

# Considering future of Indian Child Welfare Act

The future of the Indian Child Welfare Act will be the subject of a U.S. Supreme Court hearing in November, raising concerns about the future of the law.

The federal Indian Child Welfare Act, passed by Congress in 1978, provides statutory protection to tribal families, keeps tribal children connected to their cultural roots, and seeks to preserve the future of tribal nations.

Before the federal act passed in 1978, generations of tribal children across the country were removed from their families and communities, often placed permanently without connection to their Tribal culture and families.

In 2020, the Oregon Legislature passed the Oregon Indian Child Welfare Act, which created a state-based Indian Child Welfare Act that aligned with the federal law while also honoring the unique needs and experiences of tribal nations in Oregon. The

Oregon Indian Child Welfare Act was strengthened during the 2021 Legislative Session.

On November 2, Oregon tribes and the Oregon Department of Human Services will discuss the future of the Indian Child Welfare Act. The meeting is open, also available virtually; and will be held at Willamette University.

The panel is titled 'Complex Conversations: Tribal Rights Are Human Rights – Protecting Oregon's Indian Child Welfare Act.'

The state Human Services department is inviting tribal community members and students from schools across the state to come and join the discussion.

The department's Office of Equity and Multicultural Services will discuss the importance of the federal Indian Child Welfare Act, the Oregon Indian Child Welfare Act, and the critical

need to protect both.

The constitutionality of the federal act will be challenged before the U.S. Supreme Court on November 9 during oral arguments for the *Haaland v. Brackeen* case.

The Oregon discussion panel on November 2 will be moderated by Dion Jordan, director of the Office of Equity of Multicultural Services. The panel will include Adam Becenti, the department's Tribal Affairs director; Aprille Flint-Gerner, Deputy Director of the ODHS Child Welfare Division; and Tribal experts on the federal Indian Child Welfare Act, Oregon Indian Child Welfare Act, Indigenous history and government relations.

'Complex Conversations' is a series of ODHS discussions on topics related to equity. These discussions are usually internal ODHS workforce development dis-

cussions to broaden overall employee awareness of sensitive or complex issues no matter where they are personally in their equity journey.

This discussion panel is the first time the public is invited to join a Complex Conversation discussion panel.

"The complexity of the Indian Child Welfare Act conversation we're having on November 2 made us ask ourselves, how can we best serve tribal communities within Oregon," Mr. Jordan said.

"How can we open Complex Conversations to engage future leaders of Oregon? Public policy? Social services?"

"We serve through knowledge—laying a foundation for why complex conversations are necessary, making people aware of what's at stake, identifying how federal policy affects state policy and most importantly, centering the voices of those whose lives may change without federal ICWA protections."

## Member show in Nov.



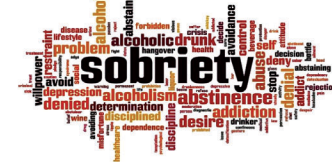
From the twenty-eighth Member show: *Shell Rock* painting by Anthony Littleleaf. Judge's Choice Award - Contemporary Category.

Many generations of beautiful artistry will be on display in November when the Museum at Warm Springs opens the new Tribal Member Art Show. The show, in its twenty-ninth year, opens November 15.

From the adult submissions you'll see paintings, drawings, mixed-media, bead-work, weavings, video, photography and more will be judged in two categories, Traditional and Contemporary Art. The youth portion of the show will not be judged.

### Celebrate Life

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## Harvesting wokas, making fry bread, and more

Ke-As Ne-Asht Sheshatko is member of the Klamath Tribes (Modoc, Hupa), born on the Warm Springs Reservation. He recently published a video, part of the *Beyond the Margins* series at the Oregon Humanities.

In his video—the first in a series of stories about life in Oregon called *Yamatata*—the filmmaker follows a family on the Klamath Tribes' reservation during Woksemi, or Wokas harvest season. Wokas is also known as great yellow pond-lily or Nuphar



Wokas flower and lily.

polysepala, also well-known to members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Ke-As Ne-Asht Sheshatko—Red-Tailed Hawk—writes, "In my substance use recovery, I began

filmmaking as a creative outlet and it deepened into a spiritual need.

"My filmmaking work now focuses on unrepresented voices. I work with Open Signal community media arts center in Portland and have partnered with Regional Arts and Culture Council and Oregon Humanities."

You can watch the video at [oregonhumanities.org](http://oregonhumanities.org)

## Employment with the Confederated Tribes

The following are positions recently advertised with the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

For information, contact the Human Resources office, located in the tribal administration building, 1233 Veterans Street, Warm Springs.

Staff are available to answer questions related to the application process and can be reached at 541-553-3262 or [hr@wstribes.org](mailto:hr@wstribes.org)

Tribal Member preference is exercised in hiring processes as defined in

Tribal Personnel Policy PER 202.

Surveillance. Janitor (limited duration). Water technician (limited duration). Housing resident services specialist.

Fisheries technician II. Clerk/typist. Sports and athletics coordinator. Director information systems. Children's Protective Services specialist.

Protective care provider. Community Health Nurse. CPS supervisor. Recovery mentor. Prevention coordinator.

Transitional support coordinator. SUD office administrator. Certified Recovery mentor. Chief Judge. Air quality specialist.

Cannabis Commission executive director. Budgets, contracts and grants analyst. Elder consultants at Early Childhood Education (limited duration).

Deputy clerk. Water and wastewater distribution operator. Corrections Sergeant. Communications officer. Hydrologist.

Registered Dietician. Compensation and benefits administrator. Public administrator. Payroll/GL specialist. Fire/Medic.

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When: October 27, 2022  
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Where: Starting at VOCS office 1108 Wasco Street  
We will have food, fun and activities!

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Hope to see you there!

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