

GUIDE FOR SUBMITTING YOUR ONLINE APPLICATION – REQUEST TO PRESENT AT TRIBALNET

NOTE: Submitting your online request DOES NOT equal a speaking slot.
All requests are reviewed by our Advisory Boards and you will be contacted by 7/31/2026 with a yes
or no to your request to present.

STEP 1: Review this guide

STEP 2: Complete the speaker [application online](#) by 6/5/2026

Emailing inquires or interests will not be accepted

7 TRACKS:

General Technology - Cybersecurity - AI - Leadership/Executive
Tribal Gaming/Hospitality - Tribal Government/Member Services - Tribal Health Info Management

Each track has multiple sessions under it that have been approved to be on the TribalNet agenda and we are seeking speaker(s) for.

Each session has a suggested title and an accompanying summary as developed by the TribalNet Advisory Boards, outlining the details they are looking to have covered by the speaker(s) applying for that topic.

WHEN PREPARING TO FILL OUT THE ONLINE APPLICATION, PLEASE HAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION READY:

- speaker and logistical point of contact, email & phone number
- speaker bio (150 word max)
- speaker headshot (not required but if selected will be required at a later date)
- four key learning objectives that attendees will gain by attending the session

You may apply for more than one topic but an additional application is required.

Incomplete submissions will not be considered - Sales pitches by vendors will not be considered.

SESSIONS ARE TYPICALLY 60 MINUTES WITH 5 - 10 MINUTES OF Q&A OFFERED. TYPICAL FORMATS OF OUR SESSIONS INCLUDE:

- panel with moderator
- single presenter
- multiple presenters on the same topic with a different angle/approach on the subject matter

Speakers are volunteer, unpaid and are completely separate from sponsorship.

2026 TRIBALNET CONFERENCE TOPIC GUIDE

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2026 TRIBALNET CONFERENCE TOPIC GUIDE (TRACK 1 OF 7)

General Technology Track

Session Title	Session Summary
<p>STRATEGY AND INNOVATION - WHERE TECHNOLOGY REALLY SHINES</p>	<p>Technology is a key part of every single operation across your tribe or tribal enterprise. So, why is it so difficult to engage key executives, IT leaders, and the organization in building a technology strategy and innovation roadmap? When properly aligned with long-term strategy, IT becomes an incubator for new revenue streams and optimized services. This session explores how to shift your organization's mindset from reactive IT maintenance to proactive technology strategy. Learn how to foster a culture of innovation and use emerging tech to gain a true competitive advantage.</p>
<p>UNDERSTANDING WHAT TECHNOLOGY STRUCTURE IS RIGHT FOR YOUR TRIBE</p>	<p>Every tribe has a unique organizational blueprint, often balancing government services, health clinics, and diverse commercial enterprises. Consequently, there is no one-size-fits-all approach to organizing your IT department. Should you centralize all technology under one roof, or decentralize IT across separate entities? This session analyzes the pros, cons, and operational impacts of various IT structures, helping you determine the ideal framework to support your tribe's specific goals.</p>
<p>HARNESSING SHADOW IT RATHER THAN FIGHTING IT</p>	<p>Uncovering "Shadow IT" across the organization and tips and tricks to reign it in through better shared understanding, communication, and meeting the technology needs and timing that supports success for employees and operational departments. When employees feel stymied by slow IT processes, they take matters into their own hands—downloading unauthorized software and cloud apps to get their jobs done. This "Shadow IT" creates massive security and compliance risks, but it also highlights a genuine user need. Instead of fighting an endless war against unauthorized apps, this session teaches you how to harness that user drive. Learn how to discover hidden applications on your network, evaluate their utility, and safely bring them into the official organizational fold.</p>
<p>SUPER USERS - THE KEY TO SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION USE</p>	<p>Launching a massive new software application is only half the battle; getting your staff to actually use it correctly is the real challenge. It is not IT, but the super user that is REALLY responsible for continuing full and proper use of their operational software system. Learn about strategies to create, support, and maintain application super users. Discover how these frontline advocates can drive software adoption, provide immediate peer-to-peer troubleshooting, and drastically reduce the burden on your IT helpdesk.</p>

2026 TRIBALNET CONFERENCE TOPIC GUIDE (TRACK 2 OF 7)

Cybersecurity Track

Session Title	Session Summary
IS NOTHING REAL? - DIGITAL FAKES, IMPERSONATIONS, AND IDENTITY DISRUPTION	Digital impersonations and fakes are completely out of control and the line between authentic and fabricated digital identity has officially blurred. From realistic deepfake audio to sophisticated spear-phishing impersonations, attackers are targeting human trust to breach your network and data. Learn how to spot advanced identity disruption tactics and implement the technical safeguards and verification protocols needed to protect your customers, employees, tribal members, brand, reputation, and bank account.
DATA LOSS PREVENTION (DLP) - KEEPING THE CROWN JEWELS OF THE ORGANIZATION SAFE	Every organization possesses critical data like customer records, employee and tribal enrollment files, and proprietary financial data—all of it must be protected at all costs. But do you know exactly where that data lives, where it travels, and who has access to it? This session demystifies Data Loss Prevention (DLP). Discover how to understand and map your organization's "crown jewels," helping you build practical DLP policies that don't choke productivity, and leverage modern tools to stop data leaks before they happen.
BUSINESS CONTINUITY - CONNECTING THE NON-TECH EXECUTIVES TO INCIDENT RESPONSE	Business Continuity - engaging the non-technical executives in the need to plan and test beyond the incident response and disaster recovery plans. When a cyber incident strikes, it isn't just an IT problem; it's a business crisis. Yet, a massive gap often exists between technical recovery plans and executive decision-making. This session focuses on bridging that divide. What is most important? Who is most important? Who needs to be engaged and what should we be planning for? Join this session to discuss the importance of business continuity planning and testing.
CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS - HOW TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION AND ACHIEVE BETTER RESULTS	A real business or tribal "culture of cybersecurity" starts with an effective cybersecurity awareness program. Those standard, boring compliance videos aren't stopping modern cyber threats—but an engaged workforce can. Join us to discover how to transform your security awareness program from an ineffective chore into an effective cybersecurity culture. Learn operations and psychological hooks that increase employee participation, gamification strategies that work, and how to measure real behavioral changes that will lower your cybersecurity risk.
THIRD-PARTY VENDOR RISK - IS THIS YOUR WEAKEST CYBER LINK?	Do you know how secure (or unsecure) your vendors are? Your internal defense network might be a secure cyber fortress, but how secure are the vendors connected to it? Recent tribal cybersecurity surveys support that third-party software, cloud providers, and external contractors represent one of the fastest-growing attack vectors for tribes and tribal enterprises. This session breaks down how to identify, assess, and mitigate vendor risk. Learn how to establish a practical vendor vetting process, enforce strict security requirements in service contracts, and ensure your partners aren't accidentally opening the back door to your data.
CYBER INSURANCE - KEYS TO A GREAT CYBER POLICY IN 2026	Cyber Insurance - what's new, what's most important, and how do you determine the right amount of insurance coverage for your organization? The cyber insurance market has shifted, with new stricter controls and requirements, higher premiums, and offering more complex exclusions than in the past. This session breaks down the current state of the cyber insurance landscape and what you can do, or have in place, to help reduce cost and risk. Find out what insurers and underwriters are looking for right now and how to better understand and negotiate a policy that genuinely safeguards your tribe or tribal enterprise when a crisis hits.

