

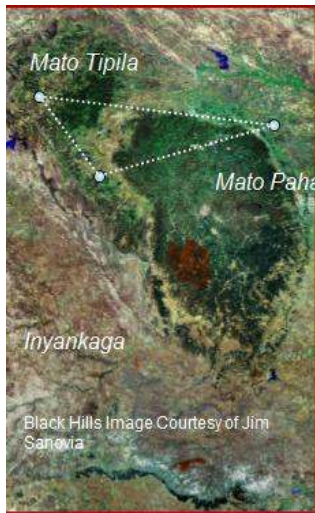
## INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

### **44TH ANNIVERSARY INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY CONFERENCE**

*June 21<sup>st</sup> – June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

**MATO PAHA (Bear Butte), South Dakota**

*We extend a warm welcome to all participants at the 44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary International Treaty Conference. We are providing you with the following important information to help make the conference a good experience for everyone.*



### **The Buffalo Skull**

- During summer solstice the 3 sites of *Mato Tipila*, *Mato Paha* and *Inyankaga* are spiritually empowered as an altar of the Sun Dance
- They become *Pte He Gi* (brown or grey buffalo horn), *Pte Pute Ya He* (buffalo nose horn) and *Pte He Sapa* (black buffalo horn)

### **Elevation Sites Change Names During Summer Solstice**

*Pte He Gi (Brown Horn)*



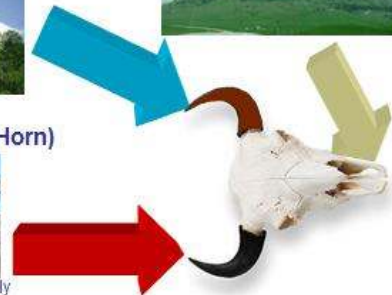
*Pte Pute Ya (Buffalo Nose)*



*Pte He Sapa (Black Horn)*



*Inyankaga photo by Dan Daly*



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**RESPECT THIS SACRED PLACE:** Mato Paha (Bear Butte) is a sacred place of profound and ancient significance for the Lakota and Cheyenne Nations. We ask that everyone conduct themselves accordingly, dress appropriately, and maintain an attitude of respect for this place and for each other while we are here. No alcohol, drugs (except prescription medications) or weapons will be allowed at this conference. Anyone “under the influence” or exhibiting violent behavior will be asked to leave immediately by security.

**CLIMBING THE BUTTE:** Because ceremonies are being conducted in private in various locations on Bear Butte during the summer months, as well as the presence of various wildlife and rough terrain, we ask that those wishing to climb the Butte do so only from the State Park Entrance (please ask for directions), and not from the side closest to the conference site. Please remind your children.

**THE SACRED FIRE:** The Sacred Fire will be kept burning during the four days. You may offer prayers or tobacco at any time (ask the Fire Keeper on duty if you’re not sure how to do this). Do not throw anything else, trash, cigarette butts, etc. in this fire.

***If you would like to conduct any kind of ceremony please first get approval through Lakota protocol with the onsite designated Lakota ceremonial leaders.***

**CEREMONIAL AREAS:** Only those responsible for taking care of the sweat lodge areas, preparing the sweats or getting ready to sweat should be in this area. There will be no photographs, video or recordings permitted of the sweat or sacred fire areas, or the pipe ceremonies. Spiritual Leaders who will be asked to lead the morning prayers may also request that no photos or recordings be taken during those times. Sweat leaders will be designated by the hosts for men's and women's sweats. Please respect the protocols and their instructions.

**FOR WOMEN:** With respect for the traditions of the host Nation, women on or near their "time of the month" should not participate in the pipe or sweat lodge ceremonies, go near the sacred fire, drum or sweat lodge areas, or work in the kitchen. This is a sacred purification time for women, no disrespect is intended. There will be signs posted for Women's and Men's restrooms. Please respect these postings. If you have any questions, ask an elder woman from the area to speak to you.

**WEATHER:** June sees an average high of 76° with a low of 51°. It is predicted to be warm and sunny during the day with mild winds. It will be cooler at night, and there is a possibility of summer rain so please dress accordingly.

**TRANSPORTATION AND DIRECTIONS:** Transportation will be provided for participants who are flying from the airport to the campsite. Please submit your travel itinerary as soon as possible to [nicole@treatycouncil.org](mailto:nicole@treatycouncil.org) so that you can be included in our pick-up list. For driving directions go to: <http://bearbuttelodge.tripod.com/directions.htm>

**THE CAMP AND FACILITIES:** Camping areas will be designated and pointed out to you at registration. There will be many campers in a fairly small area and camps may need to be close together, so we ask that everyone is respectful of their "neighbors". KEEP TRACK OF YOUR OWN CHILDREN AT ALL TIMES, and try to keep the noise level down at the camp, especially during sleeping hours. Let security know if there are children who are lost or unsupervised so we can help locate their parents. Please be respectful of the land, pick up your trash and keep your campsite tidy.

**SHOWERS AND MOTELS:** There are limited shower facilities on site for your convenience. Water is not abundant in this area and there are many campers so please limit the number and length of your showers. There are locations in Sturgis where showers are available at a nominal cost. Check the IITC website for a list of motels in Sturgis and Rapid City (at your own expense). We will not provide daily shuttles from Sturgis or Rapid City, so arrange your own rides if you are staying off site.

**CAMP FIRES:** At the request of the facility hosts, for safety reasons, there will be no individual campfires permitted during the conference. Please be vigilant regarding other fires (kitchen and sweat lodge) and use extreme caution with your own matches, cigarettes, etc. THIS IS A HIGH FIRE HAZARD AREA. Smoking areas will be designated and containers for butts provided.

