

# Spilyay Tymoo

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## Ventures, CP Enterprise updates at Council

Tribal Council will soon consider a funding proposal for the CP Enterprise-Ventures cannabis/hemp project. The plan calls for growing and processing non-recreational hemp products on the tribes' Schoenhagen property, off Highway 26 across the Deschutes River.

The Ventures' request to Tribal Council is for start-up funding to begin growing hemp. The sooner in the year the plants are in the ground, the larger will be the eventual revenue from sales, the Ventures team said.

The start-up funding would come

from the carbon sequestration revenue. Ventures, Natural Resources, Tribal Council and management implemented the carbon project over the past few years, with great success for the tribes.

As the Ventures board and staff met this week with Council, they also discussed the carbon project.

A decision will be whether to expand the project to include more forest acreage, as the current program has been a welcome source of much-needed revenue to the tribes. This will be a project for review starting with Ventures and

Natural Resources-Forestry.

Discussion this week at Council also focused on the Ventures enterprise itself. Ventures will be recruiting a new chief executive officer. The position description and salary will be reviewed and modified as needed, said Pah-tu Pitt, Ventures board chairwoman.

Tribal Council established Warm Springs Ventures, an economic development enterprise of the tribes, about 18 years ago. The enterprise has seen some turnover in the chief executive officer position, including a departure at the start of this year.

"The Ventures staff is dedicated, and have kept the programs going despite the change in leadership," said Sandra Danzuka, Ventures office manager, who has been with the enterprise since its beginning.

Regarding the cannabis-hemp project: The program will be overseen by a commission with the specific goal of meeting all regulations. Ventures is pursuing a non-recreation grow operation as the state of Oregon has a significant over-supply of recreation marijuana.

## Bloodline referendum pushed back a month

Tribal Council moved the blood quantum referendum from mid February to March 15. Recent changes at Administrative Services have required more time to organize the election.

The referendum will ask the members whether the tribes should change how blood quantum is determined for the purposes of automatic enrollment.

The change would be the addition of the 1980 census to the list of baseline census years for determining the Confederated Tribes blood quantum.

The change for some would allow the recalculation of the degree of tribal blood—Wasco, Warm Springs and Paiute—a person has, based on the 1980 census. A tribal website explains the issue. See the site:

[youtube.com/channel/UCjttQ4Dd25tMGy85R8gikA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjttQ4Dd25tMGy85R8gikA)

The presenters are tribal attorney Howie Arnett, and former Administrative Services director atwai Lynn Davis.

## New hiring process at Indian Head

Indian Head Casino has implemented a new hiring process for jobs at the casino and the Plateau Travel Plaza.

All applicants that submit an application online will now receive an invitation to a preliminary interview class. The website is: [indianheadgaming.com](http://indianheadgaming.com)

The casino and Travel Plaza will conduct the preliminary interview class each Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Indian Head Casino Human Resources training room.

After attending the class, applicants will be invited to come to an open interview, held each Thursday of the week between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

If you do not have access to a computer, stop by the casino human resources office. They can help.

For any other questions, please call at 541-460-7714.

## To candidates for Tribal Council

The election of the Twenty-Eighth Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs is scheduled for April 4.

Candidates are welcome to submit a written statement and a photo to the *Spilyay Tymoo*. Please submit by next Thursday, January 24. You can email to: [david.mcmechan@wstribe.org](mailto:david.mcmechan@wstribe.org)

Kah-Nee-Ta Resort closed to the public a little over four months ago. The tribes continue to provide security and basic maintenance at the resort.

An outside investor-management partner would be the likeliest scenario allowing the resort to re-open. There are a number of potential partners who have been in contact with the tribes.

The Simnasho community and tribal leadership will host a public meeting on the future of the resort on Tuesday, January 22. The meeting at the Simnasho Longhouse begins at 7 p.m., dinner served at 6.

An issue to keep in mind are the confidentiality agreements that could limit what information can be disclosed publicly.



## Allowable timber cut question at Council

Each year the Tribal Council approves an allowable cut of timber from the reservation forest land. The allowable cut is reviewed and modified, as needed, every five years.

This year is the third of the current five-year period. Tribal Council on Monday will consider a resolution from the Branch of Natural Resources-Forestry to establish the 2019 allowable cut.

A base allowable cut is recommended at 25.1 million board feet. A question for Tribal Council will be in regard to the forestry harvest practice referred to as 'tolerance.'

Vernon Wolf, acting Forest manager at Natural Resources, explains the situation. For context, Mr. Wolf explained:

For many years Natural Resources-Forestry and Warm Springs Forest Products Industries managed the tribal timber harvest through the cutting contract.

The contract allowed a 'tolerance' of 10-percent per year: This provided some flexibility in the harvest, either slightly over or below the approved al-

lowable cut.

This was practical for a number of reasons, allowing for adjustments based on weather conditions, the fire season, and market conditions from year to year, for instance.

After WSFPI closed in the spring of 2016, Tribal Council established the Warm Springs Timber LLC. The Timber LLC markets the tribal timber, providing trust revenue to the tribes.

Instead of a cutting contract, the Timber LLC and Branch of Natural Resources operate under a memorandum of understanding.

The MOU does not address the tolerance practice, Mr. Wolf said. Last November and December, the weather conditions—wet but not frozen—resulted in a reduced harvest by approximately 3 million board feet below the allowable cut.

The question for Tribal Council will be whether to allow this unharvested board footage to carry over to this and other years in the current five-year period.

## Shutdown impacting clinic employees, BIA

The Indian Health Service, a department of federal Health and Human Services, provides health care to tribal members. This is an essential right as provided by the Treaty of 1855.

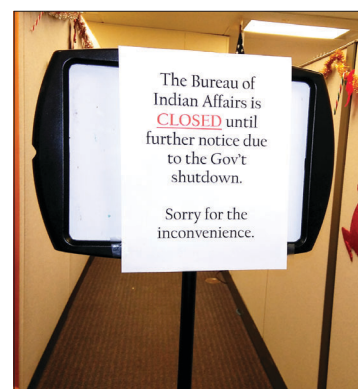
The IHS clinic staff continue to serve the membership; so the clinic is operating "business as usual," as reported at Tribal Council by Warm Springs clinic director Carol Prevost.

The partial federal government shutdown, though, has meant that about 80 employees at the clinic have been working without pay. If the shutdown continues, some 638-contracting programs could be impacted as well.

Meanwhile, the BIA employees—from administration, Office of the Special Trustee, and BIA Roads, for instance—are on furlough.

Warm Springs Head Start and Early Head Start are federally funded, but their funding had already been awarded, so this service has so far not been interrupted by the shutdown.

Fire Management also has not seen an impact, as these are tribal employees. If the shutdown continues for long, though, some prescribed burn programs could be missed, said Trey Leonard, Fire



The offices of the BIA at the administration building have been closed since December 22.

Management general manager.

Warm Springs is feeling the effect of the shutdown, but so far has fared better than some other tribes. The much bigger Navajo Nation, for instance, has seen 5,000 federal workers—nearly all tribal members—working without pay.

And urban Indians are feeling the impact: The National Council of Urban Indian Health has warned that a number of urban IHS facilities may have to close by the end of the month, if there is no resolution to the shutdown.



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