2025 TRIBALNET CONFERENCE TOPIC GUIDE (TRACK 3 OF 7)

AI Track

Session Title	Session Summary
THE FOUNDATIONAL POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR TRIBES	<p>Before any tribal government or enterprise deploys an AI tool, a clear governance framework must be established to protect tribal resources, sovereignty, and employee integrity. Jumping into AI without clear guardrails invites severe data and compliance risks. This session outlines the essential first steps for crafting an organizational AI policy. Learn how to define acceptable use cases, establish basic security baselines, and protect your tribal data from being ingested by public AI models.</p>
UNDERSTANDING AND ESTABLISHING AI DATA GOVERNANCE	<p>AI tools are completely dependent on the data fed into them—meaning poor data quality or unmapped access controls will result in flawed outcomes and serious security liabilities. This session focuses on building an AI-ready data governance framework. Learn how to cleanse and classify your organizational data, manage user access permissions across AI applications, and ensure your internal data architecture complies with tribal data privacy standards.</p>
UPSKILLING - PREPARING YOUR EMPLOYEES FOR AI	<p>The AI revolution will not replace your workforce, but workers who use AI will replace those who don't. To remain competitive, organizations must proactively prepare their teams for this shift. This session provides a practical roadmap for employee upskilling. Discover how to identify AI skill gaps across various departments, design effective internal training programs, and teach employees how to leverage AI tools safely and creatively to eliminate mundane tasks.</p>
AI PURCHASING AND LICENSING - WHAT TO CONSIDER IN AGREEMENTS AND OPERATIONS	<p>Buying AI software is fundamentally different from purchasing traditional software-as-a-service (SaaS) platforms. AI vendor contracts introduce entirely new legal and operational questions regarding data ownership, model training rights, algorithmic liability, and shifting cost structures. This session prepares procurement officers and leaders for AI negotiations. Learn the critical clauses to look for in AI vendor agreements and how to ensure your organization retains complete ownership of its data.</p>
HUMAN RESOURCES AND AI - AUGMENT, UPSKILL, OR REPLACEMENT STRATEGIES	<p>AI is rapidly transforming human resource operations, from automated resume screening and talent acquisition to predictive performance analytics. HR leaders face a critical choice: do we use AI to augment our existing teams, focus heavily on upskilling, or automate specific roles entirely? This session explores the practical and ethical implications of AI in HR. Discover how to leverage AI to streamline HR workflows while maintaining the necessary human touch in employee relations.</p>
THE AI STEERING COMMITTEE - ENGAGING THE ENTIRE ORGANIZATION	<p>AI adoption shouldn't be dictated solely by the IT department or restricted to executive or individual department silos. Because AI impacts every facet of operations, successful implementation requires an "entire organization" approach. This session covers how to design and run an effective corporate AI Steering Committee. Learn how to bring together representatives from legal, HR, gaming, health, government, and IT to prioritize AI projects, manage change across departments, and ensure AI initiatives directly align with the tribes's strategic AI and technology goals.</p>

