Draft Circle 1: The Big Picture
“What Is the Story?”

The information in this package is the result of the work and input of the CIHC Advisory Groups. It organizes the key themes into major content areas, creating a draft conceptual program. It begins to describe how the content areas can become a visitor experience. As we move forward with the programming and planning process, we will continue to think about how the content areas can be woven together as a unified visitor experience in the facility and its outdoor environments.

In this package, changes have been made to reflect the discussion points offered by the Review Advisors at the 8/24/06 meeting in San Francisco. Please feel free to mark up the document, highlight discussion points, and add your thoughts.

Larger Context
The California Indian Heritage Center will honor diverse California Native cultures and their Native traditions. The Center will share with the visitor the fundamental role of the natural world, as the basis for the Native worldview. This will offer an awareness of Nature’s influence in all facets of Native life. The Center conveys Native values through a blend of natural elements that integrate the indoor and outdoor environments.

The conceptual program offers an opportunity to experience aspects of Native life through stories and songs. The visitor will come to understand how important the environment is in shaping Native culture, traditions, and worldview.

Stories, songs, and traditional practices are represented from all directions of California. The Stories are the guides, the connections to help visitors understand the California Native experience. Stories will help the visitor understand how the lives of California Native people changed so dramatically by contact with the outside world.

Facility Overview / Indoor Program
The indoor program introduces visitors to California’s diverse natural landscapes, developing the context for how the land works to help shape the perspective of Native peoples. The themes integrated within the visitor’s experience are Cycles, Memory, and Connections. These concepts are incorporated through story, song, cultural history, and awareness of the natural environment. The story identifies views of Native life and traditions from Native oral history. Helping the visitor understand how these traditions have continued to present time, bringing the past into a contemporary experience and perspective.

The CIHC facility will adopt environmentally conscious building practices and meet the highest sustainability standards. These practices reflect California Indian values.

Outdoor Program/Site Overview
The outdoor environment represents the variety of land stewardship uses by Native people. Cycles, Memory, and Connections are in evidence as you wander the natural paths and trails surrounding the Center. A visitor can view Native contemporary sculptures, and traditional and Native community presentations, in their most natural setting.

The landscape shapes the stories, along with nature and its ever-changing seasons. These natural elements will help the visitor understand the importance for migrations and their preparation. It will also help demonstrate the displacement of native food sources, and its severe outcome, as the shrinking of Native lands continues to affect Native communities.

Natural paths guide the visitor through the corridors of Cycles, Memory, and Connections. As the visitor explores, she is introduced to a variety of native plants, identified by their many uses. Examples of Native stewardship and gathering sites are evidence of how people cared for their natural surroundings throughout the seasons.

Shelters designed for seasonal and permanent uses, as well as the Round house, Dance houses, Ceremonial locations and Sacred Sites, will offer the visitor a deeper understanding of their continued uses and significance. Contemporary Native sculptures placed throughout the landscape will help illustrate the stories, adding a contemporary view of the past.
Draft Circle 2: Major Indoor Content Areas

“What Are the Content Elements Required to Tell the Story?”

Main CIHC entry will be from the East acknowledging its location in Sacramento and a welcome by local tribes.

1. Transitional and Exterior Spaces
   Transitional and Exterior Spaces use natural elements to define the story. The transitional and exterior spaces of the CIHC will link the indoor and outdoor programs. The spaces are designed to convey unity with nature and are significant as the foundation for the Native worldview. This design element will connect the landscape to the building, inviting the visitors to rest and reflect on their relationship with nature.

   The visitor can enjoy impressive views of the river while the natural environment surrounds him. This environment is conveyed through building elements connected to the outdoors such as sculpture areas, small-scale native plantings, windows, and natural elements, as well as calls, terraces, rest areas, overlooks, small bridges.

2. Gathering of the People
   The entrance is filled with natural elements—the sound of water splashing on stones, the smell of fire and smoke, sounds of nature, the smell of trees. “Gathering of the People” summons the visitor to approach. What will you share? How will you honor the land and these people?

   The entry should inform the visitor of the circle and its importance to Native traditions. Awareness of sun, moon, and all natural cycles that shape the times and conditions for many Native gatherings and celebrations. The circle is the basis for the Native worldview, traditions are the continuity, and respect is the continued acknowledgment for the power of nature and her ever-evolving cycles. This perspective should help the visitor understand that everything in a circle passes back to its place of origin; nothing is ever without its renewal or responsibility.

