



# **N.C. COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS**

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

**James A. Thomas Hall**  
**Event Room 225**  
University of North Carolina, Pembroke  
1 University Road  
Pembroke, North Carolina 28372

**September 5, 2025**  
**10:00 am – 3:00 pm**  
**DRAFT AGENDA**

<b>Opening Session</b>	<b>10:00 am – 10:20 am</b>
Welcome, Call to Order	Greg Bryant, Chairman
Invocation Acknowledgment of Fallen Warriors - This Quarter	Dr. Michael Lambert, Commission Member
Pledge of Allegiance	Gerald Goolsby, Commission Member
Roll Call and Adoption of Agenda (Please Say - Present and Agree)	Daphne Pinto, Administrative Assistant
Reading of Ethics Statement	Gregory Richardson, Executive Director
Presentation and Approval of June 6, 2025, Meeting Minutes	Chairman Bryant
<b>Memorial Acknowledgment From Governor Josh Stein In Honor of the Late Dr. Joseph Bell</b>	Greg Bryant, Chairman Gregory Richardson, Executive Director
<b>Greetings and Welcoming Remarks:</b>	<b>10:20 am – 10:40 am</b>
<b>Mr. John Lowery, Chairman Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina</b>  <b>Dr. Robin Cummings, Chancellor</b> University of North Carolina, Pembroke	
<b>Swearing-in Ceremony</b>	<b>10:40 am - 11:00 am</b>
Welcome and Introduction New and Returning Members of the Commission Chairman Bryant	

<p><b>Administration of the Oath of Office</b></p> <p><b>The Honorable James Gregory Bell</b>  Superior Court Judge  Judicial District 16B  Robeson, County, North Carolina</p> <p><b>Presiding</b></p>	
<p><b>New Members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ed Simermeyer's</b>, Representing the Coharie Tribe. (Replacing Isabell Freeman Elliott)</li> <li>• <b>Tina Dicke</b>, Representing the Cumberland County Association for Indian People</li> <li>• <b>Amanda Jacobs Ballard</b>, Representing the Guilford Native American Association (Replacing Mr. DeVane Burnette Sr.)</li> <li>• <b>Ed Livingston</b>, Representing the Meherrin Indian Tribe (Replacing Mrs. Connie Mitchell)</li> </ul> <p><b>Returning members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alfred Richardson</b>, Representing the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe of NC</li> <li>• <b>Vernanda (Vee) Oxendine</b>, Representing the Lumbee Tribe</li> <li>• <b>Nadine Patrick</b>, Representing the Waccamaw-Siouan Tribe</li> </ul> <p><b>Returning State Official:</b>  <b>Gerald Goolsby</b>, Representing the President Pro Tempore of the NC General Assembly Appointee</p>	
<b>Election of Officers</b>	<b>11:15 am – 11:30 am</b>
<b>Nomination for 2025-2026</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice-Chair</li> <li>• Secretary/Treasurer</li> </ul>	Chairman Bryant
Greetings and Remarks from Chairman Bryant	<b>11:30 am – Noon</b>
<b>LUNCHEON</b>	<b>Noon - 1:00 pm</b>
Blessing the Food	Ed Simermeyer, Commission Member
<b>Business Items:</b>	<b>1:00 pm – 1:20 pm</b>
<b>2025-2026 Committee Appointments and Discussion</b>	Chairman Bryant

<b>Executive Director's Report</b> Staff Quarterly Program Reports (Included in Meeting Packet by email)	Gregory Richardson, Executive Director
<b>Commission Committee Reports</b> <b>*Reports with action items only</b> <b>*Action Item - In writing</b>	<b>1:20 pm – 3:00 pm</b>
Economic Development & Employment Committee Environmental Justice Agriculture	Craig McMillian, Chair
American Indian Housing	Elton Ray Jacobs, Chair
American Indian Education American Indian Child Welfare Sub-Committee	Dorothy Yates, Chair
State and Federal Recognition Veterans Affairs Sub-Committee	Larece Hunt, Chair
Legislative Committee Legislative Agenda Discussion 2025-2026	Tony Hayes, Chair
American Indian Culture & Religion Committee	Danny Bell, Chair
American Indian Health Committee	Chairman Bryant
<b>Other Business Items</b>	
Flower Fund Report	Nadine Patrick, Secretary/ Treasurer, NC Commission of Indian Affairs
Items from Commission Members, Discussion, Announcements (Please be brief)	Chairman Bryant
Closing Prayer	Dorothy Yates, Commission Member
<b>Adjournment</b>	<b>3:00 pm</b>
Upcoming 2025 Commission Meetings: <b>Meeting Sponsors Requested</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friday, December 5, 2025 – Campbell University</li> <li>• Wednesday, March 4-7, 2026, held in conjunction with the 2026 NC Indian Unity Conference, North Raleigh Hilton, Raleigh, NC</li> </ul> <p>Commission members are encouraged to review our new website at:  <a href="https://www.doa.nc.gov/boards-commissions/commission-indian-affairs">https://www.doa.nc.gov/boards-commissions/commission-indian-affairs</a></p>	