By Tony Stewart Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations

The North Idaho College Diversity Event's Committee, the Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations and the Human Rights Education Institute will co-sponsor a program on Tuesday, December 10 in celebration of the 65th anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was approved by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948.

The keynote speaker for the event will be Kenneth V. Faunce, Ph.D. He is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of History at both Washington State University (2006-Present) and The University of Idaho (1999-Present).

Dr. Faunce's topic will be "A Review and Understanding of the U. N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights".

Since 2006, he has served as the Chair of the Moscow City Human Rights Commission. In 2013, he was elected Chair of the Northwest Coalition for Human Rights Board of Directors. The NWCHR is housed at The University of Idaho's Office of Human Rights, Inclusion and Access.

He has been the recipient of a number of awards including the Potlatch #1 Outstanding Teaching Award, University of Idaho (2010); World Civilizations Faculty Excellence Award, Washington State University (2008); and the Harold and Jeanne Rounds Olsen Faculty Service Award (2007).

Faunce holds a B.A. degree in History and Anthropology from New Mexico State University; M.A. in Anthropology from New Mexico State University; and a Ph.D. in History and Historical Archaeology from The University of Idaho.

The keynote address will be followed by a response panel featuring Father Roger LaChance, pastor of St. Pius X Catholic Church; Father Patrick Bell, pastor of the St. Lukes Episcopal Church; and Marilyn Muehlbach, board member and immediate past president of the Human Rights Education Institute.

The program will be at Noon in the Lake Coeur d'Alene Room of the Edminster Student Union Building (second floor) at North Idaho College. The program is free and open to the public.