

July 27, 2018

Rosebud Economic Development Corporation (REDCO)  
Attn: Ms. Sunny Clifford  
Post Office Box 236  
Mission, SD 57555

**RE: My RST Population Estimates**

Dear Ms. Clifford;

Good Afternoon. I hope that all is well with you. It was a real pleasure discussing your research with REDCO. Please find attached the Population Estimates growth rate that I said I would provide to you. They are as follows:

<b>Todd County 10-33A AGR Real Rate</b>	4.11981%	4.11981%	4.11981%	4.11981%	<b>AGR</b>
<b>SDCL 10-36 20-Year AGR Rates</b>	4.61000%	7.70%	20.02%	19.74%	
<b>RST Population Per US Census</b>	<b>Todd County</b>	<b>Mellette</b>	<b>Tripp</b>	<b>Gregory</b>	<b>RST Total</b>
2017	8,857	1,123	775	304	<b>11,059</b>
2018	9,222	1,169	807	317	
2019	9,602	1,217	840	330	
<b>2020</b>	<b>9,997</b>	<b>1,268</b>	<b>875</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>12,483</b>
<b>2030</b>	<b>14,970</b>	<b>1,898</b>	<b>1,310</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>18,692</b>
<b>2040</b>	<b>22,416</b>	<b>2,842</b>	<b>1,961</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>27,989</b>
<b>2050</b>	<b>33,565</b>	<b>4,256</b>	<b>2,937</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>41,910</b>
<b>2060</b>	<b>50,260</b>	<b>6,373</b>	<b>4,398</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>62,755</b>
<b>2070</b>	<b>75,258</b>	<b>9,542</b>	<b>6,585</b>	<b>2,583</b>	<b>93,969</b>
<b>2080</b>	<b>112,691</b>	<b>14,288</b>	<b>9,861</b>	<b>3,868</b>	<b>140,708</b>
<b>2090</b>	<b>168,742</b>	<b>21,395</b>	<b>14,765</b>	<b>5,792</b>	<b>210,694</b>
<b>2100</b>	<b>252,671</b>	<b>32,037</b>	<b>22,109</b>	<b>8,672</b>	<b>315,490</b>
<b>2110</b>	<b>378,347</b>	<b>47,971</b>	<b>33,106</b>	<b>12,986</b>	<b>472,410</b>
2111	393,934	49,948	34,470	13,521	491,872
<b>RST Population in 94-years in 2112</b>	<b>410,163</b>	<b>52,006</b>	<b>35,890</b>	<b>14,078</b>	<b>512,136</b>
2113	427,061	54,148	37,368	14,658	533,236
2114	444,655	56,379	38,908	15,262	555,204
2115	462,974	58,702	40,511	15,891	578,077
2116	482,048	61,120	42,180	16,545	601,893
<b>RST in Todd Co. &gt; 1/2 Million in 2117</b>	<b>501,907</b>	63,638	43,918	17,227	626,690
2118	522,585	66,260	45,727	17,937	652,508

If the Average Growth Rate (AGR) continues, what stands out with this is that RST is on course for over ½ Million tribal members living in the current 4-County area in the year 2112, 94-years from today. Also, over ½ Million tribal members will be living within Todd County in 2117, 99-years from now. Where will all of these tribal members live & work. If we as a government are having a difficult time providing employment, housing, health care, education, & other pertinent services for them today, how will we do it 94-years from now?

In the year 2072 we will exceed 100,000 tribal members living in the 4-County area, with 101,871 members. That is 54 years from today, well within our children's lifetimes. To give some perspective on these numbers, the entire state of South Dakota's population is 869,666 today, per the US Census Bureau. I estimate that RST's population will be 652,508 living in the 4-County area 100-years from today. That is 75% of the state's population today. What is disturbing is that none of my projections include the "undercounted" RST members living in the 4-County area. All of the preceding presents immense policy questions for REDCO & RST as we plan for the future of the economy here. To create the economic and employment opportunities that REDCO is tasked with providing, and to prepare a "7-Generations Plan," these population statistics must be taken into account.

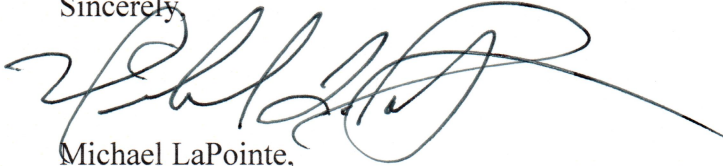
As for the methodology of my projections, I offer the following. As you know, there are different unemployment counts of RST members, for the reasons that we last discussed. Also, due to the transient nature of many RST members moving to other areas of the state at various time in a given year, and then moving back again, there are varying population counts. Further, RST members may be moving from one home to another in a given year, in a different RST community. From my 2014 research, I have found that the most accurate measure of RST's Population Estimate growth rate is the 4.11981% annual growth rate of cell phone tax revenues. Statistically, this rate closely matches the US Census Bureau's Population annual growth rate that they list at their website today. My growth rate is the "Real Rate" after adjusting for an inflation rate of 1.76%. The "Nominal" rate was 5.87981%

The reason for my using the cell phone tax revenue growth rate is simple. People may come and go from living at RST. However, the people who live here and use a cell phone with an address from here is a good indicator of those who are actually living here. As they pay their cell phone bill, they are paying their taxes on that bill. The amount of this tax revenue is growing each year. They are not as "transient." Accordingly, this is the rate I use when estimating how many RST members will be living here 100-years from today.

The US Census 2017 Population Estimate in the 4-County area is 11,059. We know that this is an undercount. This is why I explained that IHS's "Active Patient Chart" is a more accurate Population Estimate of those living here. The biggest value that I see with the 11,059 Census estimate is that these are the RST members that are here year after year, not factoring in the growth rate. These cell phone users are not "transient." The BIA's 2013 Labor Force Report lists 11,158 for RST members living in the area. The BIA does not list a "Tribal Service Population." RST's Enrollment Office will provide an accurate enrollment number but may have a more difficult time estimating those that actually live here.

I hope that this information is helpful in your research Ms. Clifford. Please contact me at [lapointeconsulting@outlook.com](mailto:lapointeconsulting@outlook.com) or at (605)841-0020 for more information. I would be happy to help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael LaPointe', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael LaPointe,  
Consultant