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**Center for Native American Public Radio (CNAPR) Announces Key Leadership Appointments**

*Center committed to self-determination, self-sufficiency for Native Radio*

**Oakland, CA**—The Center for Native American Public Radio (CNAPR), a national leadership and service organization for Native American radio, announced the appointment of Loris Ann Taylor as Executive Director and Peggy Berryhill as Director of Services and Planning. In addition, the organization has appointed an Advisory Council of respected leaders in the Native American community.

CNAPR began as a dialogue among leaders in Native Radio and at the successful Native Radio Summit in 2001, identifying needs to encourage, promote and facilitate public stations and programming by and for Native Americans.

“Loris Taylor and Peggy Berryhill will provide the kind of leadership, vision, and experience that will help Native Radio flourish,” said Carol Pierson, President and CEO of the National Federal for Community Broadcasters. “CNAPR grew out of the desires expressed by leaders in Native Radio, and NFCB is proud to be of service to this important emerging organization.”

The activities of CNAPR will be guided by an Advisory Council comprised of leaders from Native American communities who are committed to the strength and future of Native Radio; its membership will reflect the Native Radio System including stations, distributors and producers, along with other Native organizations.

“The launch of CNAPR is an exciting opportunity for Indian Country; we are building an organization to answer the call to action we have been hearing from the stations, producers and others in the Native Radio System,” said Taylor. “The Native Radio System is a strong and vital resource for tribes, much like land and water. Working with station managers, tribal leaders, local community members and key stakeholders, CNAPR will give voice and leadership to the system as well as search for innovative funding opportunities for Native Radio.”

By developing new sources of funding, providing leadership and advocacy on behalf of Native Radio, and enhancing and expanding services, CNAPR will assure that Native public radio remains a vital resource to tribes, reaching more Native Americans, both urban and rural, and bringing the voice of Native American people to others.

The Native Radio System is comprised of thirty-three Native-owned public radio stations located across thirteen states, American Indian Radio on Satellite in Nebraska and Koahnic Broadcasting Corporation located in Alaska and New Mexico.

CNAPR was officially launched last fall with a 3-year start-up grant of \$1.5 million from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) with the center’s organization and operation as a project of the National Federation of Community Broadcasters (NFCB).

*(more)*

Loris Ann Taylor, formerly General Manager at station KUYI, has assumed the role of Executive Director for CNAPR. In addition to her station management duties, Taylor has been a leader on Native American issues, including at the grassroots level with the Hopi people as well as representing nineteen of the twenty-one tribes in matters of public policy and economic development. She was also Associate Director of the Hopi Foundation, a leading community non-profit institution in Indian Country. Taylor is Hopi/Acoma and resides in Arizona.

Peggy Berryhill, formerly Executive Director of the Native Media Resource Center, has stepped into the role of Director of Services and Planning for CNAPR. Berryhill is well positioned for this role after more than 30 years of broadcast experience, including as an award-winning independent producer who has also worked at NPR; she's been a program director and has collaborated on numerous documentary projects. In 1996 she founded the Native Media Resource Center which was the leading force in organizing the Native Radio Summit in 2001. Berryhill is Muscogee born in the capital of the Muscogee Nation, Okmulgee.

The Advisory Council members are:

- Rebecca Adamson (Cherokee) Founder & President, First Nations Development Institute
- Frank Blythe (Eastern Band of Cherokee/Sisseton-Wahpeton Dakota), Executive Director & Founder, Native American Public Telecommunications
- Will Gray, Jr. (Assiniboine/Gros Ventre), Station Manager, KGVA-FM
- Joseph Orozco (Hupa-Hopi) Station Manager, KIDE-91.3FM
- Mike Roberts (Tlingit) Vice President of Grantmaking, First Nations Development Institute
- Jaclyn Sallee (Inupiat Eskimo), President & CEO, Koahnic Broadcast Corporation
- Mary Sando-Emhoolah (Warm Springs/Wasco/Aleut), Board of Directors, NFCB
- Peter P. Tuluk (Cup'iq Eskimo) General Manager, KCUK-FM
- Laura Waterman-Wittstock (Seneca Nation), President, MIGIZI Communications.

NFCB, under the leadership of its President and CEO, Carol Pierson, will provide support and staff capacity, including administrative and strategic counsel. Kai Aiyetoro, NFCB CFO, is the Director of Financial Affairs for CNAPR, responsible for developing financial systems and practices.

Native American stations and program producers will gather at the annual NFCB conference April 13-16 in Baltimore, MD (for more information, visit [www.nfcb.org](http://www.nfcb.org)).

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**The Center for Native American Public Radio** (CNAPR), an independent project of the National Federation of Community Broadcasters (NFCB, a 501(c)3 organization), is dedicated to promoting, expanding and improving Native Radio in North America by developing financial sustainability, leadership and governance, services and advocacy. CNAPR represents and enables the Native American public radio system and embraces the values of integrity, honesty and stewardship, respects the sovereignty of tribal nations through mutual trust and inclusion. [www.cnapr.org](http://www.cnapr.org)

The **National Federation of Community Broadcasters** (NFCB) is a 30-year old grassroots, 501(c)3 organization of non-commercial, educational, public radio stations which are distinguished by their community support, control and programming. NFCB is the sole national membership and service organization for community radio with a mission to advocate for public policy, recognition, and resources on behalf of its membership, and provide services to empower and strengthen community broadcasters with a commitment to localism, diversity, cultural preservation and public service. [www.nfcb.org](http://www.nfcb.org)

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