

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES LANGUAGE LESSON

School Time and School Safety

As the summer winds down and the school year nears its beginning, the staff at the Language program are putting the final touches on lesson plans, establishing lesson times, and meeting with Warm Springs Elementary school teachers. The routine of the school year is about to begin. As it does, we at the Culture & Heritage Department would like to share with you another project that has been going on this summer, which has involved all of our the teachers and the Culture and Heritage Dept. Director.

An Update On The Certification Of Native American Teachers To Teach Tribal Languages

Myra Johnson; Director C. & H. Dept.

I am pleased to announce the final stages of the State of Oregon law—**ORS 342.144 American Indian languages teaching license**—becoming an important role in the preservation of our three languages of Warm Springs. It has been educational for politicians and others in the State, to recognize the important role that languages play in the survival and maintenance of our sovereignty, culture, and Tribal identities.

The most important part of the Law recognizes that Tribes will be in full control of their Tribal languages. The State and others will be there in supportive roles to Tribes that have Tribal members ready to teach languages that apply for the teaching license. The Tribes will establish the criteria that applicants will need to fulfill and then file the application jointly to the Teachers Standards and Practices Commission (TSCP) for the teaching license.

The stages from beginning to end are as follows:

1. Senate Bill to 2001 Legislative Assembly—passed unopposed.
2. Meetings held by Oregon Department of Education to discuss implementation.
3. 1st draft of Rules to Implement introduced to TSCP (proved unacceptable to Tribes and others).
4. Summer of 2002 **342.144** official part of Oregon Statutes.
5. Discussions held on concerns of 1st draft of Rules to Implement, with many supporters asking for shorter version.
6. 2nd draft of Rules to Implement—accepted and on to the TSPC.
7. TSPC approved 2nd Rules to Implement—August 2, 2002.
8. First application for teaching license next to occur.

These 8 stages are simplified. During all of these stages, a lot of conversation, support, discussion, meetings, and other events had to happen to come to a place that would allow for the teaching license to be available for the 2002-03 school year.

For your reference, provided also on this page, are: **Oregon Statute**, and **Teachers Standards Practices Commission Rule to Implement Senate Bill 690**. Rule to Implement Senate Bill 690 addresses the two bills: ORS 181.539 (not included due to length) and **ORS 342.123** (provided).

Our program has many thanks to give to many, many people. Thanks to Wendell Jim, who in 1995 seeded the idea to get our language instructors certified. All Tribal elders from Oregon Reservations, who came to support and testify on behalf of the bill when it was first introduced: Michael Mason, Louie Pitt, Minority House Leader Kate Brown, Senators (Bev Clarno, Ted Ferrioli, Jason Atkinson, Maragret Carter, Susan Castillo, Avel Gordly, Dave Nelson, Frank Shields, Charles Starr, and Mark Simmons), House Representatives (Dan Gardner, Vic Backlund, Richard Devlin, Dan Doyle, Elaine Hopson, Jan Lee Karen Minnis, Donna Nelson, Tootsie Smith, Carolyn Tomei, Carl Vilson), *thank you!* Oregon State University Staff, University of Oregon Staff, Oregon Department of Education Staff, Oregon Tribal Language Program Staff, Warm Springs Elementary School, *thank you!* Urbana Ross, Madeline, Gladys, Language Program Staff—

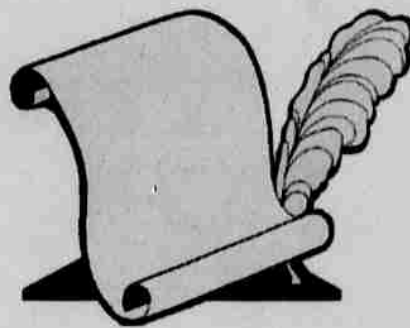
who spoke in the three languages of Warm Springs—and so many others who have supported this effort. I know that I left out many

people, yet you know whom you are and that the smallest role-played was an important one. So our hearts and prayers are with those who continue to support our efforts.

AMERICAN INDIAN LANGUAGES STATUTE

342.144 American Indian languages teaching license. (1) As used in this section, "American Indian tribe" means an Indian tribe as that term is defined in ORS 97.740.
 (2) The Legislative Assembly declares that teaching American Indian languages is essential to the proper education of American Indian children.
 (3) The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission shall establish an American Indian languages teaching license.
 (4) Each American Indian tribe may develop a written and oral test that must be successfully completed by an applicant for an American Indian languages teaching license in order to determine whether the applicant is qualified to teach the tribe's native language. When developing the test, the tribe shall determine:
 (a) Which dialects will be used on the test;
 (b) Whether the tribe will standardize the tribe's writing system; and
 (c) How the teaching methods will be evaluated in the classroom.
 (5) The test shall be administered at an appropriate location that does not create hardship for the tribal members administering the test.
 (6) The commission may not require an applicant to hold a specific academic degree, to complete a specific amount of education or to complete a teacher education program to receive an American Indian languages teaching license.
 (7)(a) An American Indian languages teaching license qualifies the holder to accept a teaching position in a school district, public charter school, education service district, community college, or state institution of higher education.
 (b) A holder of an American Indian languages teaching license who does not also have a teaching license issued under ORS 342.125 may not teach in a school district or education service district any subject other than the American Indian language they are approved to teach by the tribe.

RULE TO IMPLEMENT SB 690 (2001 SESSION)—ORS 342.144



CIVIL RIGHTS STATUTE

342.123 Knowledge of civil rights laws required. (1) In addition to and not in lieu of an other law or rule or standard established by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission, the commission shall require an applicant for a teaching license or any renewal thereof demonstrate knowledge of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and federal statutes pertaining thereto, as well as state statutes prohibiting discrimination.
 (2) An applicant shall be required to demonstrate knowledge of federal and state statutes prohibiting discrimination required by subsection (1) of this section only once. [1977 c.805 §2; 1981 c663 §1]

Requirements for an American Indian Languages Teaching License:

584-060-0200 Upon filing a correct and complete application in form and matter prescribed by the Commission, an applicant may be granted an American Indian Teaching License for one or more American Indian languages. The license shall be valid for three years and may be renewed upon application from the holder of the license.

- (1) The initial application shall be a joint application for the prospective teacher and the tribe whose language will be taught. The tribe must certify that the applicant is qualified to teach the language of the tribe.
- (2) The initial application shall include the submission of fingerprint cards with the appropriate fees and a completed affidavit attesting to the review of laws prohibiting discrimination as found in the booklet entitled *Discrimination and the Oregon Educator*.
- (3) A holder of an American Indian languages teaching license who does not also have a teaching license or registration issued under ORS 342.125 may not teach any subject other than the American Indian language they are approved to teach by the tribe.

Answers to Last Issue's Wasq'u Word Puzzle

1	a	u	n	a	y	6	a	x*				
	s						n					
2	a	s	h	a		3	á	a	7	a	8	a
	p						n		g		k	
	q'						a		a		a	
4	w	i	g	w	a						n	
	i										a	
											k	
						5	i	t'	u	k	d	i

* This word was missing a clue in our last issue, so a special congratulations to those who figured it out! Sorry to those who tried, that omission was not intentional.