

ARTICLE 15C
Intertribal Ceremonial

9-15C-1. Short title.

Chapter 9, Article 15C NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Intertribal Ceremonial Act".

9-15C-2. Definitions.

As used in the Intertribal Ceremonial Act:

- A. "department" means the tourism department;
- B. "director" means the director of the intertribal ceremonial office;
- C. "fund" means the intertribal ceremonial fund;
- D. "office" means the intertribal ceremonial office; and
- E. "secretary" means the secretary of tourism.

9-15C-3. Intertribal ceremonial office created; powers and duties.

A. The "intertribal ceremonial office" is created. The office is administratively attached to the department.

B. The governor shall appoint a director, who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor. The director shall hire and terminate other necessary employees, who shall be subject to the provisions of the Personnel Act [Chapter 10, Article 9 NMSA 1978].

C. The director shall:

- (1) work with the department to establish steady funding for the intertribal ceremonial;
- (2) supervise the activities of the office;
- (3) work with the department to promote the intertribal ceremonial; and
- (4) prepare an annual budget and an annual report on the activities of the office.

D. The office shall:

- (1) administer an annual intertribal ceremonial;
- (2) cooperate with and assist public and private entities that seek to promote recognition of ceremonies significant to Indian tribes and pueblos;

- (3) function as the coordinating office for all services and activities pertaining to the intertribal ceremonial;
- (4) adopt rules in accordance with the State Rules Act [Chapter 14, Article 4 NMSA 1978] to carry out the duties of the office;
- (5) accept gifts, grants, donations, bequests and devises from any source to be used to carry out its duties;
- (6) enter into contracts; and
- (7) charge admission, parking and concessions fees, give prizes and premiums, create sponsorships and other forms of advertising, arrange entertainments and do all things the office may consider proper for the conduct of the intertribal ceremonial and not otherwise prohibited by law.

E. The "intertribal ceremonial board" is created. The board shall consist of eight members, including the director, who shall serve ex officio, the secretary or the secretary's designated representative and six members, appointed by the governor, who shall serve terms of five years each; provided that the governor's first appointments shall be made of two board members for one-year terms, two for two-year terms, one for a three-year term and one for a four-year term. All intertribal ceremonial board members shall be bona fide residents of the state, and at least a majority of the members shall be Native American. A board member shall not be removed during the term of office except for cause, following notice and an opportunity for a hearing.

9-15C-4. Fund created; administration.

The "intertribal ceremonial fund" is created in the state treasury. Money appropriated to the fund or accruing to it through sales, gifts, grants, fees, penalties, bequests or any other source shall be delivered to the state treasurer and deposited in the fund. Money in the fund is appropriated to the office for the purpose of carrying out the intertribal ceremonial. Money in the fund at the end of any fiscal year shall not revert. Interest and earnings from the fund shall be credited to the fund. Disbursements from the fund shall be made on warrant drawn by the secretary of finance and administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the director or the director's authorized representative.

9-15C-5. Compensation.

Members of the intertribal ceremonial board shall be reimbursed for per diem and mileage as provided in the Per Diem and Mileage Act [10-8-1 through 10-8-8 NMSA 1978] and shall receive no other compensation, perquisite or allowance.