   This fundamental Native perspective helps weave the past, present, and future into the story. The names of California tribes can be whispered through the sounds of birds and water, telling the story in their Native language. Historic and contemporary images of Native people encircle the space. The common bond is family, community, nature, and the Native understanding of Spiritual respect and humility for your place in this circle. Gathering of the People reflects and shares this Native worldview as the story begins!

3. Stories/Connections
   Stories will introduce visitors to California Native traditions and cultures. Visitors will take a journey across California, exploring the diverse and changing landscapes, learning how each community adapts and creates harmony within their environments. They will understand how migrations were important for gathering and hunting. How trade exposed the communities to each other, promoting peaceful gatherings and creating a foundation for similar values and shared beliefs.

4. Cycles
   Cycles suggest a sense of traditional life in California. It continues to develop a deeper view for the traditional practices of Native people. Audio narratives, cultural treasures, maps, and illustrations portray the cycles of daily life. Exhibits will speak about Native views of historic dates, contacts, and events. Exhibits and educational programs permit the visitor to join a Native storytelling circle, visit a village, or follow a migration.

5. Memory
   Memory offers the visitor an understanding of the impact and conflict that came from outside cultures. The dramatic influence from outside religions, commerce-based values and the poverty they create. The destruction of natural environments for profit, work ethics, and work enslavement. It will offer an understanding for the result of disease on Native populations. The genocide in stealing children for forced education. The genocide by displacement of families and the physical removal of communities from historic Native land bases. It will offer an understanding, for the context in which Native people have faced the genocide of their cultures, language, and their way of life. It will lend understanding to the crisis of identity it places on California Native people, right up to current times. Memory will also shed light on the effects of occupation, as well as the outcome in placement of foreign and unknown laws on Native populations. Memory will offer balance to the historic past, allowing a Native perspective on history. Memory will celebrate the survival of Native people. Memory will incorporate media, photos, oral stories, film, historic records, and recorded documents to help relate this information.

6. Connections
   History has forced Native communities to battle for their survival by the continued and constant threat to Sovereignty. The plight of many tribes and their continued struggle for Federal recognition. The experience of Native people in the urban community. The New Age interpretations of Native people, as well as the incorporation and exploitations of the Indian values by the mainstream media. Hollywood Indians, as the mascots, the anti-heroes, the Noble Natives. Connections offer a perspective on complicated issues such as repatriation and its implications. The unearthing of the past, the bones, and continued desecration of sacred sites are all issues that need continued education, compassion, and understanding.

   Connections will also be the setting for current Native cultures to identify and define their role and how the Native community would like to define its future. What values and connections they hope to continue and what values and traditions are fading. This forum is for the Native community to gather and bring the traditions of the California Native Nation into a contemporary focus.

   These issues will be addressed through, media, photos, films, performance, both traditional and contemporary, as well as paintings, sculpture, and textiles. A reference library/archive containing difficult-to-access and important historic documents, as well as their source information. This will help identify and bring into one location difficult-to-find California Native history.

Prepared by Ralph Appelbaum Associates Incorporated
Revised: 10/19/06
Draft Circle 3: Indoor Themes

“What Stories Should Be Told Inside?”

1. Linking Themes
   - Exhibits linking indoor and outdoor programs
   - Ceremonial facilities

2. Gathering of the People Themes
   Oral stories are the tie to our lands, our people, and our traditions. The story is our history; each story told helps identify, within our cultures, moral and ethical responsibilities. Each family has their own stories, tying their family into the larger community. The knowing of your Grandmother/Grandfather story identifies who your people were, where they came from, how they came to be, as well as the understanding of your traditions and honored practices within your community. Memory and the retelling of stories will fold past experiences into contemporary lessons. Oral story is the legacy of family, connecting generations in language and by the honor of remembering and retelling the important deeds of the past.
   Oral story is the tie to our land, our people, and our traditions; this weaving of the story, is what gives our cultures the connections and understanding of our Sacred and Spiritual beliefs.

3. Sacred and Spiritual Beliefs Themes
   - Environment: Everything comes from the land; the land connects all the communities. California’s natural landscape shaped cultures. Native people adapted to the land; creating a relationship as stewards for their surroundings. As stewards of the natural environment, developing a relationship of respect and a profound understanding of balance and Spiritual kinship to all living things.
   - Kinship, Community, Respects
   - Sacred and Spiritual beliefs: Creation stories, traditions, practice of spiritual beliefs as a way of life.