**ANIMALS, INSECTS AND PLANTS:** Large wild animals are now almost non-existent in this area, but please report any signs or sightings. Snakes, including rattlesnakes, do live here, although they are not usually found near well-used human habitations. Please avoid the high grass and rocky areas. Let us know if you hear or see a rattlesnake so we can warn others. There are ticks, also concentrated in

the high grass. If you get a tick under your skin, don't panic. The "locals" will know what to do to get rid of it, or see one of the EMT's. If you are sleeping on the ground, you may also want to use "chig-rid", or other medications you can buy over-the-counter locally to prevent chigger bites (chiggers are tiny insect-like things that burrow under the skin, not dangerous but irritating). There is also poison ivy in the area. Ask a "local" what it looks like and avoid it if you can. And please, don't pick any of the plants. Protect the bio-diversity of this sacred place!

**MEALS:** Meals will be provided for participants during the conference starting the evening of the 20<sup>th</sup> and ending with lunch on the 24<sup>th</sup>. If you have special food needs or preferences we suggest you bring your own food supplies to supplement what is being served. Drinking water will be provided on site and coffee and tea water will be available at all times.

**BE SUSTAINABLE!** Please bring your own cups, plates and utensils if possible. The hosts and the environment will be very appreciative. Water for washing your dishes will be provided.

**TRASH and WASTE:** We will provide two large dumpsters for emptying your trash. **NO Littering Allowed.** Please clean up your own area as you use it, and empty trash in the dumpsters and trash cans on site. We want this place to stay beautiful during the time we are here and be clean when we leave. Please help us with final clean up.

**COME PREPARED:** For everyone who can do so, please bring your own tents or tipis and bed rolls/sleeping bags. Limited numbers of tents, cots and tipi's for sleeping will be provided to those who need them, especially those arriving by air from other countries. Everyone needs to bring their own towels and toiletries.

**PARKING:** To keep everyone safe and the camping area open for more campers there will be designated parking areas. Everything within the conference is walking distance. Registration, security staff and signs will indicate where vehicles can be parked.

**THE LODGE BUILDING:** The lodge building is for use by the conference staff only, except by special arrangement. EXCEPTION: the large downstairs room will be used for "elders hospitality" so that our elders can get out of the heat or rain and rest for a bit during the daytime hours (8:00 AM – 8:00 PM). There will be water, fruit, juice, coffee and tea available **for elders only** during these hours (others can serve themselves in the outside kitchen area). We ask that the use of this space be limited to the elders and those assisting them. **The Lodge will be off limits to children.**

**PHONES AND INTERNET:** Cell phone service and internet are available onsite. We will provide a limited number of outlets for charging phones, laptops, etc.

**COPIES:** The lodge copy machine is limited to conference business use only. Bring your own copies of information that you want to distribute. There are places to make copies in Rapid City and Sturgis.

**PHOTOS:** Everyone taking photos or videos, including with your cell phone and for personal use will need to register as media and get a media badge. Please be respectful and ask for permission before

you take photos of participants, and ask parents in the case of children. Ceremonies and ceremonial areas are off limits for picture-taking.

**MEDICAL EMERGENCIES:** Emergency Medical Technicians from Rosebud Tribal CHR will be on site to provide first aid. Notify security or conference staff immediately if there is a medical problem. For an ambulance or serious medical needs call 911. Those without insurance will need to cover their own medical costs if transported to a hospital or clinic. Tell staff if you need to go to a clinic or hospital.

**VENDING AND TRADING:** Arts, crafts and other items can be sold or exchanged only if they produced personally. No commercial vending or food sales permitted. Bring your own tables and canopies.

**PETS:** There will be no pets allowed, except seeing-eye or other designated service dogs. You are responsible for cleaning up after your service animals.

**VOLUNTEERING:** Please commit some time during the conference to volunteer (meals preparation, serving and clean-up, registration, security etc.). Ask one of the staff or coordinators if you would like to be of assistance. Announcements will also be made when help is needed.

**MESSAGES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Provide announcements in writing to the program coordinator or MC. We will make announcements (lost and found, rides etc.) at the end of each program. Emergency messages will be announced immediately.

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES:** There will be no daycare or childcare provided on-site. You are responsible for your own children. Youth 14 and over are encouraged to participate in the conference as well as the youth programs and commissions listed in the conference agenda.

**HORSES:** Accommodations are not available on-site for horses. If you are planning to come with horses please contact Dennis Youngman to arrange nearby accommodations at [bbldodge@gwtc.net](mailto:bbldodge@gwtc.net) , (605) 590-0524.

*If you have any questions, problems or suggestions about anything at this conference, please contact one of the Conference Coordinating Committee members, registration or security on-duty. The Conference Coordinating Committee will meet every evening. Any concerns that cannot be dealt with immediately will be discussed at that time. Our sincere wish is that you have an enjoyable, safe and positive experience at this conference. For all our Relations.*

**For more information please contact:**

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Bill Means at [bill.means73@gmail.com](mailto:bill.means73@gmail.com), cell: (612) 386-4030

Phil Two Eagle at [phil.twoeagle@rst-nsn.gov](mailto:phil.twoeagle@rst-nsn.gov), cell: (605) 319-1596

***The International Indian Treaty Council, Bear Butte Lodge, Sicangu Treaty Council and Rosebud Sioux Tribe are not liable for theft, loss or damage to personal property and vehicles or for personal injuries. Please take care of yourselves and each other!***