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Native-owned Business Launches to Help Native Communities Receive Broadband Funding and Access

Tribal Ready's Virtual Tribal Broadband Office helps tribes access testing tools and information that will more accurately record broadband maps

Washington, D.C. – Tribal Ready, a Native American-owned-and-governed company with decades of experience in communication network design and delivery to unserved and underserved areas, is launching an outreach program to ensure that Indian Country is accurately mapped for broadband access. Accurate broadband mapping is essential for Tribes to receive funding from the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

Funds from the program are allocated based on an FCC map known as the Fabric. Estimates indicate that location data in the Fabric may be incorrect in the vast majority of cases in rural areas, either by omission or error. Tribal Ready helps Native communities challenge the data and advocate for their concerns about the process.

“It is incumbent on Tribal leaders, citizens, and allies to gather data on a scale large enough to ensure that Tribal nations receive the billions of dollars that are available and necessary to complete broadband expansion projects,” said Joe Valandra, CEO of Tribal Ready. “Tribal Ready has created a Virtual Tribal Broadband Office to give Tribes free speed testing tools and information that will make it possible for them to access their fair share of funding.”

It's estimated that Indian Country should receive at least \$5 billion from the BEAD program if the data were accurate.

“High-speed broadband is a resource – a means to an end,” said Scott Dinsmore, vice president of external affairs at Tribal Ready. “It takes resources to achieve sustainable high-speed networks and the world-class access to economic, education, healthcare and other benefits that come with it.”

Tribal Ready believes that the best way to achieve this is for leaders in Indian Country to focus on creating data and guidelines that help states design fair and inclusive challenge processes. At the same time, the company is committed to ensuring that Tribal data sovereignty is secure and protected.

Tribal Nations are encouraged to sign up for the Virtual Tribal Broadband Office by visiting Tribal Ready's site; click [here](#).

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About the Company Founders

Joseph Valandra, president and CEO of Tribal Ready, Inc., is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of South Dakota. He has more than 25 years of experience in executive-level leadership roles in the public, private, government, and non-profit sectors, including an extensive background in Tribal economic development. Using his collective experiences in government, business, and gaming, Valandra has launched various ventures uniquely focused on the technological development, marketing, and deployment of products and services designed to benefit Native nations. He is deeply committed to hard work and determination, leading to expanding opportunities for all Natives. joe@tribalready.com

Scott Dinsmore, vice president of external affairs at Tribal Ready, Inc., is Pakan'yani Maidu of Strawberry Valley Rancheria. Calling upon over 20 years of award-winning experience in network, sales, and marketing, Dinsmore has bridged the divide for large and small organizations looking to expand their footprint and forge a path into the future. He founded a 501c3 non-profit (The One Native Nation Foundation, Inc.) to provide scholarships for Native American youth from both federally recognized and unrecognized tribes. Scott believes connecting Native communities to the highest quality broadband service available is fundamental to Tribal data sovereignty and self-determination. scott.dinsmore@tribalready.com

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About Tribal Ready

Tribal Ready is a Native American-owned and governed company with decades of expertise in communication network design and delivery to high-cost rural areas. Our mission is to ensure that high-speed broadband reaches every Native American individual and community. We are committed advocates for tribal sovereignty, fighting for the right to govern our communities and benefit from access to modern technology. Our team has the knowledge and relationships vital for tribes to access broadband grant funding and the trust necessary to preserve culture and advance tribal sovereignty.