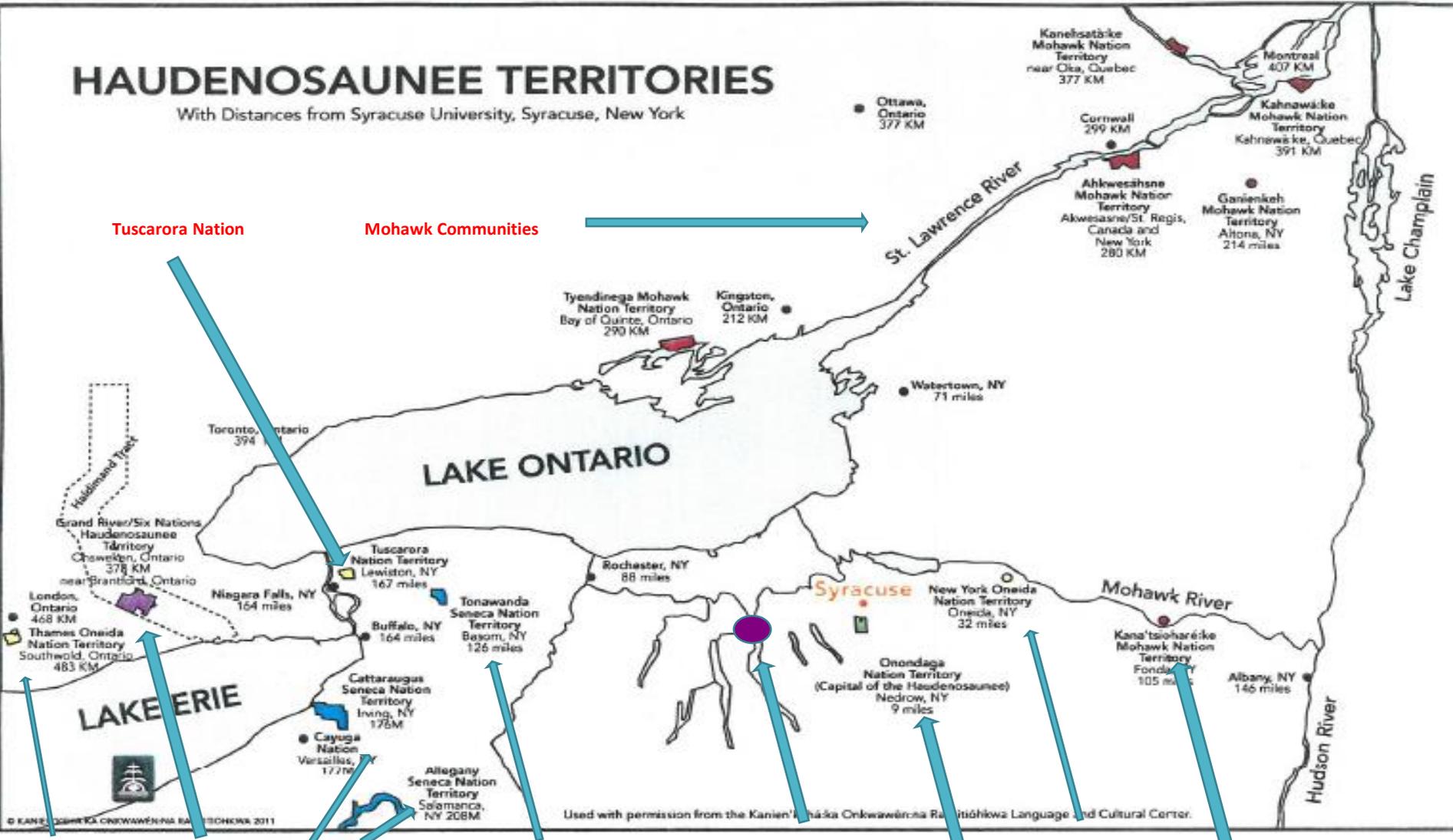


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Used with permission from the Kanien'kehà:ka Onkawawèn:na Raotitòhkwà Language and Cultural Center.

HAUDENOSAUNEE TERRITORIES

With Distances from Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York



- Oneida
- Six Nations/Grand River
- Seneca Nation
- Tonawanda Seneca
- Cayuga Nation
- Onondaga Nation
- Oneida Nation
- Mohawk Community

Mistrust of & anger against many systems...

government

(incl. law enforcement, social services,
elected officials, court systems, etc.),

medicine & medical field,

education,

and organizations,

as well as some

Non-Natives &

sometimes, **other Natives**

Diversities Among Native Nations & Tribes....

“The mission of the Seneca Nation [of Indians] Emergency Management is to serve the citizens of the Seneca Nation [of Indians] through effective planning for natural and man-made disasters. Our goal is to save lives and protect property through coordination of an emergency management system integrated with all emergency response organizations, support services, and volunteers.”

