



June 2, 2021

**United States  
Department of  
Agriculture**

Office of the  
Secretary

Office of Tribal  
Relations

1400 Independence  
Avenue, SW  
Room 501-A  
Whitten Bldg.  
Washington, DC  
20250

Phone # 202-205-2249  
Fax # 202-720-1058

Dear Tribal Leaders:

Mitakuyapi. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Office of Tribal Relations (OTR), within the Office of the Secretary, is delighted to announce, in recognition of our diplomatic nation-to-nation relationship, we will be creating a **USDA Hall of Tribal Nations**.

Our sister agency, the Department of Interior – Bureau of Indian Affairs, has led the way with their Hall of Tribal Nations. Currently the USDA has a hall of state flags, but nothing comparable for our tribal nations.

The USDA Hall of Tribal Nations will post our tribal flags, exhibit Native art reflecting the diversity of our tribal creativity, cultures, and histories, and will promote Native grown and produced agriculture and food products.

We write to respectfully request the honor of your **3ft x 5ft tribal flag**, which will be hung at USDA headquarters in Washington, DC. We thank the Cherokee Nation for being the first tribal nation to present USDA with their flag. Tribal flags may be mailed to:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Attention: Tribal Flags/Office of Tribal Relations  
1400 Independence Avenue SW  
Room 200A J.L. Whitten Building  
Washington, DC 20250

Secretary Vilsack looks forward to hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony for tribal leaders at the USA Hall of Nations once we have resumed in person work and it is safe. If you have any questions, please contact OTR at 202-205-2249 or via email at [Tribal.Relations@usda.gov](mailto:Tribal.Relations@usda.gov).

Lila wopila (great thanks),

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "H. Thompson", with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Heather Dawn Thompson (Cheyenne River Sioux)  
Director,  
Office of Tribal Relations