



Media Release

For Immediate Release
May 13, 2009

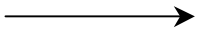
An American Indian Non-profit Organization

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Colorado Springs, Colorado
May 13, 2009

INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE

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SIGN THE PETITION AT:  www.whitebison.org

Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness To Offer News Stories and Photographs From Each Site Visit

Colorado Springs, Colorado, May 13, 2009

The **Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness** is set to begin on Saturday, May 16 at the Chemawa Indian School in Salem, Oregon. The starting presentation for this 40-day, 6800 mile cross-country event will take place from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Chemawa Indian School Auditorium, 3700 Chemawa Road NE, Salem, Oregon.

Print-based news reports and stories, including photographs from each of the Journey site visits, will be available for general readers and for news media from the home page of the White Bison, Inc. website, www.whitebison.org shortly after each site visit. Look under HOT NEWS! for downloadable reports and photos. Also look on the website for links to Journey videos available at You Tube as the Journey progresses.

The Journey will visit 23 historic boarding school sites in 15 states to promote healing from the intergenerational and historical trauma traced back to the Indian boarding school era begun in 1879. The Journey ends in Washington, DC on June 24, 2009 with a presentation at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. A petition for **Apology for Abuses at US Indian Schools** will be presented to the Obama Administration at that time.

Don Coyhis, Mohican Nation, founder and president of White Bison, Inc. reflected on the meaning and purpose of the Wellbriety Journey for Forgiveness as he prepared to depart from Colorado Springs en route to the first event at Chemawa Indian School, one of the first historic boarding schools.

He said, "I think it is rare in a lifetime that you ever get to participate in an idea whose time has come. Now we know that forgiveness is our hope—both short term, medium term and long term. It is the beginning of healing and wellbeing for Indian people. We now have a chance to break the cycle of missed opportunity and hopelessness our people have known. We know for sure that equal to love is forgiveness. Our freedom lies in that. I think it is time. I think the people are willing for it to happen. It's already happening."

Visit www.whitebison.org or call 1-877-871-1495 for more details and information about the entire undertaking and about the Indian boarding school era in general.

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