4. Cycles Themes
   - Environment
     - Native views on traditional historic territories
     - Native land practices (burning, planting, balanced use)
     - Native plants and their multiple uses
     - Medicinal plants
     - The Native generosity of spirit, awareness and appreciation for abundance of the environment. Importance of renewal, the Native understanding of prosperity
     - Displacement and subsistence living: deprived of the land, forced to survive. The proud and self-sufficient, forced into poverty, adaptation to outside foods, shelter, replacement of worldly goods, baskets, clothes
     - Geologic history of California
     - Land as the source of people’s trade
     - The land and its environment as the grounding within Sacred and Spiritual beliefs

Main CIHC entry will be from the East acknowledging its location in Sacramento and a welcome by local tribes.

Prepared by Ralph Appelbaum Associates, Incorporated
Revised: 10/19/06

Communities
- Life cycles (childhood, adulthood, male/female traditions, puberty rites, rites of passage, elders, traditions of death and burial practices)
- Clans, tribes, villages, rancherias, community, reservations, presidios, family Directions/Seasons, importance to traditions and survival
- Language and communication need to adapt to outside languages
- Trade/Trading routes
- Exchange-based economy
- Watercraft
- Conflict
- Native systems for social order vs. the implementation of unknown laws
- Displacement and forced subsistence living: outcome of land deprivation, forced to survive, the proud and self-sufficient, unavoidable land and social poverty
- Necessity to adapt to outside foods, clothing, replacement of baskets, clothes, trade and travel
- Commerce-based values vs. trade-based values
- Design incorporated into the practical uses, baskets, tools, and weapons

Sacred and Spiritual Beliefs
- Oral traditions: Oral history, ethics and values, connections to social order
- Creation stories
- Traditions of belief (prayer, rites of passage, marriage, death)
- Medicine people: Spiritual leaders/healers

Memories Themes
- Communities and Survival
  - Missions
  - Establishment of forts
  - Gold rush era: Population explosions/Redefining of land and its value
  - Definition and naming of Indian people by outside cultures
  - Warfare/Weaponry/Technology
  - Treaties—ratified and not ratified (unratified is Native humor)
  - Disease/Starvation
  - Land grants/Rancheria/Reservations/Sovereign Lands
  - Refugee camps, undeclared war encampments for forced migration
  - Boarding schools/“Reformers”
  - Forced loss of language, culture, beliefs
  - Indian resistance
  - Vitality in the face of hardship
  - Native population decline
  - Land as a commodity
  - Stereotypes and derogatory terms
  - Spread of disease due to introduction of hogs
  - Spread of disease due to population explosion
  - Repatriation
  - Public policy, politics, and tribal people

Environment
- Destruction of nature
- Mining (hydraulic)
- Diversion of water for farming and cities
- Pollution of water and land
- Filling and dredging
- Destruction of natural habitats
- Development of land and the destruction of sacred places
- Construction of railroads, freeways, and dams
- Struggle over significance of land; land as commodity

continued on next page
"What Stories Should Be Told Inside?"

**Sacred and Spiritual Beliefs**
- The impact of outside religions
- Indian values, disregard of Native cultures belief systems, traditional values, and ethics. The significance of of language and its importance to the continuity of cultural survival
- Effects by the forced adaptation of outside values (individuality, ambition, competition, challenge cooperation, the gun is mightier than the bow and arrow; the medicine people can’t heal white man’s diseases; a tin pail is more durable than a basket)
- Cultural ignorance. (Re: the silence of knowing, historic responsibility, who tells the story of genocide, the victim or the captor? No evolution without truth, history repeats itself)
- Outside religions

**Connections Themes**

**Sacred and Spiritual Beliefs, Environment, People and Community Relationships**
- Importance of sovereignty; What Is a Native Nation?
- Political sovereignty
- Loss of Native history.
- Cultural sovereignty
- Excavation of burial sites
- Protection of sacred land
- Moral authority of museums to possess Indian goods
- Living in many worlds—mixed blood; blending cultures
- Stolen generations (genocide)
- Continuity of Native values and culture
- Blood memory: (allow me my story, allow me my history!)
- Tradition, adaptation, and perseverance
- Resistance to oppression
- Health and wellness (obesity, diabetes, substance abuse)
- Boarding schools, adoption, and sterilization
- Gaming tribes
- Federally recognized and non-federally recognized tribes
- Federal support and distribution of monies
- The BIA-historic ineffectiveness
- Historic malfeasance, the lost treaties
- Life on reservations
- Impact of Urban Relocation Program
- Urban Indians, tribal displacement
- Legal issues/Court cases
- Contemporary Native art and expression
- Resurgence of Native tradition, practice, Native expression, renewing and understanding the values of Native people, to honor the self Native heritage names (ies Cycles and Connections)
- Modern stereotypes and derogatory terms
- Indian versus Native American
- Death and dealing with death
- Renewal/Past Is Present

Main CIHC entry will be from the East acknowledging its location in Sacramento and a welcome by local tribes.

