

November General meeting focuses on 1999 Proposed Budget

By Tracy Dugan, Editor

By now tribal members should have received a copy of the 1999 Proposed Budget, Special Edition of *Smoke Signals* for their review. Oral testimony regarding the Proposed Budget was heard at the General Council meeting on November 8. Members requested the testimonies be printed in the tribal newspaper. For those members unable to attend the General Council meeting, written comments regarding the Proposed Budget will be considered by Tribal Council before they adopt the budget formally. Comments will be accepted until December 4, 1998, at 5 p.m. Written comments should be hand-delivered or mailed to: CTGR, Attention Lauri Smith, 9615 Grand Ronde Road Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347. Only tribal members who are 18 years of age or older on or before November 1, 1998 may submit comments. All comments must include the author's Roll Number. Oral Testimony from November 8:

Jan Reibach, Roll # 668: "I think that a lot of members are hoping that

this per capita happens as soon as possible. Today we have talked about getting tribal members housing, General Assistance, and other things. I think we will see a decline in these requests if this passes. I would like to see per capita expedited."

Cheryle Kennedy, Roll # 1: "I support the budget process. I recommend comments be published. I think we should support single mothers and young families who need help starting out. And I support our mothers being able to raise their children in a cultural setting."

Christine Contreras, Roll # 3431: "Congratulations to Tribal Council. We all need to appreciate the hard work it takes to put together a budget like this. I know there is pressure from the membership to get per capita going. I think we should be cautious. We need to slow down a little bit and make assurances for our children."

Linda Olson, Roll 3 17: "I see pros and cons of per capita. Some people would use it to change their lives, some wouldn't. It's not up to you or me to place value judgements like that

on people. The paperwork members have to fill out when they seek emergency assistance and the questions they are asked causes them to lose their dignity. We should do something for all members so they don't have to lose their dignity."

Julie Goad, Roll # 1327: "I am here pitching for the Elders. We have done a wonderful job providing for them, but not enough. Our Elders don't have the long run. They are entitled. We have a responsibility to make sure they are provided for. Maybe we could increase the retirement. Maybe not. But we are falling short."

June Sherer, Roll # 735: "I would like to propose that Elders who live outside of local area and do not have access to Grand Ronde for the meals and other things that they receive a stipend or a voucher so they can also have free meals. Because to me, if you are and Elder, you deserve that."

Ken Gregg, Roll # 208: These questions will progress throughout the year. I think a communications officer ought to be put into place for the Tribe. To field questions from

tribal members like yourselves when we have questions about departments and budget issues.

Mark Cook, Roll # 73: "I work in the maintenance department down at the Casino, and it is the best job I have ever had. I owe it to the Tribe. I have always been against per capita. You give people money, and they will just want more the next year. And it's not really doing anything for our Elders."

Dakota Whitecloud, Roll 1597: "When Elders' retirement first began, it was \$100 per month. Then it took a jump to \$400 per month. I know because I talk to a lot of Elders that for a lot of them that money is what is keeping them afloat. I would like to ask Council to consider increasing the retirement again. Even \$100 would mean a lot."

Dorothy Greene, Roll #198: "I was born and raised in Grand Ronde. I started working out in the woods. Picking fern and peeling bark and us kids took all of our money home and we gave it to our mom and dad. I

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Tribal members complete training for HR Management



The folks pictured above recently completed the Human Resources Management Certification program offered by Portland State University (PSU). This was the first Human Resource Management Certification program to be offered off-site by PSU. The class met for one weekend a month (Friday night, all day Saturday and Sunday) for six months at the Tribal Training Center. This program included classes in Recruitment and Selection; Equal Employment Opportunity; Basic Compensation; Counseling, Conflict and Communication; Benefits; and Management of Human Resources. There were 18 training hours per class. The majority of class participants were Spirit Mountain Casino employees, followed by three Tribal employees, and employees

from Praegetzer Industries; Salem Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic; A-dec; and Klamath Tribal Youth Treatment Center. Eight tribal members completed the course including Teresa Bailey, J.R. Jones, Carol Scott, Robert Schmid, Tera Stewart, