



YUROK TRIBE

190 Klamath Boulevard • Post Office Box 1027 • Klamath, CA

January 3, 2025

Hehl ke-lew valued partner,

I am writing today to seek your sponsorship/donation to ensure the success of the **3rd Annual Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (“MMIP”) summit.** The Yurok Tribe is proud to announce the summit scheduled for **February 25-26th, 2025,** at the Pala Casino Spa Resort in Pala, CA. We cordially invite you to join us at the summit and would love to have your engagement as well as your sponsorship/donation. Your physical and monetary presence will contribute to the dialogue and efforts surrounding these issues.

California has the fifth highest number of MMIP cases in the United States. This pivotal two-day event brings together Native-led organizations, survivors, Tribal leaders, Tribal Judges, advocates, legal practitioners, policy makers and many more to educate and foster policy development to bring healing, wellness and public safety for our community. Our efforts have already yielded significant successes, such as the passage of bills like:

- ✓ **AB 1314 (2022) – Emergency Notification** that created the “**Feather Alert**” effective Jan 2024,
- ✓ **AB 2108 – the Luke Madrigal Act** – requires county social workers and others to immediately notify parents, guardians, legal counsel and other pertinent adults when a foster child is missing
- ✓ **AB 2348 – California Emergency Services Act: Notification Systems Feather Alert,** *revises* and *strengthens* California’s Feather Alert, requiring law enforcement agencies to respond within 24 hours.

This year, Senator Sabrina Cervates reintroduced **AB 2279** as **Senate Bill (SB) 4 – MMIP Program.** This bill would establish a MMIP Justice Program, imposing specified responsibilities regarding active and inactive cases involving missing and murdered indigenous persons in California, including cases involving human trafficking.

In addition to AB229 Assemblymember James C. Ramos introduced **AB 31 – Tribal Peace Officers.** If AB 31 is approved, the DOJ would monitor, evaluate and support the program that will not be construed to infringe on tribal sovereignty. A tribal officer designated as a peace officer would have authority on tribal lands and in any place in the state.

These events are critical to build momentum, support, and continued advocacy to address MMIP now, and in the years to come.

Checks can be sent to: **Yurok Tribe, Att: Yurok Foundation / MMIP, P.O. Box 1027, Klamath, CA 95548** and include check memo “**2025 MMIP Summit**”. Thank you for your time, and we hope to have your partnership and support.

Wok-hlew’,

Joseph L. James
Chairman of the Yurok Tribe