

Contact:

Chairman's Office: 406-338-5194

CMT Agency: 253-709-1887

bfpress@chiefmountaintechnologies.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

Blackfeet Nation Creates New Venture

Called Chief Mountain Technologies LLC

Company to specialize in federal and state IT Services contracts

Browning, MT — September 18th, 2009 — The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council (BTBC), the

governing body of the Blackfeet Nation, today announced it has created a new Tribal venture

called Chief Mountain Technologies. The company has applied for certification as an SBA 8(a)

and HUBZone contractor, specializing in large-scale Information Technology and Professional

Business Services for federal and state agencies. The company is expected to create a

significant number of jobs for Tribal members both on and off the reservation, as well as

providing major new revenue streams to help fund Tribal programs. The company is

headquartered in Browning with a branch office in Seattle to be closer to customers and

technical labor pools.

“This new venture represents a milestone for the Blackfeet Tribe,” said Willie Sharp Tribal

Chairman. “It demonstrates that the days of letting high-potential business opportunities pass us

by are gone. After years of good ideas but little real progress, this New Council was elected to

replace indecision and inaction with bold thinking and action. The Tribe needs meaningful

economic development and job creation, and this is an important first step.”

Tribal Secretary TJ Show added: “As a measure of how committed this Council is to

aggressively pursuing and quickly seizing opportunities that make sense for the Tribe, this

venture was approved in less than 30 days from the date of first presentation. That is unheard

of in Indian Country, and I am proud of staff and my fellow Councilmen for their commitment to

fast and decisive action when opportunity knocks.”

The SBA 8(a) program was originally designed to provide access to federal contracts for

companies owned by economically disadvantaged individuals. But in recent years, Congress

expanded the program to include Indian tribes and Alaska Native Corporations (ANCs) and

created different rules for these entities. So, for example, whereas 8(a)-certified companies

owned by individuals are limited to \$5 million dollar contracts, tribes and ANCs can be awarded

sole source contracts of any size. Contracts as large as \$500 million dollar have been awarded

to tribes and ANCs.

Thus, for tribes in locations too remote to build large casinos, the 8(a) program has proven to be

the only other business opportunity large enough to provide revenue and job creation on the

scale needed by large tribes such as the 16,000 member Blackfeet. IT Services, in particular,

has been the high growth segment of 8(a) contracting, in great demand by the Department of

Defense and other large federal agencies.

“As proven by dozens of other tribes and ANCs, 8(a) IT Services contracting is the highest

growth opportunity available to help solve the economic and unemployment problems that have

plagued our reservation for decades,” said Gregg Paisley, Blackfeet member and CEO of Chief

Mountain Technologies. “I am especially excited at the career paths we are opening up for

Tribal members. Other tribes, by failing to diversify away from gaming, create dead-end gaming

and hospitality jobs. But we are creating careers in a wide range of technological, scientific, and

professional fields.”

More information is available at: www.chiefmountaintechnologies.com

About the Blackfeet:

With 16,000 enrolled members, we are the largest Indian tribe in Montana and one of the

largest tribes in the United States. Our rugged, picturesque 1.5 million acre (3,000 square mile)

reservation in Montana has a population of about 10,000, including 8,500 enrolled Blackfeet and

several hundred Blackfeet descendants. The other 7,500 Tribal members are scattered all

over the world. Our largest town and seat of government is Browning (population 3,500,

including surrounding areas). Other towns include Heart Butte, Blackfoot, Starr School, Babb,

Saint Mary, Kiowa, and East Glacier. Visit our website at www.blackfeetnation.com

#