

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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From Delores Pigsley

### Planning for the Major Facility

Everything seems like an anti-climax following the exciting opening of Chinook Winds! Everything has quieted down and we are now enjoying the fruits of our labors, glowing in its success.

But the opening of our temporary facility was only phase one. The anticipation - the excitement - will build up again during the next twelve months for the opening of our major Chinook Winds Gaming and Convention Center. And there will be a million and one things that will still need to be done to accomplish this major objective.

### Critical National Indian Gaming Issues

We were fortunate in having Sharon House to conduct training sessions for our Tribe specifically on internal control standards.

As Tribal Chairman, I feel we must see to it that our Tribe not only formulate but apply strict standards to protect our assets, I know that my fellow council members feel the same.

Direct responsibility for overseeing the proper conduct of our gaming operations and the protection of our assets lies in the hands of our Gaming Commission and Tribal Monitor. Sharon commented on how impressed she was

with our tribal regulators. We should be proud of the completely unbiased process by which these commission members were selected.

Although we are kept currently informed of national issues by Franklin Ducheneaux, our consultant in Washington, DC who also serves on NIGA's legal team, it was helpful for us to get first hand, Sharon's perspective of what is happening at the national level. Sharon underscored what we have heard before; that anti-Indian forces are again at work trying to undermine Indian gaming through amendments to IGRA. Once again, the tribes must unite to fight these destructive forces.

Jessie Davis, who serves as Ad Hoc Gaming Committee Chair (formerly, Ad Hoc Gaming Commission) has been an active participant of the NIGA Task Force that deals with critical national Indian gaming issues. She will continue to represent the Tribe on these vital matters affecting our Tribe.

### Status of Field Representative Appointment

On 6/16/95 I met with Area Director Stan Speaks to discuss a number of topics including the need to fill the position of Field Representative (formally Superintendent) at the Siletz Agency. Three candidates for this position are currently being considered by the Area Director. It is expected that a decision will be made soon.

### Status of Self Governance negotiations:

Current negotiations are basically the same as negotiations last year.

There are a number of issues that we and the Bureau are grappling with including Contract Support. No mutually acceptable method has been adopted as yet for the distribution of contract support funds.

The Bureau is considering moving a number of programs to the Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA) system. Whether it would be to the advantage or disadvantage for us to be put under that system has not yet been determined.

At the National Consultation Meeting, unresolved issues were identified;

\*trust services: promised but not yet delivered  
\*general assistance: BIA is considering moving to TPA

Navaho requests a moratorium - heavily funded California tribes want base budgets  
Siletz considering options

\*HIP: looking for resource allocation method in 1996

\*Judicial Services

### Tribe gets approval of HIP waiver

Although we have not received word in writing as of this issue of the Newsletter, we received word that our request for Secretarial waiver of HIP regulations has been approved.

Under the previous regs, Category B was not meeting the needs of the most needy. Under the approved waiver, services can be expanded by increasing the allowable grant.

## Gaming Report

By: Jessie Davis, CH Ad Hoc Gaming Committee

Chinook Winds is a little over one month old and is a great success! All our patience and hard work have paid off.

Of course, we experienced some problems which is normal for a brand new operation like ours. Each problem is being addressed and adjustments are being made as we go along.

We are viewing the operation of our temporary facility as a period of gearing-up for our major facility. The 140,000 sq ft gaming and convention center is scheduled to open in May of 1996, so we have one year in which to hire and train our staff and iron out our wrinkles.

And how financially successful is Chinook Winds? The revenues will help pay the loans that were incurred in establishing

# GAMING REPORT

the gaming center, i.e., the \$3 million for the purchase of the Lincoln Shores property, about \$2 million for slots and other gaming equipment, the construction of the facility, and for other start up costs.

Our plan is to repay these loans as soon as possible so we will have less interest to pay. We will also be incurring expenses in the construction and start-up of the major facility.

### Status of Gaming Personnel

Critics of our gaming center had dire predictions that a flood of people would pour into Lincoln City causing a severe strain on the community's housing supply. The fact is, the gaming center has opened up job opportunities for the people who are already residents of

Lincoln City and the County. There has not been, nor will there be, a drain on the local housing supply.

Where do the 201 current employees live?

\*100 are residents of Lincoln City,  
\*42 commute from Siletz  
\*56 live elsewhere in Lincoln County  
\* 3 live outside Lincoln County and Commute.

Of the 500-600 who will be employed in the permanent facility, 201 will be employees currently working for Chinook Winds.

Five hundred eight applications are currently on file for positions with the permanent facility. Of the 508:

\*309 are residents of Lincoln City.  
\*199 are residents of Lincoln County.

### Planning For The Permanent Center

Planning for the construction of the Chinook Winds Gaming and Convention Center is moving ahead