

It would be that much better if these partnerships in education were formed to honor indigenous people. In the not too distant future, the minorities will be the majority. Diversity training is taking place in many large corporations and governmental agencies, recognizing that business as usual will not succeed, thrive, or compete in the future. A work force, trained in management and educated in understanding and accepting the differences in people, is crucial.

Recognition of the contributions by the indigenous people of this country has been long in coming. We have many heroes who should be recognized, which is why Native history should be taught to all students. Native contributions to this nation are great. For example, the United States governmental system of checks and balances was adapted in part from the Iroquois Confederation. To help raise the consciousness of society, we need to make people realize that Natives have equal rights to education and some special needs. With attention to diversity in the work place, the time is right to become more politically involved, by supporting each other in our desire to a better life for ourselves and our children.

Uniting the many diverse tribes has always and will continue to be a major challenge for its leaders (Map 1).