Native Nation
EVENTS

17th ANNUAL TRIBAL

CASINO HOTEL DEVELOPMENT & INNOVATION CONFERENCE

October 20-21 | 2025

HARRAH'S SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CASINO RESORT

Funner, CA

Monday, October 20

8:00 - 9:00 AM
TEC 5-10

Registration and Networking Breakfast

9:00 - 9:15 AM
TEC 11-13

Welcoming Remarks

Justin O'Connor
President
Native Nation Events

9:15 - 10:30 AM
TEC 11-13

General Session

Roundtable: 2025 State of Indian Gaming

Open the conference with an update on how a new Presidential Administration will shift the landscape of Indian Gaming. Experts will discuss the potential changes the next four years could bring, as well as updates from recent legal cases and how they can impact your property.

MODERATOR:

James Klas
Founder and Principal
KlasRobinson Q.E.D.

SPEAKERS:

Steve Stallings
Chairman
Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians

John Tahsuda
Principal
Navigators Global LLC

Mark Fox
Chairman
Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation

10:30 - 11:00 AM

Morning Networking Break

Monday, October 20

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
TEC 11-13

Best Practices for New Builds and Renovation Projects

“Hindsight is 20 - 20”. Every new build and remodel is a learning experience for all those involved. Whether you're updating an older building, creating an addition for more space, or simply want a new feature, a curveball will always show up during construction. Experts on our panel will walk you through the important parts of construction: the vision, the partner, the budget, and the execution. They’ll go through their successes and mistakes, giving attendees insight on best practices when it comes to new builds and reconstruction.

MODERATOR:

Luke Jumper
President
TBE Architects

SPEAKERS:

Russell Attebery
Chairman
Karuk Tribe

Tyler Beuerlein
Sr. Managing Director Adjacent and Emerging Markets Business Development
Pathward

Monday, October 20

12:00 - 1:00 PM
TEC 5-10

Networking Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 PM
TEC 11-13

Diving Deeper: Examining Which Design Decisions Could Make or Break Your New Space

What color should your carpet be? Which slot machines should be placed where on the gaming floor? What paint color should the conference rooms be? Design elements could make or break your new space, no matter how small they could be. Listen to executives and industry experts discuss how they make design decisions, and how to avoid making seemingly innocuous, but potentially costly, mistakes.

MODERATOR:

Luke Jumper
President
TBE Architects

SPEAKER:

Tracy Sam
General Manager
Grand Casino Mille Lacs

Erika McCalvin
Principal Planner
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation

Joseph Fanara
Vice President of Design & Construction
Seneca Gaming Corporation

Monday, October 20

2:00 - 2:30 PM

Afternoon Networking Break

2:30 - 3:30 PM
TEC 11-13

Diversifying Your Revenue Stream With Non-Gaming Amenities

Restaurants and buffets, bowling allies, movie theaters, restaurants, and more. There are many non-gaming amenity options for your property to choose from, so how do you make the right choice? What can you offer that guests can't get anywhere else close by? What are new trends that could keep you at the cutting edge? What should your profit goal be to make up for lost gaming space? Our panel of industry leaders will walk you through choosing the best non-gaming amenity for your casino.

MODERATOR:

James Klas
Founder and Principal
KlasRobinson Q.E.D.

SPEAKERS:

Peter Sherlock
Executive Director of Food and Beverage
Chumash Casino Resort

Jeff Wheatley
Chief Operating Officer
Angel of the Winds Casino Resort

Brian Decorah
Senior Vice President and General Manager
Gun Lake Casino Resort

Nathan Peak
President
HBG Design

Monday, October 20

3:30 - 4:30 PM
TEC 11-13

Betting on Intelligence: AI's Role in the Future of Casino Gaming

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly transforming the landscape of casino gaming—from personalized guest experiences and targeted marketing to fraud detection and operational efficiency. This panel will explore how Tribal casino resorts can leverage AI-driven tools to optimize gaming operations, enhance player engagement, and drive revenue growth. Experts will discuss real-world applications, emerging technologies, and the ethical considerations of adopting AI in Tribal gaming environments.

