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Operation of the Leadership Council

- NAEI is composed of a Leadership Council of 10 to 12 members.
- The council establishes the Initiative's agenda.
- All members of the council have one vote and contribute equal dues.
- The council makes decisions on a consensus basis wherever possible.
- The council meets quarterly, with informal NAEI staff consultations with the tribal leadership or their designees occurring routinely.
- Given the diverse geographic nature of NAEI membership, formal meetings may occur via video teleconference to facilitate full participation.
- While the Chamber encourages direct participation of tribal governments and corporate officers, members may designate Washington representatives as their primary points of contact.
- The Initiative has an executive director and is housed within the Chamber's Congressional and Public Affairs Division.
- The council specifies and directs coordination with other Native American advocacy organizations.
- The council approves participation in coalitions on specific legislative initiatives.
- Additional categories of membership may be created to enable the participation of other tribes and tribal businesses. These members are invited to join in summits and may be asked to provide context and more weight to specific initiatives.



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Unifying Principles

The Native American Enterprise Initiative is located in the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and seeks to advance the interests and economic successes of tribal enterprises and entrepreneurs across Indian Country through the following actions:

- Pursue determined advocacy for economic development causes using the highest ethical and professional standards.
- Advocate for the spirit of entrepreneurship and free enterprise that are core to the Chamber's mission and pursue issues in energy, taxation, workforce relations, the environment, trade, and foreign direct investment that advance this economic development cause.
- Tailor NAEI's legislative agenda to attain accomplishable goals that further the economic interests of our members and Native Americans across the country.
- Seek consensus among NAEI membership and with the broader Native American community.
- Seek to amplify the voice of Native American interests in Washington and work with existing tribal organizations to further NAEI's collective work.
- Approach advocacy in a bipartisan and constructive manner.
- Build bridges between the Native American business community and Chamber membership so that both benefit from the opportunities, experiences, and values of the other.
- Be an agile and flexible organization designed to reflect the diversity of issues facing Indian Country and positioned to capitalize on the new economic dynamism found among tribes and tribal businesses.



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