



Siletz News
Confederated Tribes of
Siletz Indians
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Siletz Casino Project to uplift Tribal community by helping with unmet needs

From Quinn Thomas, LLC

Currently, the Confederated Tribe of the Siletz Indians has \$248 million in unmet needs in Tribal programs, including approximately \$207.5 million in capital need and \$40.5 million in annual need. We intend to use gaming income from the proposed Salem casino to provide much-needed programs for our Tribal members, including supporting Tribal elders, establishing a full-service Tribal law enforcement agency and creating a natural resources division along with strengthening several current Tribal programs.

We expect the casino to generate \$185 million in annual revenue in the first year of operation, growing to \$231 million by the third year. Twenty-five percent of this revenue will be reinvested into community improvements and programs for Siletz Tribal members. Eventually, we hope revenue from the proposed casino project will reduce the Tribe’s reliance on federal grant money to further strengthen its self-governance. As we move toward federal and state approval of our second entertainment property, we hope the community will consider the

hardships faced by our Tribal members due to adverse federal Indian policies. The revenue from this project will not only support local communities, but will improve the lives of our Tribal membership as well.

Impacts of adverse federal Indian policies

The unmet needs of the Siletz Tribe can be explained by the history of the Tribe and the adverse federal Indian policies applied to the Tribe and its members.

Two-thirds of the original Siletz Reservation was unilaterally removed by the federal government by Executive Order in 1865 and statute in 1875. This reservation land was taken without just compensation or Tribal consent. In 1954, the Siletz Tribe was terminated of its status as an Indian Tribe by the Western Oregon Indian Termination Act and as result the Tribe was stripped of its remaining 25,000 acres of Tribal land. Termination devastated Tribal member-

See Salem on page 4



Photos by Diane Rodriguez

Natasha Smith (l) and Shila Justice (above) work together to make a Christmas ornament in a team-building activity during the Tribe’s All-Staff Meeting on Dec. 7 at Chinook Winds Casino Resort. Raina Mason (l), Kyanna Fisher and Jasmine Whitehead (below) work on their ornament.



Planning’s Community Meetings start this month

The Salem area meeting kicks off the year on Jan. 26, followed by the Eugene area meeting on Feb. 9. The Siletz area meeting is Feb. 23, followed by the Portland area meeting on March 9. The out-of-area folks will meet via Zoom on March 23.

Because your input is needed to communicate your needs and priorities and for grant writing, we want to spend more time listening to you. We will also update you on various projects we have completed as well as what is in progress.

Most of the meetings will be hybrid with in-person and Zoom connections. Meetings will be from 5:30-7:00 p.m. with the exception of Eugene. That meeting will meet from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

The link to all Zoom meetings is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/6206272290> . To join by phone, call 1-253-215-8782 and enter the meeting ID: 6206272290.

If you have any questions, please contact the Planning Department at 541-444-8257 or 800-922-1399, ext. 1257.

Siletz Tribal offices will be closed:

- Monday, Jan. 2, for New Year’s Day
- Monday, Jan. 16, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Monday, Feb. 20, for Presidents’ Day