MODERATOR:

Kelly Popp
Vice President of Business Development
SHR Group

SPEAKERS:

John Tahsuda
Principal
Navigators Global LLC

4:30 PM

Day One Concludes

Tuesday, October 21

8:00 - 9:00 AM
TEC 5-10

Registration and Networking Breakfast

9:00 - 10:00 AM
TEC 11-13

General Session

Casino Executive Roundtable

Casino executives will cover a wide range of topics and answer your pressing questions. What new technologies are they looking at using? How is their property unique from others? What lessons can be learned from past building mistakes? Attendees will hear as these experts open up about what new and improved strategies and technologies they are taking into 2026.

MODERATOR:

James Klas
Founder and Principal
KlasRobinson Q.E.D.

Speakers:

JaNessa Bumgarner
Chief Executive Officer
Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel

Cameron Steinagel
Chief Executive Officer
Table Mountain Casino Resort

Edward Box
Assistant General Manager
Sky Ute Casino Resort

Jesse Ward
General Manager
Leelanau Sands Casino & Lodge

Tuesday, October 21

10:00 - 10:30 AM

Morning Networking Break

10:30AM - 11:30 PM TEC 11-13

Driving Your Guest Engagement Through the Power of AI

This panel will focus on educating all attendees on how to utilize cutting edge, one of a kind AI call technology to drive significant increases in player engagement for hotel stays, casino promotions, as well as all existing inbound and outbound player response needs. This one of a kind AI Tech , which is operation and proven successful, will drive unprecedented increases in player engagement, player trips, hotel stays and incremental revenue, profits and ROI

MODERATOR:

Scott Nicholson
Senior Vice President of Strategic Partnerships
Imagine This

SPEAKERS:

Christian Marcello
President
FirstPoint Connect

Michael Glauser
Founder & Managing Partner
ADEN

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM TEC 5-10

Networking Lunch

Tuesday, October 21

12:30 - 1:15 PM
TEC 11-13

Product Demonstration: Royal Basket

The Royal Basket Trucks demonstration will focus on process efficiency, featuring our motorized housekeeping cart along with Sorted, Collected, and Transported solutions. The concepts presented can be applied to different types of operations in many environments.

SPEAKER:

Javier Perez
Vice President of Sales and Marketing
Royal Basket Trucks

Tuesday, October 21

1:15 - 2:30 PM
TEC 11-13

What Is Your Overall Guest Experience?

Are your guests' rooms the epitome of comfort and luxury? Is the new technology you've implemented easily understandable and making your guests experience more seamless? Join this panel of experts as they walk you through how to make the guest experience at your property as smooth as possible.

MODERATOR:

Dan Spears
Vice President of Industry Relations and Licensing
Broadcast Music, Inc.

SPEAKERS:

Nathan Green
Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder
New Level Radio

Lori Tousignant
Vice President of Hospitality
Cache Creek Casino Resort

Paula Allen
Director of Leadership Development and Guest Services
7 Cedars Resort Properties

Tuesday, October 21

2:30 - 3:30 PM
TEC 11-13

The Five Pillars of Data Resilience

For casinos and Native American tribes, the five pillars of data resilience—backup, recovery, portability, security, and intelligence—are not just about protecting IT systems. They are about safeguarding the financial future of tribal nations. By ensuring uninterrupted casino and healthcare operations, mitigating risks like ransomware and other types of cyberattacks, and enabling rapid recovery from disruptions, adherence to these pillars can protect the revenue streams that sustain tribal communities, fund essential services, and secure long-term economic stability.

MODERATOR:

John Tahsuda
Principal
Navigators Global LLC

SPEAKERS:

Richard Rader
Chief Technology Officer
Umpqua Indian Development Corporation

Nathaniel Pincombe
Chief Information Officer
Elk Valley Rancheria

Tuesday, October 21

3:30 - 3:45 PM
TEC 11-13

Exhibitor Raffle Drawing

- **Winners Must Be Present To Win**

3:45 PM

Conference Concludes

Tribal Casino and Hotel Development Conference Concludes