

LETTERS

To Tribal Members:

The Siletz people are resourceful and intelligent. It's always been that way. We as individuals, can decide what's best for our families. It's important that we maintain an open and accountable tribal government (a good example of that would be to ensure that all tribal members have access to accurate minutes of council meetings). If we don't keep our government streamlined, open, and accountable, all that we have is sure to be lost to waste and bureaucracy.

For years Siletz Indians suffered because the US Government had the sole power to dole out what rightfully belonged to the tribes. Politics and the inefficiency of government dictated when and if our people would receive what was theirs in the first place. In spite of our present optimism and prosperity, I don't see where much has changed as far as the attitude that Indian people don't know what's good for us. Then it was the BIA telling us how it was going to be, now it seems to be some members of our own tribal council who would deny us the means to best determine our own futures by withholding what belongs to us.

The sentiment that per capita payments are detrimental to Indian people is just as arrogant and shows just as much contempt for the Siletz people's ability to manage their lives as did the US Government during the early relocation of our people. Back then the government, in it's wisdom, claimed they knew what was best for us.

Last year, at the February General Council meeting, I was disappointed to hear Mike Darcy express the opinion that he had "seen per capita payments kill our people". I had just voted for Mike, but I couldn't have disagreed more.

The best way to ensure permanent success for tribal business endeavors and to make our families prosper far into the future is through per capita payments. Dividends give our people the incentive to be productive for our families and for the Tribe. We can balance good business with per capita payments and we should do it now, not later.

Sincerely,
Lynette Warren

Tribal Members:

How many times do I have to write, "**IF YOU DON'T LIKE MY LETTERS, DON'T READ THIS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**"

IT'S ELECTION TIME!!!

Tribal Council is **BLOCK VOTING AGAIN!!**

I wonder why they are so afraid of **losing** their seat on Council?

When you vote this way, you **close your eyes** to the people, **you don't hear** what others could/may do, you just vote and **do not care** about the real issues.

Maybe, **they don't have a blood degree** and that is why They do not bring up issues **About Being INDIAN.**

Do you know how to **beat** The **BLOCK VOTE**, well, I'll tell you.

Don't vote for any of the Council people, the ones Re-running and those that are Trying again.

Is it **fair** for the other Candidates when the election's **are rigged?**

The issues that are of great importance to our people are: **River Rights, Hunting & Fishing, Land, Compensation, Etc.**, these are issues that these other **so-called** Tribal Members **Do not care about about.**

During World War II, the Japanese people that were Americans were put in internment camps, not long ago, they went to court and fought for **compensation.**

They lost their homes, every thing that they owned and won a settlement.

Our tribes lost two (2) homelands and never were

COMPENSATED!
GO FIGURE!!!!

How about the **CASINO**, now they're **laying off** worker, **cutting hours** but not the over paid ones, just the workers.

GO FIGURE!!!!

Ask yourself, just what has this Council **did** for me? What are they **doing** for your children? What programs **are you using?** Did they **talk** to you when they saw you? Something called:

COMMUNICATION!!!

Listen to the Candidates for what they **are going to do** and decide if it is **time to change.**

If they are willing to give our people the **power to vote**, go into court and **fight** for our rights and **communicate** with you, these are the people that **should be voted in.**

You may **hear** or **read** that we will never survive without re-electing the same people over and over again, I wonder **Just who is ignorant?**

So!!! **INDIAN PEOPLE, register** to vote, the tribal members are, we know who **IS INDIAN.**

To be **INDIAN**, you are born **INDIAN, INDIAN FATHER, INDIAN MOTHER.**

To be **SILETZ**, you are born **SILETZ, SILETZ MOTHER, SILETZ FATHER.**

To be a **Tribal Member**, you don't need neither parents to be **INDIAN**, only be **1/16**

AND I AM NOT A RACIST, JUST A PROUD 15/16 SILETZ INDIAN.

William Stanley Strong
Tolowa, Chetco, Tututni

Dear General Council,

Please vote for people who will work for the Tribe's best interests. We need to go forward, not bring up things from the past that can't be changed. This does not mean that we should be blind to past mistakes, instead we should remember & learn.

When disagreeing with some Tribal Council members it's been said "wait 'till February, there will be a change". What kind of change? Will there be staff that is persecuted until they quit? Will some trumped up charges cause their termination? We can't afford bitterness and vindictive attitudes.

I personally am voting for myself, Mary (Dolly) Fisher, and Mike Darcy. We three, with

previous Tribal Council experience, will not always agree but, healthy discussion will bring us to a decision that is best for most of the Tribal members.

Happy New Year,
JoAnn Miller

Jee/la

This is my last chance to get to ask you for your voting our upcoming Tribal Council election. Besides myself, I am supporting JoAnn Miller, Mary (Dolly) Fisher for Tribal Council. We did not always agree on every issue while I was on Tribal Council, but I never doubted for a minute their sincerity or the fact that they did their homework.

With mail-in ballots available, there is no reason not to vote in this important election. We need to work together to create a non-violent, caring community for our next generation.

Tribal Council should model the vision for our Tribe. With almost 3,000 Tribal members, creating and delivery of services is going to be especially challenging. We need to be working with the staff to rewrite many of the policies that create barriers for our Tribal Members.

I again ask for your support and vote.

Hum/chi
Mike Darcy

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