

  
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Olympia

May 24, 1968

LOUIS BRUNO  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Lorraine Misiaszek, manager of the Spokane office of the State Board Against Discrimination, has been hired as a consultant on intercultural relations, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Louis Bruno announced today.

The new Intercultural Relations section of the State Office of Public Instruction has been established as a part of the Division of Curriculum and Instruction, headed by Assistant State Superintendent Chester Babcock.

Warren Burton, who for the past year has been administrator of federal funds in the state office, was named supervisor of the new section.

Mrs. Misiaszek, a graduate of Gonzaga University in Spokane, has played a major role in improving the conditions of Indians in eastern Washington.

She's a member of the Nespelem Indians, received her education in Inchelium schools in Ferry County and devoted several years to serving the Nespelem Tribal Council of the Colville Federated Tribes. While she was chairman of their Health, Education and Welfare Committee, many grants for academic and vocational scholarships to Indian youths were increased in number and amount, an adult education program was established, summer camps were made available to boys and girls, U.S. Public Health Services were accelerated and a sanitation project was begun.

While she was chairman of the Tribal Planning and Economic Development Committee, a contract was made with Stanford Research Institute to conduct a comprehensive survey of the tribe's resources. As a result, the committee formed a proposal to end the reservation's Federal Trust status through legislation introduced in Congress.

As manager of the Spokane office for the Board Against Discrimination, Mrs. Misiaszek helped provide employment, housing and education for citizens of minority races.

She holds a degree in political science with minors in philosophy and journalism.

In 1959 she organized the western Indian tribes into the Western Inter-tribal Coordinating Council of which she was later named president. She's a charter member of the Spokane Community Action Council and currently serves on the Governor's Advisory Committee on Indian Affairs.

The Intercultural Relations section of the State Office of Public Instruction is designed to provide leadership, consultant service and technical assistance to school districts with problems of racial imbalance and de facto segregation.

It is hoped, according to Superintendent Bruno, that the new office will also encourage more productive liaison between educational and community agencies.

The section was established with funds from Title IV, Civil Rights Act of 1964.

#####