<https://sni.org/departments/emergency-management/>

Other Nations & Tribes---

--May have no such office

--May or may not have persons or offices focused on emergency preparedness

--May or may not even have an official website or Facebook page

--May or may not interact with state or federal government

--May or may not use technology, smart phones, etc.

This does NOT mean that Native nations are not interested in disaster preparedness, emergency services, etc.

So, what are Native governments & leadership doing?

Upholding & Protecting Nation
Sovereignty

Managing Environmental Concerns

Indian Child Welfare Act

Addressing Opioid & Other Drug
Epidemics

Dealing with the Impacts of
Residential Boarding Schools

Restoring Native Culture &
Language

Providing Health Services

Economic Development While

Protecting Nation Sovereignty

Addressing Health Disparities

Educating Non-Native
Communities, Organizations, &
People

Dealing with NYS, US, Canada, and
Provincial Governments

Dealing with Border Issues &
Upholding Treaty Rights

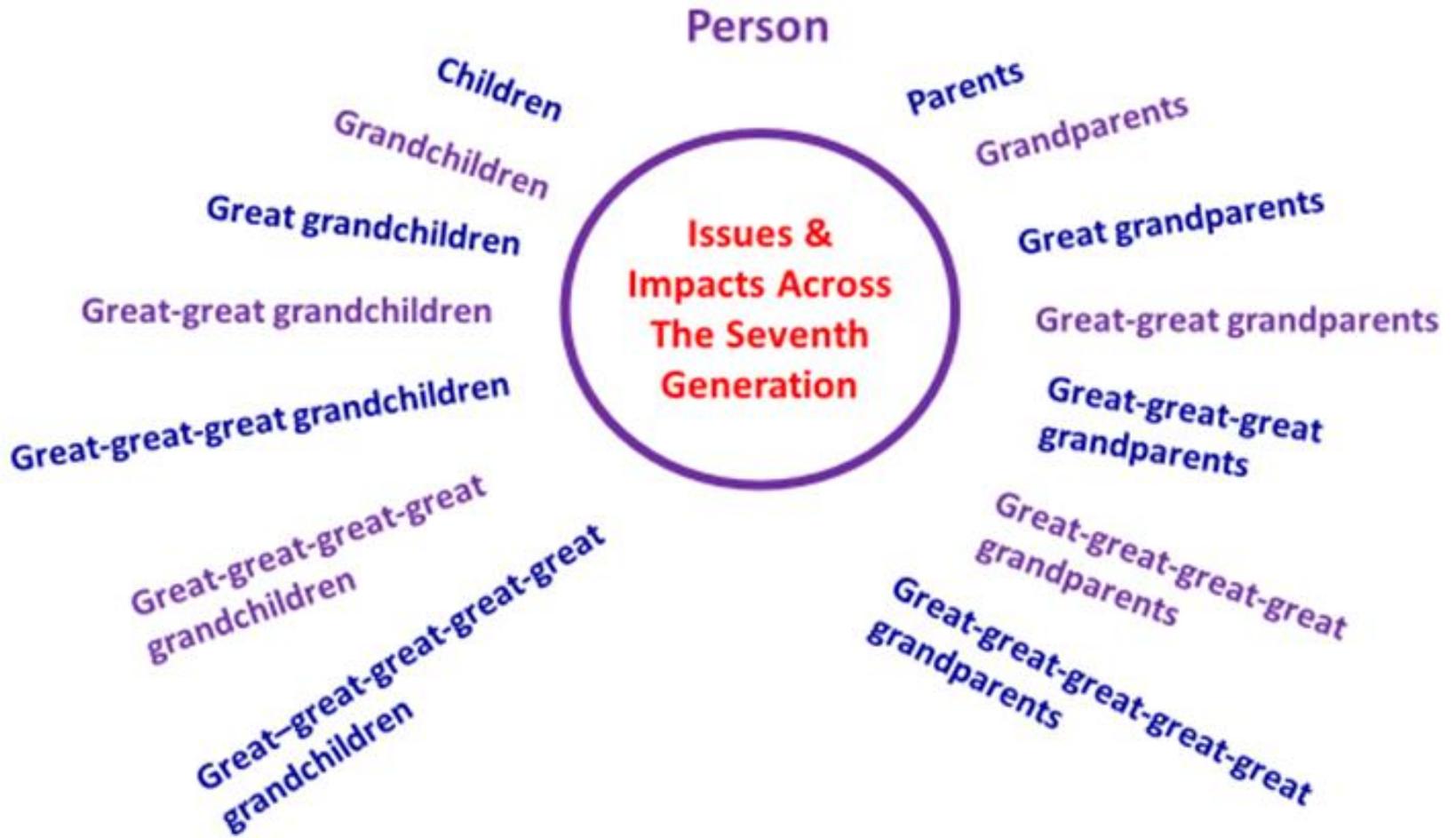
Developing Native ID Cards that
Observe Treaty Rights

