



**Bioneers || Collective Heritage Institute**  
**215 Lincoln Ave, Suite 202, Santa Fe, NM 87501**  
**[www.Bioneers.org](http://www.Bioneers.org)**

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## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

### **Indigeneity Program: Tribal Governance Rights of Nature Contractor**

#### ***Statement of Purpose***

The Bioneers Indigeneity Program seeks a consultant who is an experienced technical writer, planner and organizer among Indigenous (Native Alaskan/American Indian) nations to support an initiative to forward tribes' capacities to forward Rights of Nature in tribal governance. The contractor will work closely with the Bioneers Indigeneity Program Co-Directors to research (and provide sources), plan a tribal community-based strategy, write an educational toolkit, develop a capacity-building training workshop, and manage correspondence with tribes and tribal leaders/organizers associated with the initiative. All materials must be approved by the Bioneers Co-Directors. The time frame to complete these tasks is 4 months, September 20, 2020 - January 21, 2021. Compensation for the contract is \$15,000. The contractor should have an advanced knowledge of tribal governance, Federal Indian Law, and Rights of Nature.

#### ***About Bioneers***

Bioneers is an innovative nonprofit organization that highlights breakthrough solutions for restoring people and planet. Founded in 1990 in Santa Fe, New Mexico by social entrepreneurs Kenny Ausubel and Nina Simons, we act as a fertile hub of social and scientific innovators with practical and visionary solutions for the world's most pressing environmental and social challenges.

A celebration of the genius of nature and human ingenuity, Bioneers connects people with solutions and each other. Our acclaimed annual national conference and local Bioneers Network events are complemented by extensive media production including a vibrant online media presence, award-winning radio and podcast series, book series, and role in third-party media projects such as Leonardo DiCaprio's movie *The 11th Hour* and Michael Pollan's best-selling book *The Omnivore's Dilemma*.

Our dynamic programs and initiatives focus on game-changing initiatives related to Restorative Food Systems, Biomimicry, Rights of Nature, Indigeneity, Women's Leadership and Youth Leadership. In 2017, Ausubel and Simons were honored for the work of Bioneers by Japan's Goi Peace Award, whose past recipients include Bill Gates, scientist James Lovelock of the Gaia Hypothesis, Nigerian pro-democracy activist Hafsat Abiola-Costello and Deepak Chopra. Learn more at [www.bioneers.org](http://www.bioneers.org).

#### ***Background Information***

Since its inception, Bioneers has been fundamentally shaped and guided by Indigenous knowledge, participants and partners, the original "Bioneers." Bioneers' Native-led Indigeneity

Program invites ally-ship to support the leadership, rights and cultural survival of First Peoples. The Program expands the reach of indigenous knowledge and approaches to solving environmental and social crises.

Indigeneity is a Native-led Program within Bioneers that promotes Indigenous approaches to solve the earth's most pressing environmental and social issues. The program produces the Indigenous Forum, original media, educational curricula and catalytic initiatives to support the leadership and rights of First Peoples, while weaving networks, partnerships and alliances among Native and non-Native allies.

The scope of work outlined in this RFP will be managed by the Bioneers Co-Directors, Cara Romero and Alexis Buntun.

### ***Scope of Work***

- Familiarize themselves with Bioneers, the Bioneers Indigeneity Program.
- Meet weekly with the Bioneers Indigeneity Program Co-Directors.
- Participate in deepening working alliances with Native and non-Native groups
- Participate in selection of a Task Force of at least 15 experts in *Rights of Nature* law, Federal Indian Law, Tribal Law, Tribal Governance, and grassroots organizing.
- Participate in communications and outreach to members of the Task Force
- Research and develop an educational toolkit for tribes that covers all aspects of organizing Rights of Nature for tribal governance
- Research and develop a training workshop to be delivered to tribal organizers. The training workshop would include handouts and a slide deck presentation
- Gather appropriate legal permissions for all images used in slide decks.
- Revise and rewrite any materials as needed.

