

February 3, 2026

Ms. Celeste Townsend
President
California Indian Nations College
75080 Frank Sinatra Drive
Palm Desert, CA 92211

Dear Ms. Townsend:

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, at its meeting January 14-15, 2026, reviewed the Follow-Up Report and related evidentiary materials submitted by California Indian Nations College. The Commission also considered the Peer Review Team Follow-Up Report prepared by the follow-up team that visited the institution on September 8, 2025. The purpose of this review was to determine whether the College has addressed the deficiencies identified by the peer review team during the Fall 2024 comprehensive visit and demonstrated compliance with the Standards cited in the Commission's January 21, 2025, Action Letter.

Upon consideration of the information noted above, the Commission acted to **Grant Initial Accreditation** for eight years. The Commission finds that California Indian Nations College has addressed the compliance requirements, corrected deficiencies, and meets **Standards 4.5 and 4.6**.

The Commission requires that you disseminate the Follow-Up Report, the Peer Review Team Report, and this letter to all campus constituencies and the public by placing copies on the College website within seven business days of your receipt. A final copy of the Peer Review Team Report is attached. ACCJC's grant of accreditation or preaccreditation, per the institution's request, does not include participation in Title IV, Higher Education Act programs.

The next report from the College will be the Midterm Report¹ due on September 15, 2029. The institution's next comprehensive review will begin with Team ISER Review in the spring term of 2033 and conclude with a Focused Site Visit in the fall term of 2033.

¹ Institutions preparing and submitting Midterm Reports, Follow-up Reports, Special Reports, or Teach-out plans/agreements to the Commission should review the Accreditation Handbook and applicable report templates available on the ACCJC website at <https://accjc.org/accreditation-handbook-and-report-templates/>.

On behalf of the Commission, we wish to express appreciation for the diligent work and thoughtful reflection that California Indian Nations College undertook to respond to these requirements. These efforts confirm that peer review can serve the multiple constituencies of higher education by both ensuring and encouraging institutional quality and effectiveness.

If you have any questions about this letter or the Commission's action, please feel free to contact Dr. Mac Powell or the vice president assigned as liaison to your institution.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a series of connected loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mac Powell, MBA, Ph.D.
President

A handwritten signature in dark ink, featuring a large, ornate capital 'K' followed by the first name 'Kathleen' and the last name 'Burke' in a cursive script.

Kathleen F. Burke, Ed.D.
Chair

cc: Mr. Shawn Ragan, Accreditation Liaison Officer