

Changes to Graves Protection, Repatriation

Proposed changes would streamline processes and improve compliance of NAGPRA; public comment period is open

The U.S. Department of the Interior is revising the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act—NAGPRA—regulations. The proposed changes—developed through tribal consultation and review—are available for public comment.

NAGPRA regulations provide a systematic process for

returning human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony to Native American tribes.

The proposed changes would streamline requirements for museums and federal agencies to inventory and identify human remains and cultural items in their collections.

The Department of the Interior consulted with 71 tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations on the draft proposal and received more than 700 specific comments. Key feedback from the consultations is reflected in the updated proposed revisions. These include:

- Strengthening the authority and role of tribes in the repatriation process.

- Addressing barriers to timely and successful disposition and repatriation.

- Documenting and addressing requests of tribes when human remains or cultural items are discovered on federal or tribal lands before the items are further disturbed.

- Increasing transparency and reporting of holdings or collections.

“Repatriation is a sacred responsibility for many Indigenous communities,” said Chuck Sams, Umatilla, director of the National Park Service.

“We welcome additional input on improvements to the NAGPRA regulations, the hope being these changes will make it easier for proper repatriation and reburial of Indigenous ancestors and cultural items.”

Enacted in 1990, NAGPRA requires museums and federal agencies to identify Native American human remains, funerary items, and objects of cultural significance in their collections and collaborate with tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations to repatriate them. The public can comment on the proposed rule until January 12, 2023. See the site: [regulations.gov](https://www.regulations.gov)

Summaries of Tribal Council

The following are summaries of Tribal Council from earlier this month:

October 3, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jonathan Smith. Roll call: Lincoln Jay Suppah, Vice Chairman Raymond ‘Captain’ Moody, Rosa Graybael, Chief Joseph Moses, Wilson Wewa Jr., Carlos Calica, James ‘Jim’ Manion, Alvis Smith III, Chief Delvis Heath. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

- October agenda discussion with the Secretary-Treasurer.

Motion by Captain approving the October agenda. Second by Alvis. Question: Jim/yes, Joe/yes, Captain/yes, Jay/yes, Alvis/yes, Wilson/yes, Carlos/yes, Rosa/yes, 8/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Bureau of Indian Affairs update with Brenda Bremner.

Bureau of Trust Funds Administration discussion with Kevin Moore.

Covid-19 update with Caroline Cruz, Michele Miller, Katie Russell and Danny Martinez:

Motion by Captain approving the updated proto-

col. Second by Wilson. Question: Jim/yes, Joe/yes, Captain/yes, Jay/yes, Alvis/yes, Delvis/yes, Carlos/yes, Rosa/yes, 8/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

Covid team will report to Tribal Council on November 7 with an updated recommendation.

- Federal legislative update call.

Tribal Attorney update. Executive session from 1:47 p.m. to 2:37 a.m.

Motion by Alvis authorizing the following: 1: Authorize use of ARPA funds for General Accounting Assistance.

2: Authorize Tribal Attorneys to initiate engagement of NMA (Nan McKay Associates, Inc.) for a limited duration to initiate the NMA General Accounting Assistance scope of work. 3: Direct the Secretary-Treasurer/CEO to initiate procurement for completion of the General Accounting Assistance scope of work; and 4: Authorize the Secretary-Treasurer to work with the tribal attorneys to communicate with OSG and any other agencies, as appropriate, regarding the tribes plan for compliance. Second by Jim; Question: Jim/yes, Jay/

yes, Alvis/yes, Delvis/no vote, Carlos/yes, Rosa/yes, 5/0/1, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

Motion by Carlos to adjourn at 2:40 p.m.

October 4

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Raymond ‘Captain’ Moody. Roll call: James ‘Jim’ Manion, Lincoln Jay Suppah, Rosa Graybael, Alvis Smith III, Wilson Wewa Jr. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

- Department quarterly updates:

Public Safety. Human Resources. Governmental Affairs.

