Introduction:

The Hawaii National Transitional Authority (HNTA) was started two years ago under a belief that the Hawaiian nation can not continue as a nation divided. One section of the nation is aligned with the position of Federal Recognition of the native Hawaiian race by the U.S. Congress. Another section adheres to the position that we are an independent nation entitled to the full (and for many, immediate) recognition and operation of that independence. What side should we choose, Federal recognition OR Independence?

Many of our po`e Hawaii are in positions or circumstances in which they can survive and thrive under the protective cloud of Federal protections programs including attending, and reaping benefits from, Kamehameha Schools, from Hawaiian Homestead programs, and others which may come under attack without Federal Recognition. There are many others who support independence of the Hawaiian nation, either immediately or sometime in the future.

But that mischievous OR has divided us for too long. We need to shift our thinking and change the question to an assertion - I choose to support Federal recognition AND Independence! I choose inclusion rather than exclusion.

The Hawaii National Transitional Authority is intended to work on both Federal Recognition and Independence. It is a chance for us to work together, to research all facets, and to consolidate our thoughts, providing space under the umbrella of Hawaiian Sovereignty, for both Federal Recognition and Independence.

Aloha a hui hou,
Poka Laenui, Convenor, Hawaii National Transitional Authority
plaenui@hawaiianperspectives.org

DESCRIPTION OF THE

Hawaii National Transitional Authority

February 23, 2016

The Hawaii National Transitional Authority (HNTA) is formed to bridge those who support Integration (Federal Recognition) and those who support Independence, so we are no longer divided by an "or," but united by an "and" conjunction. United under a common purpose, we will raise our nation, calling us to our common devotion to Hawaiian sovereignty.

To operationalize the Hawaii National Transitional Authority (HNTA) we will need a clear organizational structure and a demarcation of responsibilities.

I: Administration

There shall be an <u>administrative office</u> to coordinate the overall work of the Hawaii National Transitional Authority, undertake responsibilities for organizing staff, communication, accounting, book-keeping, fund raising, and reporting obligations. It shall open a treasury from which those individuals choosing to may give private contributions or assign funds which would otherwise have been paid to the U.S.A. or to the State of Hawaii to finance those governmental operations, to the Hawaii National Transitional Authority.

This office will be the headquarters from which information and coordination would flow among its members and the general public. All contracts, agreements, and documentation officially representing the Hawaii National Transitional Authority, will emanate from this administrative office.

The office shall be under an Executive Director, who is in charge of the selection of staff and for its day to day operation. This director shall be answerable to the Board of Directors (BOD) consisting initially of fifteen of its originating members of the Hawaii National Transitional Authority. In its initial year of operation, the BOD shall meet every three months or sooner at the call of the Executive Director, or at the call of 50% or more of its membership. Such meetings may be held in person or through the participation of various methods including telephonic conferences, "go-to-meeting" technologies, or other forms of gatherings. Each member of the board shall be notified of such meetings 7 days in advance in the form in which the member has registered communication with the administrative office. Organizational documents of the Hawaiian National Transitional Authority will be adopted by the BOD and its general membership.

There shall be a membership of the Hawaii National Transitional Authority consisting of all those in support of the purpose and practice of the Authority. Future members of the Board of Directors shall be taken from this membership body.

II: Research and Documentation:

There shall be a <u>research and documentation unit</u> to examine the intricacies of Federal recognition with the United States of America, and of recognition of independence and other relations with international bodies including individual states, regional organizations, governmental organizations, international non-governmental organizations, offices and agencies of the United Nations, and the various committees, councils and ruling bodies of the United Nations. This unit shall, under the administrative office, coordinate its research and documentation with the overall Hawaii National Transitional Authority. This unit will also study

special inter-nation relationships, such as a compact of free association with the United States, for defense and monetary gain of the new government.

This unit will also be tasked with inter-relating with the non-Hawaiian population, preparing them and getting their support for the transfer of government. It shall determine initial requirements for citizenship of Native Hawaiians and non-Hawaiians, and begin the process of nationalizing those interested.

III: Domestic Oversight:

There shall be a <u>domestic oversight unit</u> to investigate, negotiate, and report on the progress being made under a treaty or constructive arrangement for recognition of the Native Hawaiian people by the United States government. This unit will detail the many issues of concerns, including identification and separation of assignments of lands which remain under State of Hawaii and U.S.A. control which are commonly regarded as part of the ceded lands trust; continued claim and exercise of jurisdiction over Hawaii and its Hawaiian nationals; the integration of Native Hawaiian laws with State of Hawaii and U.S. laws; issues of choice of laws and supremacy of laws between Hawaii, the State of Hawaii, and the U.S. government; application of criminal jurisdictions during this period of jurisdictional conversion to Hawaii; and other issues regarding the coordinated and methodical transfer of authority and responsibility to the Hawaii national government. This unit shall begin review of policies and practices over current practices in international trade and other relations with foreign states and corporations, address concerns of population expansion of Hawaii, continued militarization of Hawaii by foreign governments, foreign investments in Hawaii, and transportation and shipment to and from Hawaii.

This unit should also concentrate on the integration of the Hawaii State government, its agencies, its courts, its public education system, its University of Hawaii systems, the City and County of Honolulu, and the other Neighbor Island counties with the Hawaii National Transitional Authority. Additionally, this unit should investigate the development of a monetary and banking system that will be able to step into the flow of the economy, in the maintenance of order and proper conduct in the population, and of assuring that the transition will not disrupt the existing health and welfare systems or the penal and prison systems.

The domestic oversight unit should also examine the Hawaii tourism industry including the issuance of visas, the intervention of the "bubble tourism" packages which closes out our local business from tourists of other countries which are locked into their "package deals", the integration of local people into all levels of foreign businesses operating in Hawaii, and the elimination of the applicability of the Jones Act. This unit shall also carry on the responsibility of addressing the U.S. military's continued presence in Hawaii and the process of turning over Hawaii lands back to Hawaii hands, clean and pristine as when first taken, or pay a price for any pollution left back. This unit shall be responsible for the back rent for lands used by the U.S.

government and negotiate the rent for bases which the United States may be allowed to keep in Hawai'i.

This unit will negotiate an interim land base for the new government during the transition period, such as West O'ahu which has its own harbor, airport, heavy and light industrial areas, university and schools, shopping centers, government office buildings, and farmland, and which has the largest concentration of native Hawaiians in the world.

IV: International Relations:

There shall be an <u>International unit</u> responsible for training and international representations. This unit should of course, recognize and acknowledge the many individuals and groups who have worked over the years in the international venue, and see to what extent such individuals and organizations could be incorporated with the work of the Hawaii National Transitional Authority. In the past, we have had participants from Hawaii before the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples, the Sub-Committee on Human Rights, the Committee on the Elimination on All forms of Discrimination, the International Arbitration Tribunal, the U.N. Special Committee on Decolonization, the Universal Postal Union, and even address the General Assembly of the United Nations. This accumulated work should be respected and to the extent possible, and the experiences incorporated in the overall work of the HNTA. The International unit working under the Hawaii National Transitional Authority, may need to establish an office, desk, agent or ambassador at the U.N. offices in Geneva Switzerland, and/or New York, U.S.A. All of this will need to be properly coordinated and properly funded.

V: Conclusion:

WE MAKE THE ROAD BY WALKING IT. Not every aspect of the Hawaii National Transitional Authority is set forth here. Join us in developing the HNTA further.