



**Robert C. Byrd Center**  
*for CONGRESSIONAL HISTORY AND EDUCATION*

For Immediate Release  
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**The Byrd Center will host virtual lecture on Native American Indian Policy with Phil Baker-Shenk**

The Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education at Shepherd University will host a virtual lecture entitled “Native American Indian Policy since Little Bighorn,” featuring Phil Baker-Shenk. The program will take place live on Zoom on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 7:00 pm EST. The event is free to the public, but registration is required in order to receive the link for joining the Zoom session.

Phil Baker-Shenk is a lawyer who represents tribal governments throughout the United States. Phil has decades of experience forging practical, common-sense solutions to the diverse challenges confronting his Indian law clients. He regularly appears before courts, federal agencies and tribal governing bodies. He has worked as general counsel to the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, drafting legislation and committee reports dealing with Indian gaming, housing, economic development, tribal status, education, child welfare, and self-governance, among many other issues.

In this lecture, Baker-Shenk will recount some stories of Native valor and fortitude that may not have made it into our American history books. He will describe the federal policies that legalized larceny of Indian land, gold, fish, water, oil and kids, and then federal policymakers’ long and arduous slog through recent decades to shape federal policies that delegitimize and reverse those thefts. Baker-Shenk will explore with you some of the myths that have fueled bad federal Indian policy over the years and how the rule of law, when it truly seeks policies pledged to liberty and justice for all, can indeed bend into the arc of a more moral universe.

You must RSVP in order to receive the Zoom link to join the events live, which you can do by visiting [www.byrdcenter.org/native-american-indian-policy-since-little-bighorn](http://www.byrdcenter.org/native-american-indian-policy-since-little-bighorn). You may also RSVP by calling the Byrd Center’s office at (304) 876-5648.

The Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education is a private, nonpartisan, and nonprofit educational organization located on the campus of Shepherd University. Its mission is to advance representative democracy by promoting a better understanding of the United States Congress and the Constitution through programs and research that engage citizens.

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