- Meet and greet Casey Sixkiller, Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 administrator.

- National Congress of American Indians resolution:

Motion by Alvis adopting Resolution No. 12,982. Second by Jay. Question: Jim/yes, Jay/yes, Alvis/yes, Wilson/yes, Rosa/yes, 5/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Department quarterly updates continued:

Health and Human Services. Natural Resources.

Tribal Court. Veterans Service Office.

Motion by Wilson to adjourn at 3:40 p.m. due to the building closure.

October 10

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jonathan Smith Sr. Roll call: James ‘Jim’ Manion, Lincoln Jay Suppah, Vice Chairman Raymond ‘Captain’ Moody, Wilson Wewa Jr., Chief Joseph Moses, Rosa Graybael, Alvis Smith III. Minnie Yahtin, Recorder.

- Enterprise updates:

Power and Water. Composite Products. Telecom. Ventures - Economic Development. Housing Authority.

- Indian Community Development Block Grant:

Motion by Jim adopting Resolution No. 12,967A, as amended. Second by Alvis. Question: Jim/yes, Joe/yes, Captain/yes, Jay/yes, Alvis/yes, Rosa/yes, 6/0/0, Chairman not voting. Motion carried.

- Warm Springs Timber Company LLC.

- The Museum at warm Springs.

Consensus that each enterprise have public meetings to give annual reports to the tribal membership.

- Motion by Captain to adjourn at 2:20 p.m.

Halloween at Recreation

Warm Springs Recreation will host the ‘Hocus Pocus Halloween’ in the Community Center courtyard from 4-6 p.m. on Monday, October 31, Halloween evening.

There will be costume contests for adults and youth. Adult categories are Best Witch, Spookiest Zombie, Best Homemade, Biggest Sports Fan and Best Ghost.

Kids’ categories are Best Lil’ Witch, Super Hero, Best Kitten, Lil’ Zombie and Best Homemade.

A costume parade will start at 6 p.m. in the courtyard. The trunk or treat event will be set up from 4-6 p.m. at the ball fields behind the community center.

All are invited. There will be award prizes for best decorations following the theme A Hocus Pocus Halloween.

Booths can be set up on the Pi-Ume-Sha Field for handing out treats. For more information and to sign up call 541-553-3243.

Community notes...

The Penny Carnival is coming up on Thursday, November 10 from 6-8 p.m. in the Warm Springs Youth Center gym.

The Papalaxsimisha Parent Group meets every other Monday via Zoom, at noon and 5 p.m. For more information contact Lorien Scott or Rosetta Herkshan. The next meetings are today.

COCC forum on addressing workforce hiring inequities

As part of an ongoing series of discussions on equity, racism and social justice, Central Oregon Community College is hosting a virtual community forum titled ‘Working with a Multigenerational Workforce.’

The forum will be from 3-4 p.m. on Monday, October 24, free and open to the public. Attendees must register for the COCC equity forum in advance. To learn more visit: cocc.edu/departments/multicultural

“COCC is committed to these important conversations centered on addressing systemic inequities,” said Christy Walker, director of COCC’s diversity and inclusion program.

Speakers for this forum are three COCC staffers: Geneva Mayall, Native American college preparation coordinator; Christy Walker, director of diversity and inclusion; and Laura Boehme, Ph.D., chief information and human resources officer. Topics will include employment barriers and stereotypes facing different age groups. Each six- to eight-minute presentation will be followed by a question session.

COCC holds forums on equity, racism and social justice once a term during the academic year. For more information, contact Christy Walker, COCC’s director of diversity and inclusion, at 541-383-7412. Or email: cwalker2@cocc.edu

Supporting long-term success of Native students of Oregon

Program includes financial aid, addresses retention, graduation, professional development of students

The University of Oregon has launched the Home Flight Scholars Program.