Nutrition, Diabetes, Obesity

Decolonization Efforts

Promoting Greater Understandings
of the Teachings of
“The Good Mind”

SEVEN GENERATIONS



■ Haudenosaunee Nations are Sovereign
How they apply and/or understand their
sovereignty may differ

Other Nations may have varying degrees of
sovereignty

Each Nation has its own unique organizational
structure & governance systems

Some Nations are “Traditional,” while others
are not or have a “blended” system

Some Nations may be in a state of transition

A foundation to work more effectively with Native Nations & communities



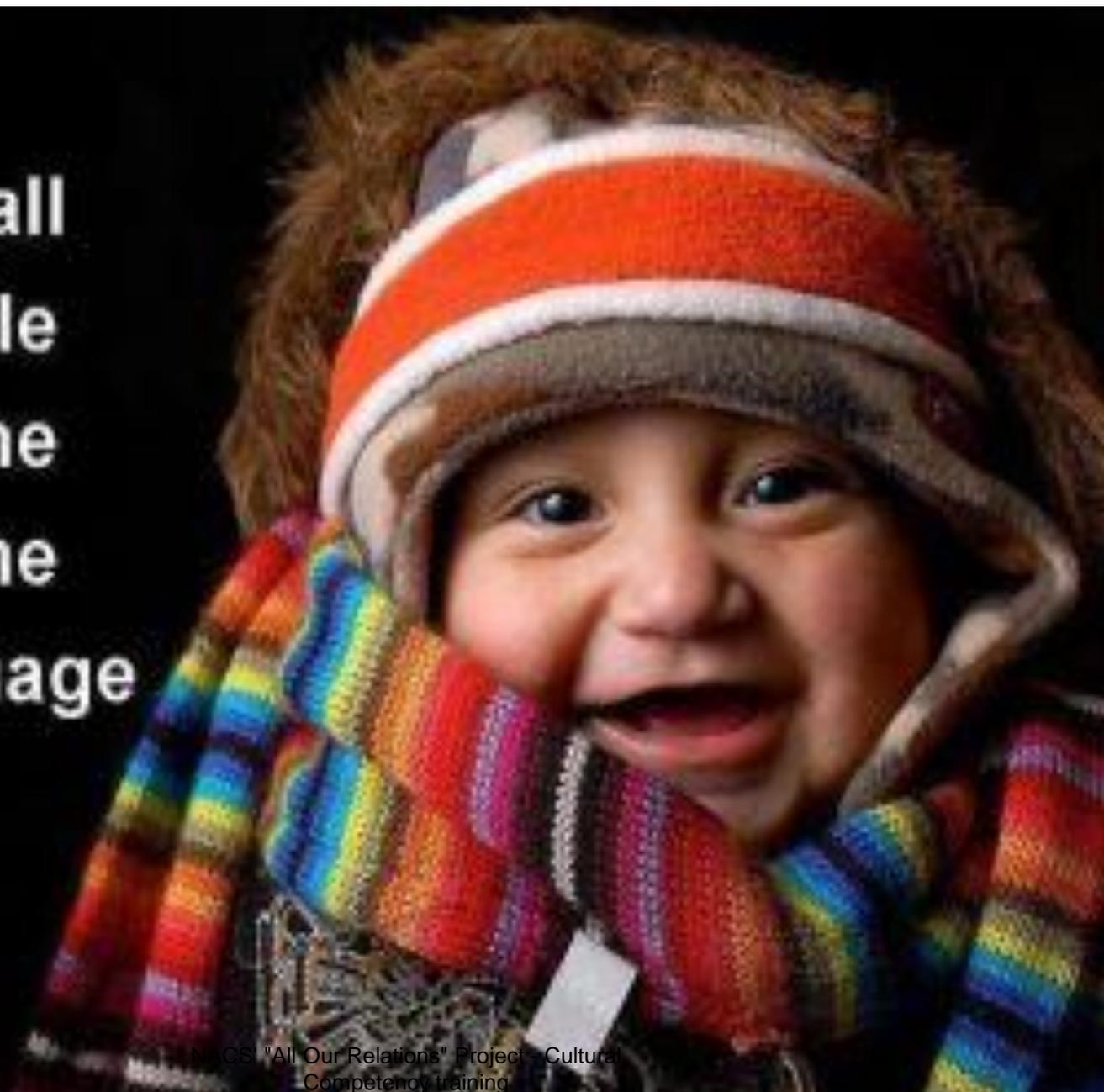
Additional Resources:

**Native American Community Services
of Erie & Niagara Counties, Inc. (NACS)**

List of Websites for More Information

**“Lessons Learned”
document**

**We all
Smile
In the
Same
Language**





Nyah-Weh! Thank you!



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- Cultural Competency training

Pete Hill

“All Our Relations” Project Director

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