

Northwestern

NATIVE AMERICAN AND INDIGENOUS
STRATEGIC PLAN 2024

JIIIMAAAN JOURNEY



Northwestern

NATIVE AMERICAN AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS

Reflection Guide

Overview & Context

After two years of intentional planning, Northwestern University launched its Native American and Indigenous (NAI) Strategic Plan. This plan marks a significant milestone in our ongoing commitment to honoring Native American and Indigenous self-determination. The plan outlines key priorities over the next three years:



INVEST IN HUMAN, SPACE, AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO SUPPORT STRATEGIC PLAN

ENHANCE NU LEADERSHIP EFFICACY AND CAPACITY

CREATE NU-WIDE KNOWLEDGE AND PROGRAMS GROUNDED IN INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGES AND SELF-DETERMINATION

RESOURCE AND DELIVER ON PARTNERSHIP WITH TRIBAL COMMUNITIES

INCREASE SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN AND INDIGENOUS STUDENTS AT NORTHWESTERN, INCLUDING PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS, CURRENT STUDENTS AND ALUMNI

In October of 2021, the Center for Native American and Indigenous Research (CNAIR) hosted master canoe builder Wayne Valliere (LDF Ojibwe) as an artist-in-residence. During his three-week residency, Valliere and the Northwestern Native community took part in building a wiigwaasi- jiimaan, a birchbark canoe, which is now proudly housed in the Segal Visitor Center. The jiimaan carries not only people but culture. Embedded in the structure are centuries of Indigenous engineering, philosophy, history, artistry, and wisdom. Therefore, when establishing a guiding framework for our Native American and Indigenous Strategic Plan, it was fitting to utilize the teachings from the jiimaan as we continue to navigate the waters of change and renew our commitments to Indigenous communities.



Reflection Guide

The work of advancing this plan is collective. We developed this guide to help you assess where you are at, reflect on your role and influence, and identify goals and actions you can take.

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CONNECT WITH US



Website

www.northwestern.edu/native



E-mail

community-enrichment@northwestern.edu



Phone

847-467-6368