This program is available immediately to currently enrolled eligible undergraduate students. Home Flight Scholars goes beyond breaking financial barriers for American Indian residents.

The University of Oregon built the program in consultation with the university’s Native American Advisory Council, recognizing the cultural and academic challenges Native students often experience.

Through a combination of federal, state and institutional grants, the Home Flight Scholars Program will:

- Cover full tuition and fee costs; create a new academic advisor position;

- Enhance mentorship opportunities, and develop a culture-rich program for new students to help Native American students launch successful academic

careers.

Three major factors affect the success of Native American students: financial hardships, academic difficulties and the lack of cultural connectedness.

The University of Oregon Home Flight Scholars Program will help address these issues.

Once state and federal options have been exhausted, the university will waive remaining tuition and fees for Oregon residents who are enrolled citizens of any of the 574 federally recognized tribes.

The program incorporates a wide range of activities to help new student adjust to life on campus and in Eugene. Orientation programs will help students familiarize themselves to campus life and the classroom.

Professional development is an integral part of the UO experience, and the Home Flight Scholars Program will provide a number of opportunities connected to the students’ heritage.

These include professional conferences, tribal job and internship fairs, and the

Future Stewards Program within graduate studies.

Land matter

The University of Oregon is located on Kalapuya Ilihi, the traditional indigenous homeland of the Kalapuya people.

Following treaties between 1851 and 1855, Kalapuya people were dispossessed of their indigenous homeland by the United States government and forcibly removed to the Coast Reservation in Western Oregon.

Background

Nationally, 28.4 percent of Native Americans live below poverty level, double the national average. Federal and state programs have made it feasible for Ameri-

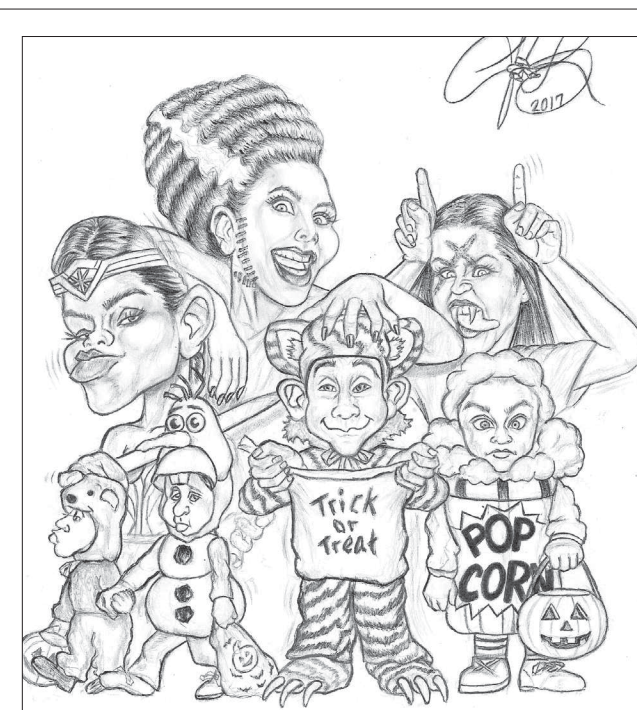
can Indian scholars to attend colleges, gain degrees and overcome some of the employment barriers they face.

The programs provide financial aid to assist with the cost of tuition, fees and sometimes housing. Current data also show that less than half—41 percent—of first-time, full-time Native American students attending four-year institutions graduate within 6 years.

More than half of the students—53 percent—drop out of four-year colleges. Three major reasons these scholars drop out of college are: financial hardships—38 percent; academic disqualification—28 percent; and don’t fit into social life at college—13 percent.

Family Engagement Night

Warm Springs Early Childhood Education will hold the Family Engagement Night this Wednesday evening, October 19. Dinner will be from 5 to 6 p.m., and Make Your Family Tree will be from 6 to 7 p.m. Dinner will be provided, and all are welcome to join.



Halloween greetings from Travis Bobb.



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