2026 TRIBALNET CONFERENCE TOPIC GUIDE (TRACK 4 OF 7)

Leadership/Executive Track

Session Title	Session Summary
THE METRICS OF HEALTHY IT	This session breaks down the essential metrics every leader should track. Learn how to measure system reliability, security posture, and project delivery in a way that aligns with your organization's broader financial and strategic goals. How do you know if you are investing adequately in IT resources, if your technology investments are actually delivering value, or if your technology infrastructure is at risk? To lead effectively, executives need clear indicators of IT health and performance that go beyond standard jargon.
TECHNOLOGY RESPONSIBILITIES OF NON-TECH EXECUTIVES	Non-technical executives—understand your ever more critical role and responsibility in the success and outcome of technology strategy and operational technology system success. Non-technical executives do not need to write code, but they do bear ultimate responsibility for technology risks, budgets, and investments. This session clearly outlines the specific technical responsibilities of modern organizational leaders. Learn how to confidently ask the right questions, evaluate tech proposals, and champion major IT initiatives from the top down.
TRANSFORMATION AND AUTOMATION - WHAT TO FOCUS ON	We all want to harness technology solutions to save us money, make us more money, reduce risk, improve customer satisfaction, and make our lives more simple. Which operations should you focus on with existing modern technology? This session cuts through the hype to help leaders identify which legacy processes should be top-of-mind for automation. Learn how to calculate the true ROI of a digital transformation project, avoid common deployment pitfalls, and focus your resources where they will yield the greatest impact on efficiency and employee morale.
THE TECH TOOLS MAKING EXECUTIVES MORE PRODUCTIVE TODAY	Work smarter, not harder. This session introduces non-technical leaders to the essential, easy-to-use technology driving executive productivity right now. Learn how to leverage the latest in AI, task management, and communication tools to streamline your daily routine, eliminate administrative bottlenecks, and lead your organization with greater efficiency.
LEADING AND MANAGING THE TECH GENERATION	Today's workforce spans multiple generations, each with wildly different expectations, habits, and preferences when it comes to technology. Managing this environment requires a thoughtful leadership strategy. Hiring, retaining, mentoring, and engaging the new generation of workers is a skill. What does the younger worker expect and need? It can be just as difficult for a young worker to understand a much older worker as it is for the older employee to understand the younger one. New tools that automate and digitize proven personal assessments and leadership concepts might be the best way to bridge the gap.
LEADERSHIP'S ROLE IN AI	Non-IT Leaders have a very large role in setting the foundation and strategy for AI in their tribe or tribal enterprise. Leaders must define the strategic vision, set the boundaries, and guide the organizational culture through this massive technological shift. This session explores how executives can successfully champion AI initiatives, manage change resistance, and ensure AI adoption directly supports the long-term vision of the tribe or tribal enterprise.

2026 TRIBALNET CONFERENCE TOPIC GUIDE (TRACK 5 OF 7)

Tribal Gaming & Hospitality Technology Track

Session Title	Session Summary
<p>TECHNOLOGY AND OPERATIONS BEHIND PATRON VALUE</p>	<p>Maximizing customer lifetime value requires a seamless harmony between gaming floor operations and back-end technology. From tracking reinvestment rates to predicting player churn, data analytics along with data integration often holds the key to driving loyalty. This session discusses the technology powering modern player reinvestment and loyalty strategies. Create a strategy to overcome the challenges to gathering and understanding patrons across diverse, disconnected, and siloed internal systems and external data sources.</p>
<p>THE TECH BEHIND BETTER GUEST EXPERIENCES</p>	<p>In a highly competitive hospitality landscape, guest experience is usually the ultimate differentiator. Today's patrons expect immediate, friction-free service from check-in to cash-out. This session explores the cutting-edge technologies transforming the guest journey. Discover how property-wide integrations, smart room capabilities, and all digital touchpoints can be leveraged to eliminate wait times, personalize stays, and elevate the overall guest experience.</p>
<p>MOBILE APPS - MANAGING "AN APP FOR THAT" WORLD</p>	<p>Every property desires a single integrated mobile app, but launching a successful one requires a strategy that goes far beyond a simple download link. Guests and players expect mobile apps to seamlessly handle booking, communications, mobile gaming, digital keys, cashless, and loyalty rewards all in one place. This session tackles the operational realities of mobile app management. Learn methods and strategies to avoid app fatigue and keep customers engaged long after they leave your property.</p>
<p>REGULATORS AND IT - BEST PRACTICES FOR BEST RESULTS</p>	<p>The relationship between IT departments and regulatory bodies is often viewed as a balancing act between technological innovation and strict compliance. It doesn't have to be a battle. This session discusses strategies for fostering a collaborative partnership between tech teams and gaming regulators. Building an environment of trust that accelerates technology use while maintaining full compliance and a shared understanding of security and risk mitigation.</p>

