

Roundtable Discussion: Building Economic Well-Being for Native Communities through Homeownership



Neel Kashkari is the president and chief executive officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. He serves on the Federal Open Market Committee, bringing the Fed's Ninth District's perspective to monetary policy discussions in Washington. Kashkari also oversees all operations of the bank, including supervision and regulation, and payments services. In previous roles, Kashkari served in several senior positions at the U.S. Treasury, receiving the Alexander Hamilton Award, the department's highest honor for distinguished service. In 2014, Kashkari was a gubernatorial candidate in the state of California, running on a platform focused on economic opportunity. Kashkari earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and his MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.



Paul Weech is the president and CEO of NeighborWorks America, a nearly 40-year-old, Congressionally chartered nonprofit serving more than 245 of the strongest nonprofits working in housing and community development. Previously, he worked with the Housing Partnership Network, serving as both executive vice president for policy and external affairs and senior vice president for policy. Weech also worked as chief of staff for the U.S. Small Business Administration; staff director for the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Development for the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; and senior analyst for Housing and Credit for the U.S. Senate Committee on Budget. Weech received a master's degree in public policy from the Ford School for Public Policy Studies at the University of Michigan and a bachelor's in political science at Duke University.



Mary Tingerthal was appointed as Commissioner of Minnesota Housing in January 2011 by Governor Mark Dayton and reappointed in January 2015. Minnesota Housing serves more than 70,000 families each year with a wide range of programs and has provided financing programs for affordable housing for the past 40 years. Tingerthal previously served as President and CEO of the National Equity Fund. She currently serves on the Community Advisory Council to the Federal Reserve Board of Governors and on the boards of the National Housing Trust and the National Community Investment Fund. Tingerthal received a bachelor's in geography and political science from the University of Minnesota and her MBA from the Stanford Graduate School of Business.



Patrice Kunesh (Standing Rock Lakota descent) is Assistant Vice President and Director of the Center for Indian Country Development. She began her legal career at the Native American Rights Fund, where she litigated cases concerning jurisdiction and natural resources, and counselled on tribal governance matters. She recently served as Deputy Under Secretary of Rural Development at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and as the Deputy Solicitor for Indian Affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior. In addition, Kunesh was in-house counsel to the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe and served on the faculty at the University of South Dakota School of Law,

where she also directed the University's Institute of American Indian Studies. Kunesh received her master's in public administration from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and a JD from the University of Colorado School of Law.



Karen Diver is a member the faculty at the University of Minnesota-Duluth in the Department of Indian Studies. She recently served as the Special Assistant to the U.S. President for Native American Affairs. Diver also has served as Chairwoman of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and CEO of the Band's corporate boards. She was a founding member of American Indian Community Housing Organization. Diver has a bachelor's in Economics from the University of Minnesota-Duluth, and a master's in public administration from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.



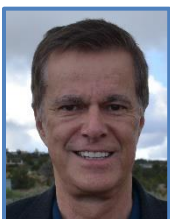
Russell Kaney serves as director of programs for the Rural and Native American Initiative (RNAI) at Enterprise Community Partners, managing relationships with national, regional and local partners that lead to the creation of affordable housing. Prior to joining Enterprise in 2005, Kaney was an underwriter and low-income housing tax credit allocator for the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority. Kaney is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Wicahpi "Star" Means is the Homeownership Program Manager at the Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Means, an enrolled member of the Oglala Lakota Nation, has extensive banking and lending experience, particularly with Native CDFIs. She is certified to teach Pathways Home, a first time homebuyer curriculum that promotes building Native communities and improving credit scores.



Robert Lilligren joined the Native American Community Develop Institute (NACDI) as President and CEO in May of 2016. Robert is an enrolled member of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe and a long term resident of the Phillips neighborhood area. He served 12 years on the Minneapolis City Council, where he emphasized supporting the American Indian Community and other historically disenfranchised people. He authored the City's first Memo of Understanding with the American Indian Community. His work resulted in unprecedented economic opportunities for women and minority businesspeople and workers.



Rollin Wood (Cherokee Nation) joined Native Partnership for Housing in February 2014. Wood has successfully implemented a 5-year strategic plan that has impacted NPH's survival and complete turn-around. He has developed several strategic partnerships, like the Navajo Nation's Division of Economic Development, the Vice President's office of the Navajo Nation, Native Capital Access, and Community Housing Capital to support NPH's mission. Prior to joining NPH, Mr. Wood was a manager in Resource Exploration, Broadcast and Cable Television, and a firefighter for the U.S. Forest Service.