



# CROW CREEK SIOUX TRIBE

FORT THOMPSON, SOUTH DAKOTA 57339

## **Crow Creek Indian Reservation**

### **Telecommunications Plan**

#### **To Further Business, Economic, Social, and Educational Development**

August 19, 2008 – Fort Thompson, South Dakota. The Crow Creek Indian Reservation is home to the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe which lies mostly in Buffalo County in South Dakota. The Crow Creek reservation is the nation's poorest Indian Reservation; more than 97% of the 3,000 residents are unemployed, compared to the rest of American who fret over a recession that has driven unemployment from 4% up to 6%,--and it's been that way for as long as anyone can remember.

With the poverty come staggering rates of homelessness, alcoholism, disease, drug abuse, murders, suicide, infant mortality, teen-age pregnancy and school dropouts.

To address these issues and more, the Crow Creek Indian Reservation has developed a Telecommunications Plan for the establishment of a telecommunication infrastructure on the reservation that will enable business, economic, social and educational development.

- The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe will supplement the wireless and wire line services available on the reservation with advanced broadband services through the establishment of a new competitive local exchange carrier ("CLEC") utilizing state-of-the-art advanced fixed wireless technology on the reservation. The CLEC, Native American Telecom LLC, will initially provide broadband internet access to critical tribal government locations, schools, and other educational or medical locations, and then will expand service to other businesses and residents on the reservation.

- The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe will use its telecommunications infrastructure to attract new businesses to generate economic development, employment opportunities, and revenue. The tribe will take advantage of its telecommunications infrastructure to (i) develop private sector incentive programs, such as the Minority Business Enterprise Program, (ii) take advantage of its tribal sovereignty in engaging in business, and (iii) apply for status as a foreign trade zone.
- The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe will use its access to information and services to position the tribe to take advantage of programs and services aimed at addressing the social needs of the reservation. Each year, the tribe will establish goals and objectives, and programs aimed at achieving these goals and objectives, to address social and economic development issues, such as poverty, medical needs, unemployment, dependencies, and education.

The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe Chairman's Office can be reached at 605-245-2221.