

# NATIVE HAWAIIAN COALITION

May 15, 2006

Aloha to all Native Hawaiian Coalition Participants,

This is in response to the recent letter dated April 24, 2006 that went out to all of the members of the Native Hawaiian Coalition from Clyde Namu`o, Director, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, hereafter known as OHA. Please allow me this opportunity to clarify a few things that we have accomplished as a Native Hawaiian Coalition at our last meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> 2006.

At the last general Native Hawaiian Coalition meeting:

1. We adopted a Parliamentary Procedure to be used in conducting our meetings.
2. We established our next Order of Business.
3. We voted on an election process that would be by mail in accordance with the recommendations made by the Special Committee on Nominations and Election.
4. We sent by e-mail and post mail communication to all participants without OHA funds.
5. We secured, utilized and paid for a conference facility conducive to the needs of the Native Hawaiian Coalition without OHA funds.
6. We provided refreshments and dinner for a meeting without OHA funds.
7. We arranged video taping for recorded and historical documentation purpose without OHA funds.
8. We conducted a meeting without paid OHA staff or their paid facilitators.
9. Several Special Committees were created to assist in preparations for future meetings to better organize the needs of the Native Hawaiian Coalition.

This information is not to show OHA's incompetence or lack of support, but to show what we as the Native Hawaiian Coalition can do on our own despite OHA's choosing not to be involved. Does this excuse OHA from discontinuing their support to the Native Hawaiian Coalition? The answer in this situation must be "No". It does show that the lack of direct involvement and influence by OHA will not and should not deter us in the pursuit of establishing a functioning Coalition to set up the procedures needed to reset our wrongfully overthrown government.

The process to build a Nation belongs to us, and no one entity or person has the authority to dissolve that right and undue influence is contrary to self determination and to self governance.

A response to my letter dated March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006 has not yet been received. My letter was sent to Mona Bernadino shortly after our last general Native Hawaiian Coalition meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

The letter asked her to request for funds from the United States Department of Justice and Department of Interior to support our effort in re-establishing our government. This letter was simultaneously sent to all Native Hawaiian Coalition participants with an e-mail address. Both the State of Hawai'i which includes the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the Federal Government of the United States of America has a duty and obligation to support the Hawaiian people in their effort to reinstate and establish their own government.

The recent request by Mr. Clyde Namu`o is an effort to solicit the assistance of the participants of the Native Hawaiian Coalition. Your participation in assisting OHA to “flesh out” the steps to building a nation will be an individual choice. Many Native Hawaiian Coalition participants have worked long and hard in those Component groups with little success or progress over the last two years. It will be your choice as to whether you want to lend more of your input and work to benefit that of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs consensus process. The Native Hawaiian Coalition will continue to look at those components as discussed at our last general Coalition meeting. Those Component reports will be shared and reports filed as voted on, on the next Order of Business.

Once again to clarify, the meeting that OHA is proposing is not an official authorized Native Hawaiian Coalition meeting and will not affect the Native Hawaiian Coalition in any manner or form. The Native Hawaiian Coalition still exists and will continue its efforts by those participants who want to stay involved in a legitimate and organized process to set up and formalize the process that we need to follow to reinstate our government and a recognizable nation.

Efforts are being made to convene our next general Native Hawaiian Coalition meeting as soon as possible. The interim Secretary will send out official notification once a meeting date has been set and a facility secured. Until then continue to hold your district meetings and keep accurate records for historical purposes as these are important times we are living in. The work you have contributed to the Native Hawaiian Coalition and to the Hawaiian people is valuable and appreciated. I wish you all well until we meet again.

**Signed**

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Kau`i Torres  
Chair Pro Tempore  
Native Hawaiian Coalition

Attached:

Clyde Namu`o’s Letter dated April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Letter to Mona Bernadino dated March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006.



## OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

April 24, 2006

### TRUSTEES

**Haunani Apoliona**  
CHAIRPERSON  
TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE

**John D. Waihe'e IV**  
VICE CHAIR  
TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE

**Rowena N. Akana**  
TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE

**Dante K. Carpenter**  
TRUSTEE, O'AHU

**Donald B. Cataluna**  
TRUSTEE, KAUA'I & NI'HAU

**Linda K. Dela Cruz**  
TRUSTEE, HAWAII

**Colette Y. Machado**  
TRUSTEE, MOLOKA'I & LANAI

**Boyd P. Mossman**  
TRUSTEE, MAUI

**Oswald K. Stender**  
TRUSTEE-AT-LARGE

**Clyde W. Namu'o**  
ADMINISTRATOR

Dear Members of the Native Hawaiian Coalition:

In February 2004, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs convened an advisory group that later decided to call itself the Native Hawaiian Coalition. The group was tasked with determining the steps to form a nation.