2026 TRIBALNET CONFERENCE TOPIC GUIDE (TRACK 6 OF 7)

Tribal Government Technology Track

Session Title	Session Summary
<p>CREATING AND SUPPORTING ENHANCED TRIBAL ID'S</p>	<p>Enhanced Tribal ID production and acceptance have turned out to be ongoing challenges for many tribes. They represent a powerful assertion of sovereignty, streamlining border crossings, federal identification compliance, and access to services for tribal citizens. However, launching and maintaining an enhanced ID program requires a complex blend of secure technology, intergovernmental cooperation, and careful data management. This session covers the technical infrastructure, security standards, and operational workflows necessary to successfully issue and support secure, legally-compliant Enhanced Tribal IDs.</p>
<p>DATA SOVEREIGNTY BEST PRACTICES</p>	<p>Data Sovereignty and the need for tribes to identify and protect their data has never been more complicated or challenging. Information is power, and for tribal nations, data may be a sovereign asset. Protecting and controlling how tribal data is collected, stored, and potentially utilized by external entities can be vital to a tribe's sovereignty. Do you know what data tribes should consider sovereign in the first place? We will discuss practical best practices for establishing tribal data governance codes, cloud storage agreements, and ensuring your tribe maintains control and ownership of its digital footprint.</p>
<p>TECHNOLOGY SUPPORTING CULTURE, LANGUAGE, AND HISTORY</p>	<p>Tribes across the nation are leveraging software, hardware, and systems to protect, preserve, and expand their cultural programs. Technology may be viewed as a disruptor, but it is also one of the most powerful tools available for cultural preservation. From immersive language apps and digital archiving to interactive story telling, innovative technology is helping tribes protect their history and culture. Come hear how tribal communities are leveraging modern technology to preserve, revitalize, and securely share their culture across generations without compromising sovereignty.</p>
<p>TECHNOLOGY AND ENGAGING YOUTH</p>	<p>Reaching and engaging the next generation requires meeting them where they already live: online and on mobile platforms. Digital tools offer opportunities to connect youth with tribal governance, community initiatives, and cultural programs. This session explores creative digital strategies to capture the attention of tribal youth, build meaningful engagement, and help you foster a stronger lasting connection to the tribe and tribal community.</p>

2026 TRIBALNET CONFERENCE TOPIC GUIDE (TRACK 7 OF 7)

Tribal Health Information Management

Session Title	Session Summary
ENTERPRISE AI IN HEALTHCARE	Navigating HIPAA, data security, and the limits of autonomous AI. As artificial intelligence rapidly reshapes healthcare, organizations face a critical divide between enterprise-grade AI systems and standalone consumer AI tools. This session explores what is actually possible—and what is strictly off limits—when deploying AI in environments governed by HIPAA and other healthcare regulations.
DESIGNING AI FOR THE FRONT LINES	Tools, workflows, and experiences for healthcare providers—AI in healthcare succeeds or fails at the point of care. This session focuses on how AI tools actually function and can be used in real clinical environments, and how their design impacts the day-to-day experience of healthcare providers.
PROTECTING THE CARE CONTINUUM	Securing ancillary services data without disruption. Ancillary services—lab, imaging, therapies and home care for example, are essential to patient care, but they also introduce complex challenges in data protection, privacy, and operational security. This session explores how healthcare organizations can safeguard sensitive patient data across these environments while minimizing disruption to clinical workflows. We will examine the unique risks associated with ancillary systems.
CLINICAL COMEBACK	Prioritizing care and systems after an incident. This session explores practical strategies for restoring operations in healthcare settings after any type of incident: cyber, environmental, or operational. Discuss how to prioritize critical clinical services, implement effective downtime and backup plans, and apply disaster recovery and incident management best practices to ensure patient safety and continuity of care across clinics and healthcare sites.
HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE	Balancing access and protection—Health Information Exchanges (HIEs) play a critical role in connecting care teams, improving coordination, and enabling better outcomes for patients. This session provides an overview of how HIEs function, why they are essential to modern healthcare delivery, and the responsibility of sharing and protecting patient data.