Prepared by Ralph Appelbaum Associates Incorporated
Revised: 10/19/06
Draft Circle 4: Indoor Program Components

“What Spaces and Physical Elements Do We Need to Tell the Story?”

1. **Entry Spaces**
   - Entry—decide to enter—invited to enter—permitted to enter
   - Public main entrance
   - Elders’ entrance
   - Visitor services (ticketing, restrooms, coat check, bookstore)
   - Assistance and information services (reception desk)
   - Museum services (shipping, receiving, prep areas)
   - Performers and special events entrance, loading and dressing areas
   - School entrance/group assembly and orientation areas
   - Handicapped accommodation

2. **Transitional Building Spaces with Interpretive Opportunities**
   - Café
   - Classrooms/gathering areas for information circles of learning
   - Event facilities
   - Ceremonial facilities (private)
   - Bridges
   - Overlooks
   - Windows/Views
   - Terraces
   - Water features/Views
   - Silence/Stillness/quiet places

3. **Collections Spaces**
   - Suggested placement near Cycles main exhibits
   - Open storage (public)
   - Interpretation of open storage
   - Private and limited-access storage
   - Private viewing and consultation areas
   - Culturally appropriate storage
   - Prayer place (with access to light/outdoors) smudging areas
   - Conservation labs
   - Changing exhibitions
   - Collections
   - Registrar
   - Classrooms

4. **Educational Spaces**
   - Suggested placement near Memory main exhibits
   - Screening rooms
   - Classrooms
   - Reading rooms
   - Docent facilities
   - Reflection spaces
   - Listening galleries

5. **Forums Areas**
   - Suggested placement near Connections main exhibits
   - Native forum areas
   - Community meeting rooms
   - Community resources and services

6. **Library/Archive Areas**
   - Native news and information exchange
   - Public library
   - Native history area
   - Private archives
   - Private consultation areas (near archives)
   - Theater
   - Screening rooms
   - Changing exhibitions (traditional and contemporary media)
   - Contemporary art galleries
   - Artist-in-residence studio
   - Storytelling spaces
   - Oral history recording studio
   - Temporary exhibit gallery

**Notes:**
The CIHC will honor the customs of the local Native community. Agreement for the Center’s location must be established and acknowledged, as well as respect for their traditions of entry and seasonal customs.

The CIHC development Advisory Group mandates this project be environmentally conscious with all building and design elements, integrating a long-term vision and commitment for environmental sustainability.
Lands of the People
The Center’s site will be a Native Planting Area. It will be a natural environment, celebrating the power of nature, working to demonstrate the Native relationship to, and respect for, the environment (land and water). The Planting Areas will work as a canvas for the Center’s cultural and outdoor programs. The outdoor areas will convey the story: throughout the change of seasons this will allow seasonal cycles to define the outdoor programs.

Notes:
The entry directions and seasons of the local Native community will be honored and acknowledged. This will include directions for their traditional entry into an environment, as well as acknowledgment for the use of their land as host to this center, and acknowledgment for permission to be in their place. The land defines the story.

Cycles
Native Planting Areas: Nature interprets—natural paths in the landscape, a place by the river—honoring the relationship between California Indian people and the environment. Treasures, baskets, regalia, images, audio tours (oral histories), live presentations, demonstrations, and public programs.

Memory
The outdoor expression of Memory is a series of contemporary Indian sculptures. Themes (for review) will be genocide, survival, respect, and contemplation. Contemporary art will contribute to the story of survival and the reconstruction of Native cultures.

Connections
In the outdoor program, Connections will celebrate Native cultures through gatherings and the practice of seasonal celebrated events. A field can host dancing, traditional games, or cultural presentations. Support facilities for events will be provided, while retaining the natural character of the site. Event parking and facility-related camping/event areas merge with the landscape while not in use.
Draft Circle 6: Outdoor Themes
“What Stories Should Be Told Outside?”

Main CIHC entry will be from the East acknowledging its location in Sacramento and a welcome by local tribes.