As time progressed, the Coalition was slow in determining the steps to form a nation. At each meeting, hours upon hours were wasted with haggling over the agenda, refusing to agree to an agenda, and re-raising issues that had been decided at prior meetings.

Finally, after ten months and five meetings, the Coalition agreed to six (6) main components to creating a nation. Ironically, they were the same six steps that OHA proposed to the advisory group in January 2004 before the meetings started.

Coalition members then decided they wanted more time to flesh out the details of each component. OHA funded more meetings to give Coalition participants time to do that. However, again, the Coalition wasted many hours and meetings haggling over the same kinds of things: agendas, rules of order, and decisions made at prior meetings.

For the past year and three months, the Coalition has been stuck on organizing itself. The group has not been able to agree on a leadership structure, an election process, or permanent leadership. As a result, the task of refining the steps has fallen by the wayside and no progress has been made.

More importantly, the Coalition seems to have lost sight of the fact that it is a *temporary* entity tasked only with determining the steps to nationhood. It is not the nation itself nor are its members duly elected delegates of the Hawaiian community as a whole.

Based on all of this, we have reached a point where OHA needs to make a decision about moving the Hawaiian community toward nation-building absent the Coalition's ability to move forward and complete its assignment. This is what we observe:

1. The Coalition has completed its task of determining the steps to form a nation.

2. The Coalition has started to refine the steps to forming a nation but has not completed it.

3. The Coalition is stuck on organizational structure and appears unable to elect permanent leadership or move toward completion of refining the steps to forming a nation.

In addition, the Coalition has cost OHA more than \$200,000. This sum could be an acceptable amount if the Coalition was moving forward, but it is not.

At the same time, OHA has a fiduciary duty to all Hawaiians, not just the 200 or so people who have been participating in Coalition meetings. OHA has an obligation to move nation-building forward in a timely manner as legal threats against Native Hawaiian assets continue at a fast pace.

OHA recognizes that Coalition participants may need an opportunity to bring closure to the work they started. Based on that, OHA will pay for one more large group discussion that Coalition members are welcome to attend. It is not a Coalition meeting. It is a discussion at which Coalition members and others will be given a final opportunity to refine the steps. You may wish to meet on your islands beforehand to discuss refinement of the steps, then share that refinement with everyone else at this final meeting. We will invite 'Aha Hawai'i 'Ōiwi (AHO) and similar groups who have made significant progress in nation-building to attend the meeting, react to the steps, and participate in refinement of the steps.

The sole item on the agenda at this meeting will be refinement of the steps to building a nation. OHA will facilitate the meeting. The rules of order will be by consensus. The meeting facilitators will follow a timed agenda. If the group is unable to follow the agenda and complete its task by the end of the day, OHA will look to other community organizations to complete the task on behalf of the entire Hawaiian community.

We recognize the Coalition may want to continue organizing itself. That is fine. However, OHA will not pay for those meetings as a matter of course. The Coalition is encouraged to apply for an OHA grant like other community organizations do and be subject to standard grant prerequisites and requirements.

We hope you will agree this is a way we can move forward as one people toward nation-building.

Native Hawaiian Coalition  
April 24, 2006  
Page 3

If you have signed up with OHA as a participant at Coalition meetings, you will receive a meeting notice shortly as soon as the logistics for this meeting are determined. We will mail materials beforehand so you can read them and be prepared to make decisions. We humbly suggest that everyone leave their personal agendas at home and come prepared to vote and decide on the steps and their details.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me or our Hawaiian Governance staff. We welcome your feedback on this plan, and we look forward to a productive meeting in coming weeks.

As a people we need to move forward quickly to a process that will allow *all* Hawaiians to elect delegates to an 'Aha where governing documents can be drafted and put to vote for ratification. We must do this quickly as time is of the essence.

'O wau iho nō,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clyde W. Nāmu'o". The signature is written in a cursive style with some stylized flourishes.

Clyde W. Nāmu'o  
Administrator

cc: BOT

# Native Hawaiian Coalition

March 19, 2006

To Mona Bernadino,

On March 18, 2006, the Native Hawaiian Coalition approved to adopt *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition* as their parliamentary procedure. Thus, I am requesting that the following be done so that the Native Hawaiian Coalition participants have the opportunity to be educated in Parliamentary Procedure of that which we have just adopted.

As an effort not to have the Office of Hawaiian Affairs bear all cost and funding for the Native Hawaiian Coalition. I ask that you contact the Department of Interior and the Department of Justice for the United States of America to request funds for the Native Hawaiian Coalition to educate the participants on basic courses on Parliamentary Procedure and funding for the expenses for the services of a Certified Parliamentarian for the Native Hawaiian Coalition.

Please let me know if there is anything I can assist with in your effort to acquire such funds.

Thank you.

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Kau`i Torres  
*Chair Pro Tempore*  
Native Hawaiian Coalition