To: SAIGE Members Veterans Day 2019

8 November 2019

Dear SAIGE Family,

This weekend there will be many opportunities to honor our veterans, please take the time to participate and thank a veteran. Native Americans have served their communities and people since the beginning of time, warriors are part of our culture. Native Americans have been serving this country since its birth, serving at a higher proportionate rate than any other group. This is in spite of discrimination, negative policies and actions against our Native American people. For many years Native Americans served while not being recognized as citizens of the United States. They have never abandoned our people or our land.

On Saturday September 20th of this year ground was broken at the National Museum of the American Indian for the National Native American Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. This will be the first time that the military service of Native Americans, Alaskan Natives and Native Hawaiians will be recognized on the National Mall. The memorial is slated to be be ready for a 2020 Veterans Day ceremony.

On Veterans Day, Monday, November 11, PBS presents a new documentary, THE WARRIOR TRADITION. It will air at 9:00 p.m. ET and tells the largely unknown story of Native Americans who served in the U.S. military. You will learn about their service, pain, courage and fear, as shared in their own words.

To all our SAIGE members out there who have served and their families who have supported them, from our Chair, Fredericka Joseph and the SAIGE Board, we say "Ahe'hee'", "Wado", "Miigwech", "Thank you"!

Danny Garceau

Board of Directors, Director of the Warrior Society Society of American Indian Government Employees

