



**Contact: Nicky Lambert**  
**VISTA Project Supervisor**  
California Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc.  
738 North Market Boulevard  
Sacramento, CA 95834  
www.cimcinc.org  
Phone 916.920.0285  
Fax 916.641.6338

**California Indian  
Manpower  
Consortium, Inc.**

## Media Release

### **California Indian Manpower Consortium receives Native Youth and Culture Fund grant from First Nations Development Institute**

Sacramento, California, June 2012: California Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc. (CIMC) has been awarded a \$20,000 grant from the First Nations Development Institute's Native Youth and Culture Fund. The grant award addresses issues of cultural discontinuity as a reason for low high school graduation rates among Native American youth. The project entitled "California Tribal Culture Exchange" consists of two parts: a video contest and developing and distributing an educational video on California Tribal culture with the involvement of youth and elders.

Tribal youth between the ages of 5 and 23 years from the eligible service areas are invited to submit short videos showcasing their California tribal culture. Winning entries will receive up to \$1,200 in prize money to better their tribal community. Each video should be accompanied by an essay describing where and how the prize money will be utilized for the community. Submissions will be included in a video to be distributed to schools, tribes, and individuals throughout California for educational purposes.

Eligible counties include: Lassen, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego. The contest begins September 1, 2012 and all entries should be received by December 31, 2012. For official rules, submission information and prize details please visit: <https://sites.google.com/site/ctcecontest>.

The Native Youth and Culture Fund makes grants annually to support Native youth and culture programs throughout Native American communities in the United States. First Nations Development Institute awarded 22 Native Youth and Culture Fund grants in 2012.

California Indian Manpower Consortium, Inc. is a Native American non-profit organization, created in 1978, with the purposes of offering training, employment and other activities designed to meet the employment and training needs of the client population; promoting community self-help programs and provide direct services to assist the eligible American Indian population to become economically self-sufficient and to alleviate poverty in the rural, reservation, and urban areas; providing professional economic development services to assist American Indian tribes and organizations in developing funding strategies and public-private partnerships that will lead to greater economic vitality; and promoting and providing programs and activities designed to improve the educational attainment levels of Native American youth and adults.

*As first Americans, we walk in the present, with our eyes on the future and the past in our hearts. We advocate pride in our cultural integrity. We honor the spirit that ensures continuity of the sacred circle. Our team of caring professionals: empowers Native Americans to achieve excellence; revitalizes our communities; and embraces the challenges of the 21st century.*

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