1. Site
- Circles
- Fire
- Water
- Sky
- Seasons
- Four Directions
- Honor the land (stewardship, respect)

2. Cycles
- Environment
  - Significance of the land
  - Native views on land stewardship
  - Traditional historic territories, historic community relationships
  - Native land stewardship practices (burning, planting, balanced use)
  - Indigenous planting areas
  - Medicinal plants
  - Native generosity of spirit, abundance of the environment
  - Native understanding of prosperity
  - Displacement and subsistence living, deprived of the land, forced to adapt
  - Pride, and self-sufficient peoples, forced into poverty. The need to adapt to outside foods, clothes, replacement of traditional Native life
  - California’s regional characteristics
  - Significance and the history of the geologic activity within California
  - Land as the source of people’s trade, and its connection to Sacred and Spiritual beliefs
  - Changing waterways, diversion of water sources

- Cycles
- Stories
  - Land of the People/
  - Gathering of the People

- Connections
  - Four Directions
  - Season
  - Sky
  - Earth
  - Water
  - Fire

3. Memory
- Communities
  - Occupation
  - Genocide
  - Elders
  - Missions
  - Forts
  - Disease/Starvation
  - Resistance to oppression
  - Survival
  - Displacement, isolation (and how it saved people)
  - Indian veterans of American wars (Natives serving the country (e.g., WWII, Korea, Vietnam, current conflicts)
  - Natural order, leave a place, cleansing the environments, completion

- Environment
  - Destruction of nature (mining, pollution, filling, development, and dredging)
  - Outside religions
  - Indian values for their traditional way of life
  - Blocking the historic passages, blocking migrations

4. Connections
- Sacred and Spiritual Belief, Sacred Places, the People, Environment
  - Sovereignty/Political sovereignty/Cultural sovereignty
  - Excavation of burial sites/Protection of sacred land
  - Moral authority of museums to possess Indian goods
  - Living in many worlds—mixed blood, blending cultures
  - Connection to all generations
  - Importance of planning for future/7th generation concepts
  - Continuity of Native values and culture
  - Blood memory/history lives on
  - Tradition, adaptation, and perseverance
  - Resistance to oppression
  - Health and wellness (obesity, diabetes, substance abuse)
  - Boarding schools, adoption, and sterilization
  - Gaming tribes
  - Federally recognized and non-federally recognized tribes/termination
  - BIA and its ineffectiveness
  - Federal support and distribution of monies
  - Life on reservations
  - Impact of Urban Relocation Program
  - Urban, rural, and out-of-state Indian people
  - Legal issues/Court cases
  - Contemporary art and expression
  - Resurgence of Indian tradition, expression, and ritual; people using their heritage names (connects Cycles, Memory and Connections)
  - Modern stereotypes and derogatory terms/Indians as mascots and symbols

Prepared by Ralph Appelbaum Associates Incorporated
Revised: 10/19/06
Draft Circle 7: Outdoor Spaces

“What Physical and Natural Elements and Places Are Needed to Tell the Story?”

1. Site Components
   • Native Planting Area
     Enter with respect, come with humility and purpose

2. Outdoor Cycles Components
   • Interpretive gardens
   • Interpretive trails and paths
   • Extreme landscapes/Desert, mountains, oceans
   • Walking tours
   • River walk (water interpretation)
   • Amphitheater (natural amphitheater)

3. Outdoor Memory Components
   • Contemporary California Indian art
   • Sculpture garden
   • Contemplative spaces (e.g., tree groves, rocks)

4. Outdoor Connections Components
   • Traditional meeting area
   • Multipurpose fields
   • Special events area
   • Traditional game areas
   Temporary facilities and adjacencies:
   • Fire areas
   • Ceremonial fire areas
   • Overnight facilities
   • Cooking facilities
   • Demonstration spaces (regional village demonstrations and outdoor classrooms)
   • Special events parking (overflow)
   Note: Support facilities such as parking, restrooms, and food services will be provided for all outdoor program areas

Main CIHC entry will be from the East acknowledging its location in Sacramento and a welcome by local tribes.

Prepared by Ralph Appelbaum Associates Incorporated
Revised: 10/19/06
Draft Circle 8: Limited-Access Areas Reserved for Native Practice

“What Are the Limited-Access Areas?”

Throughout the Center, both within the facility and on the site, there will be limited-access areas reserved for Native practices. There may also be a separate dedicated facility for Native people. These areas will include spaces for:

- Indoor and outdoor traditional needs
- Smudging and ceremony areas
- Alcoves for private texts and oral histories
- Sensitive-treasures collections storage
- Gender-specific zones
- Native storytelling places
- Prayer spaces
- Quiet zones and elder zones
- Archive documents area, specific to Native research

Main CIHC entry will be from the East acknowledging its location in Sacramento and a welcome by local tribes.

Indoor visitor path

Outdoor visitor path

Prepared by Ralph Appelbaum Associates Incorporated
Revised: 10/19/06