

# Media Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 7, 2006  
Spokane, Washington

### NATIVE EDUCATION COMPANY ANNOUNCES WASHINGTON INITIATIVE

Earlier today the Indigenous Learning Company (“ILC”) announced its intention to develop a comprehensive array of web-based learning materials designed to support an innovative new social studies curriculum for the State of Washington.

The Washington Legislature overwhelmingly passed House Bill 1495 in April, 2005. This legislation noted the wide learning gap in Washington between Native and non-Native students, and called for the development of new materials that appropriately and authentically reference the cultures, histories, and contributions of Washington’s indigenous peoples.

“The biggest challenge now is to start doing something to implement the good intentions embedded in HB 1495,” said ILC CEO Randy Morse. “The natural inclination now will be to study this issue to death,” Morse continued, “while Native students continue to fail. The current situation is disastrous, and demands action right now. That’s why we’ve forged alliances with the Kalispel Tribe of Indians and its Camas Institute, and a wide array of Washington-, nationally-, and internationally-based individuals, non-profits, and corporations. Our goal is simple: to create compelling new learning resources that will give Washington’s Native students a new sense of pride, open the eyes of their non-Native peers, and directly support state and national curriculum standards and best teaching practices.”

ILC has held talks with leading politicians in the Washington Senate, and is looking forward to further discussions with the office of the State Superintendent of Instruction, and Governor Gregoire.

Concluding his comments, Morse noted that ILC sees itself as a professional instrument which will allow every tribe in Washington to ensure that its story is effectively told. “We’ve had a similar experience in Canada, where we served as the publisher of record for tribes and other Native organizations,” he said. “The result – the Alberta Native Education Project – still stands as the largest curriculum-specific Native publishing project in North American history. We’re poised to change that here in Washington.”

#### ABOUT ILC

ILC is a Native-owned and controlled publishing company, specializing in web-based learning solutions for Native and other at-risk K-12 students. The company has also developed a unique content-management solution for Native-controlled web portals, and is set to tackle significant health and behavioral issues ranging from diabetes to problem gambling. The company has operations in Canada and the United States.

For further information on ILC, see our website: [www.indigenouslearning.com](http://www.indigenouslearning.com)

Or contact: Walter Schwabe, VP, Corporate Development  
(780) 909-9787 [walter@indigenouslearning.com](mailto:walter@indigenouslearning.com)

###