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Organization:	Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
Project Name:	5-Point Access Public Computer Centers Program
Project Type:	Public Computer Center
State:	New York
Federal Award:	\$641,750

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The **Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe** is proposing to upgrade public computer centers and add training and certification courses to the services it provides to economically vulnerable residents in Franklin County, New York, which is along the Canadian border. Many Mohawks suffered job losses in auto manufacturing and aluminum production during the recent economic downturn, and the project aims to provide the broadband access and training in digital literacy, workforce skills, and business development needed for the Tribe's economic recovery. The project proposes to utilize distance learning and videoconferencing for inter-governmental and public safety applications, as well as distance-enabled teaching screens, or smart boards, to enable collaboration among educational institutions. The Tribe plans to partner with the National Education Foundation to offer a three-stage online digital literacy course consisting of basic computing, computer applications, and Internet applications. The National Education Foundation also plans to donate over 17,000 online course units for use in the computer centers, including certification courses in information technology, business skills, and project management.

The 5-Point Access Public Computer Centers Program also proposes to:

- Establish five new public computer centers to serve the Saint Regis Mohawk community, deploying up to 60 new computer workstations.
- Enable access for as many as new 500 users each week and significantly expand the number of hours the public can access public computers. Many of the upgraded centers will also offer improved access speeds and shorter wait periods.
- Train as many as 2,700 residents with approximately 22,000 hours of teacher-led training over the three years of the project.

ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

The Mohawk of New York are traditionally the "keepers," or guardians of the Eastern borders, of the Six Nations Confederacy. Since 1973, the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Council has received federal and state funds for a variety of tribally administered programs, all of which employ primarily Mohawk people. Today, the Tribe administers more than 180 state and federal-funded programs that provide essential programs and services to the Akwesasne community.

PROJECT PARTNERS

- Akwesasne Boys and Girls Club
- Akwesasne Library/Cultural Center
- Akwesasne Employment Resource Center
- National Education Foundation/CyberLearning Universe

Data provided in the project description is based on information supplied by the applicant. An executive summary of this application can be found on www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandusa.

For press-related inquiries, contact 202-482-7002 or press@ntia.doc.gov. For the general public, contact BTOP@ntia.doc.gov.

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