

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## The Election and the Mayor's Race

The primaries are over. Of great importance to the Siletz Tribe was the race for the Lincoln City mayor's seat. Although she was expected to win, Mayor Lori Hollingsworth failed to get sufficient votes to be re-elected and therefore faces a run-off election this November.

As tribal chairman, I have been greatly disturbed about the biased and distorted information the mayor and the city manager had been spreading about the tribe's fee-to-trust and economic development efforts and the false information about Chinook Winds' economic impact on the local community.

Shortly before the primary election, General Manager Jim Kikumoto of Chinook Winds reminded all of his employees about the importance of the local election. His memo was an effort to offset the distorted information being disseminated by the mayor about the tribe and Chinook Winds.

Jim also reminded employees specifically how significant Chinook



Delores Pigsley

Winds' impact has been on the local community.

The fact that the mayoral race will be held in November gives the tribe time to consider what we must do to ensure that the new City Council, what-

ever form it takes, will be more understanding of the tribe's views and needs.

Will the mayor and the City Council treat the tribe with the same honesty and respect with which we have treated the city? We shall see.

## The State Legislative System

I now would like to briefly report on the Public Commission on the Oregon Legislature, a state body to which I was appointed as a member.

Peter Courtney, president of the Senate, had commented that, "The legislative branch was designed to be the most accessible and responsive branch of government but it has been damaged over the years."

And Jim Scherzinger, a former legislative revenue officer, made this critical observation that could, I believe, be applied to governments at all levels: "The Legislative Assembly is the most important decision-making body in the state and it needs to have a rational decision-making process. To get elected, come to Salem and make hundreds of decisions, then go away and study the issue is backwards."

The intent of this new commission as defined in the bill that created it is "to strengthen the legislative branch so it can more effectively meet the needs of the people."

The 30-member commission was established in July 2005 "to review the Legislature's operations and make recommendations for improvements to the 74<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly when it convenes in 2007."

Specifically, the commission's responsibility is "to review all aspects of Oregon's legislative branch of government including the timing, frequency,

and length of sessions, legislative procedures, and the adequacy of legislative facilities and staffing."

An example of these actions is the Process Committee, which reported "the status quo was not acceptable."

Acting on recommendations from Dave Frohnmayer, president of the University of Oregon, the committee believed there were "compelling reasons" why, how, and when the legislature should meet that should be reconsidered. The following reasons should give anyone a clue as to how complex the committee's task was:

"The reduction of legislative independence and authority due to the increase and influence and impact of state agencies, the lobby, the consequences of ballot measures and a variety of federal issues; increasing complexity of the legislature's fiscal and policy tasks; decline of the citizen legislature; and need to adapt to the requirements of the 21<sup>st</sup> century."

On April 5, the Process Committee presented its report, which included numerous specific recommendations.

For example, regarding the frequency, length, and timing of legislative sessions, the committee spent time discussing with legislators and staff to better understand the state budget process. In the committee's view, "State budgeting should continue on a biennial basis, and the Ways and Means Committee should be a joint committee that works together as a joint committee throughout the session."

I serve on the Human Resource Committee. All the committees meet jointly periodically and will make the recommended changes by the end of this year.

## CTSI Jobs

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### Job Opening

CTSI is constantly looking for temporary employees to cover vacancy, vacations, maternity leave, and extend sick leave. If you are retired, a homemaker, or a student and are looking for temporary work that can last from two weeks to 12 weeks, please submit a temporary application for the temp pool.

Note: "Open Until Filled" vacancies may close at any time. The tribe's Indian Preference policy will apply. Tribal government will not discriminate in selection because of race, creed, age, sex, color, national origin, physical handicap, marital status, politics, membership or non-membership in an employee organization.

## Most Often Requested Numbers

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians	1-800-922-1399
Salem Area Office	503-390-9494
Salem Finance Office	1-888-870-9051
Portland Area Office	503-238-1512
Eugene Area Office	541-484-4234
Springfield Siletz Tribal Head Start	541-747-0161
Contract Health Services (CHS)	1-800-628-5720
Siletz Community Health Clinic	1-800-648-0449
Siletz Alcohol and Drug	1-800-600-5599
Chinook Winds Casino Resort	1-888-244-6665
Chemawa Health Clinic	1-800-452-7823
Bureau of Indian Affairs	1-800-323-8517
Web Site	<a href="http://www.ctsi.nsn.us">www.ctsi.nsn.us</a>

## Open Your Home – and Your Heart – to a Child in Need\*

Every child deserves to grow up in a safe, nurturing environment.

A number of foster care programs and organizations nationwide are dedicated to ensuring that foster children get the care and support they need. These organizations can't do it alone – they need the assistance of people like you.

The need for foster parents currently ranks among the most pressing problems in the child welfare system. Nearly every community in the nation has a shortage of foster families. This is true for the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, both locally and throughout the 11-county service area.

Many people believe that only married couples can become foster parents. In fact, foster parents can be single, married, or divorced. They can be homeowners or live in an apartment. They can be as young as 21 – or they can be retired.

Families who care for foster children receive payments that are intended to cover ordinary living expenses for the child, including food, shelter, and daily supervision.

Each state has its own rules and procedures for becoming a foster parent. For information on fostering a Siletz Tribal child, please contact the tribe's Indian Child Welfare department at:

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians  
Attn: Heather Hunt  
Indian Child Welfare  
P.O. Box 549  
Siletz, OR 97380-0549  
1-800-922-1399, ext. 1275  
541-444-8275

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