

New partnership with state DHS

In Oregon there are many resources available to seniors and people with disabilities. These services include, for instance, access to Social Security, food benefits, disability benefits, homecare and personal support, medical assistance information, and senior employment.

The services are available, though a person could experience some difficulty in actually locating the proper contact in order to access the resource. And this is where the Department of Human Services ‘navigator’ plays a key role.

The navigator assists in connecting the individual with the available and appropriate service or services. The tribal navigator serving the reservation community is Rose Alarcon, who has many years’ experience connecting people with the Social Security, disability services, and other resources.

The tribes’ Branch of Health and Human Services and the Oregon Department of Human Services—Seniors and People with Disabilities this week signed the formal agreement creating the tribal navigator position.

The position is funded half through Medicaid and half by the Oregon DHS. Discussion in creating the position began a couple of years, said Caroline Cruz, branch manager. This year the time is right for moving forward with the program, she said.

Ms. Cruz and Ashley Carson Cottingham, of the DHS—Seniors and People with Disabilities, met this week for the formal signing, while Secretary-Treasurer



Dave McMechan/Spilyay

The Oregon Department of Heathh and Human Services team meets with the tribal representatives after the agreement signing: On hand were Angela Munkers of DHS, tribal Chief Operations Officer Alyssa Macy, Ashley Carson Cottingham and Frank King, DHS; Caroline Cruz, Health and Human Services; Rose Alarcon, Rebecca Arce, DHS, and Craig Graham, tribal health resources director; and (below) tribal navigator Ms. Alarcon, Ms. Cottingham and Ms. Cruz sign the official memorandum of understanding.



Michele Stacona had earlier signed the agreement.

The next step will be for Ms. Alarcon to train with a DHS specialist, and begin providing help to people in the community who need assistance. Her office is at the Family Resource Center.

During the agreement signing this week, Ms. Cottingham talked about the Department of Human Services home care program, a potential excellent opportunity for the reservation and tribal members.

Human Services will help place home-care workers

with seniors or people with disabilities. These can be full- or part-time care positions, and a person may work for more than one client.

The requirements to qualify are not stringent. For instance, no high school degree or GED is required. The training is approximately 12 hours over a two-year period. The positions are open to people 18 and over.

The pay is \$14.75 an hour. The goal is to have a nursing home level of care for people who prefer to live at home.

— Dave McMechan

Resolution of Tribal Council

Essential Understandings

Whereas the Tribal Council is the governing body of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon; and,

Whereas Ordinance 68 pursuant to Article V, Section 1(l) enacted authority for the “protection, preservation and encouragement of tribal and Indian history, culture and tradition, and found it necessary to ensure the survival of the Confederated Tribes,” which provides the foundation for the continuance of the Tribes as a distinct political and cultural entity perpetually, adopted July 29, 1987; and,

Whereas the Confederated Tribes recognizes the need to educate all Oregon students about the Native Experience in Oregon that includes the Warm Springs, Wasco and Northern Paiute tribes; and,

Whereas the tribes had

appointed the Culture and Heritage-Education manager and the Culture and Heritage Committee chairman to meet with the Oregon Department of Education and the other eight tribes of Oregon to create a document referred to as the “Essenital Understandings;” and,

Whereas the Tribes support and approve the Essential Understandings document that will be used as the foundation for building the statewide Tribal History/Shared History curriculum, and as a professional development tool for teachers. The Essential Understandings document will include topics such as the experience since time immemorial, tribal sovereignty, tribal history, tribal government, identity, life ways, languages and treaties with the United States, genocide, federal policy and laws; now therefore:

Be it resolved by the Twenty-Eighth Tribal Council of the Confederated

Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon pursuant to Article V, Section l(a), (d), (f), (l) and (u) of the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws, that the Essential Understandings document is hereby endorsed and supported; and,

Be it further resolved that all efforts to ensure the survival of the traditions, culture and heritage of the Warm Springs Tribes through documentation, creation of Tribal Ichiskin, Kiksht and Nume speakers, securing archival information, are essential and vital to the sovereignty and history of the tribes, that the Education branch and the Culture and Heritage will continue its efforts through grants, partnerships, development of materials and strategic plans that respect the strict control of ownership of the culture, traditions and languages of the Warm Springs, Wasco and Northern Paiute people.

Resolution no. 12,613.

