

**TAB 15**

**MASHPEE WAMPANOAG TRIBE, OUR TRIBE IS  
SIGNIFICANTLY UNDERFUNDED THROUGH THE BIA  
TRIBAL ALLOCATION (TPA) BASE FUNDING  
(JUNE 21, 2011)**



The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe  
483 Great Neck Road, South  
Mashpee, MA 02649

## OUR TRIBE IS SIGNIFICANTLY UNDERFUNDED THROUGH THE BIA TRIBAL PRIORITY ALLOCATION (TPA) BASE FUNDING (6/21/11)

- Our tribe is significantly underfunded compared to other New England tribes under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).
- Interior finally reaffirmed the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe as a federally recognized tribe in February, 2007.
- Interior's "New Tribes" funding policy has been in place since 1997. The policy provides \$160,000 in annual base funding for tribes with populations of 1,500 or less, \$320,000 for populations of 1,501 to 3,000 and for those populations over 3,000, a funding level is determined on a case-by-case basis. (Our population is approximately 2,586 as of June 8, 2011)
- Our population at the time of reaffirmation in 2007 led to base annual funding level of \$320,000
- In FY 2011, our tribes' "New Tribe" funding was base transferred to the "Aid to Tribal Government" program line item ( still considered base funding).
- In FY 2010 our tribe received a total of \$515,395 in BIA funding from all courses. (**\$311,000 for base funding only**, \$149,395 for contract support, as well as \$55,000 in other mostly pass-through BIA funding, i.e. \$25,000 for community development oversight, and \$30,000 for water management/planning/pre-development) .
- **By comparison, for base funding** in FY 2010 Narragansett received **\$1,041,000**, Pequot **\$467,000** and Mohegan **\$531,000**. Aquinnah Wampanoag, with only 1/3 of our population, received approximately **\$905,000** total BIA base funding in FY 2010.
- Our analysis shows New England tribes receive an average amount of BIA base funding that comes to \$547 per tribal member. Mashpee Wampanoag receives approximately \$120 per tribal member per year. The next lowest funded tribe besides Mashpee in New England is Mohegan. Mohegan receives *over double the funding in comparison to Mashpee* of about \$281 per person per year.
- For the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribeto achieve an average amount of BIA base funding in comparison to all other New England tribes an additional \$1.42 million

is requested. This would get us to the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile of what other New England tribes are receiving. \$1.91 million in additional funding would get us to the level that the other federally recognized tribe in Massachusetts is currently receiving.

- (For FY 2012 \$315,000 in base funding plus \$149,395 in contract support is included in the President's budget request to Congress. )