### ***Outcomes and Performance Standards***

Outcomes include:

Contractor agrees to meet with Indigeneity Program Co-Directors on a weekly basis. Contractor agrees to share ongoing materials with Co-Directors via google docs platform, and to meet benchmarks outlined in the delivery schedule. Co-Directors may terminate the contract at any time that materials are not submitted in a timely manner as outlined in this RFP.

Performance standards expected when engaging with Bioneers staff, contractors, interns and volunteers include excellent customer service, teamwork and collaboration, professionalism and courtesy, responsibility and accountability, confidentiality, punctuality, open communication, inclusivity and safety.

### ***Deliverables***

Materials will be delivered via the google doc platform. Deliverables are an educational toolkit, and all materials for a training workshop.

The educational toolkit and training workshop will include materials on the topic of:

- Definitions
- History of the RoN movement
- RoN and Federal Indian Law
- The context of IRA in relation to Rights of Nature

- How to organize a RoN campaign
- Talking Points/Suggested Language

The educational toolkit will also include the following components:

- Table of contents
- Images with releases (or copyright free)
- Worksheets
- Samples (surveys, etc.)
- Properly cited sources
- Appendixes (sample legal language, etc)

The workshop will also include the following components:

- Slide deck
- Handouts
- Images with releases (or copyright free)
- Handouts: Worksheets, Samples (surveys, etc.), examples

The Delivery Schedule is as follows:

- October 1: Toolkit outline complete, Co-Directors will deliver revisions to Toolkit outline within 7 days
- October 30: Toolkit draft complete
- November 15: Workshop outline complete, Co-Directors will deliver al workshop revisions within 7 days
- January 1: Workshop Draft complete, final Toolkit complete, Co-Directors will deliver all workshop revisions within 7 days
- January 20: submit all final deliverables

## **Contractual Terms and Conditions**

### ***Term of Contract***

The term of the contract is 4 Months September 21, 2020 to January 21, 2021. Upon satisfactory submission of materials, the contract may be renewed for future curriculum writing and additional collaborations for media-making.

### ***Payments, Incentives, and Penalties***

Once a contractor is selected, a formal contract will be issued, inclusive of relevant terms regarding payment, invoicing, termination and deliverables.

- The contractor will be paid \$3,000 upon signing of the contract.
- \$1,000 each will be paid upon delivery of outlines of the toolkit and workshop for a total of \$2,000.
- \$4,000 each will be paid upon delivery of the final approved toolkit and workshop materials for a total of \$8,000.
- \$2,000 will be paid upon the completion of the contract based on satisfactory performance related to project management and administration. This includes attending weekly meetings, following up on tasks as assigned within the time period allotted, organization of project materials, and complete communications with outside partners and parties involved with this initiative.

Compensation or payment will not be made for materials that have not been approved or not satisfactorily completed.

### ***Requirements for Proposal Preparation***

The selection team is looking for someone who is familiar with Federal Indian Law and tribal governance processes, a highly proficient technical writer and editor, has experience developing educational materials for adult learners, and who is experienced in planning and organizing within US federally recognized tribes.

Please submit the following proposal outline:

- 1) 1 page Executive Summary and Introduction including your qualifications for this contract.
- 2) Current resumé or CV related to curriculum development.
- 3) One (or more) example(s) of technical writing that you have produced.

### ***Evaluation, Timeline and Award Process***

Proposals will be evaluated based on how closely they adhere to the requirements outlined in this RFP. Proposals will be reviewed by the Bioneers Indigeneity Program Co-Directors, who will also determine who will be awarded the contract. Candidates who are not selected will be informed via email.

### ***Process Schedule:***

1. **Proposals to be submitted by September 7, 2020.** Email to Alexis Naficy, Indigeneity Program Co-Director, Alexis@Bioneers.org and Nikki Spangenburg, Chief Administrative Officer, Nikki@Bioneers.org.
2. Chosen proposals will be contacted via phone for a presentation request for the week of September 14, 2020.
3. Remaining proposals will be contacted via email by September 18, 2020.
4. Post presentation, review committee will choose and approve a proposal and inform the winning proposal by September 18, 2020.
5. Client will submit contract with approved scope of work by September 21, 2020.
6. Client and contractor will host a kick-off meeting to launch the work on September 24, 2020.

Thank you in advance for your time and energy,  
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