A summary of Tribal Council

September 13, 2019

Meeting called to order at 9:22 a.m. by Vice-Chairman Lola Sohapp. Present at Roll Call: Chief Alfred Smith Jr., Lincoln Jay Suppah, Raymond Moody (Captain), Glendon Smith. Chief Delvis Heath (9:30), Wilson Wewa (9:40), Brigitte McConville (10:09)

Madeline Jim, Recorder.

Budget Presentations:

- Health and Wellness Committee - Committee will report on Joint Ventures at a later date.
- Education Committee
- Land Use Planning Committee
- Irrigation/Range/Agri-culture Committee

- Culture and Heritage Committee
- Warm Springs Telecommunications
- Cannabis Commission – No Show.
- Museum at Warm Springs – No Show
- With no further discussion meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Tribal curriculum outlined

The Warm Springs Education Branch has developed the document that will guide the teaching of the tribal curriculum in the public schools of the region. The Warm Springs team worked with the state Department of Education and the other eight tribes of the state in developing this work.

Education and Culture and Heritage brought the document—called *Essential Understandings of Oregon Native Americans—Tribal History, Shared History*—this month to Tribal Council, who gave it their endorsement.

The table of contents gives an idea of the contents of the 18-page *Essential Understandings*. The chapters include:

Since Time Immemorial. Sovereignty. History. Tribal Government. Identity. Lifeways. Languages. Treaties with the United States. Genocide, Federal Policy and Laws.

An appendix provides a guide to other resources for *Essential Understandings*. The introduction explains the purpose of

Essential Understandings of Oregon Native Americans



Essential Understandings:

Learning about tribal nations in Oregon is important for all students. Tribal nations lived and continue to live on the land that is currently known as the United States.

Each tribal nation has a district origin story, worldview and timeline of their history and contemporary context. However, much of that information has been presented to the general American public from a non-Native American perspective, filled with clichés, misconceptions and falsehoods.

Simply stated, history has sought to subvert and suppress events and truths in this country surrounding tribal peoples—from genocidal practices such as the spread of disease and forced removal of children, to federal policies aimed at

the destruction of lifeways, including termination of tribal nationhood and sovereignty.

These nine *Essential Understandings* have been created to serve as an introduction into the vast diversity of the Oregon Native American experience.

The chapter *Since Time Immemorial* states:

Oral traditions of tribes maintain teachings that indigenous people were created here and have existed here since time immemorial. From the coast to the interior valleys to the plateau and to the great basin, tribal peoples maintain continues and balanced relationships including land and water. The Western Hemisphere is Native American Country; therefore the Pacific Northwest is Native American Country...

(Future editions of the *Spilyay* will examine more of the information contained in Essential Understandings Oregon Native Americans—Tribal History, Shared History. Also, see the Council resolution on this page.)

IllumiNative releases new mini documentary

IllumiNative kicked off the national ‘Be IllumiNative’ campaign with the release of a new mini-documentary entitled *Take Action: Protect Our Land*.

IllumiNative is a Native-led nonprofit organization working in partnership with Paramount Network.

The new documentary explores the potential impact of the proposed Keystone XL Pipeline on the Fort Belknap Indian Community in Montana.

The campaign and documentary further IllumiNative’s goal of increasing the visibility of contempo-

rary Native American voices, stories and issues to educate and transform the way that Americans and institutions think about and engage with Native peoples.

Paramount Network partnered with IllumiNative to share the story of the significant threat the Fort Belknap Indian Community faces to their natural resources, sacred cultural sites, and the water supply of many Americans.

The documentary follows Fort Belknap tribal president Andy Werk, as he takes Paramount Network’s Yellowstone Star Gil Birmingham (Comanche)—who plays

Chairman Thomas Rainwater of the Confederated Tribes of Broken Rock Reservation in the series—on a journey to learn more about the potential impact of the Keystone XL Pipeline; and how their fight to defend their treaties and these resources also benefit all Americans.

The Fort Belknap and Rosebud Sioux tribes, represented by the Native American Right’s Fund, have filed a lawsuit to stop the construction of the pipeline.

To view the mini-documentary, visit: illuminatives.org/KeystoneXL

Community Wellness Center/Recreation Department Presents:

Spooky Indian Nite Out & Drummerz Jam Session

Monday
October 28, 2019

Warm Springs Community
Center

Hotluck dinner 5:30 pm
Pow-wow 6:30pm

CLOWN DANCE CONTEST
BRING YOUR CLOWN OUTFITS

For more information contact the CWC/REC Office at 553-3243.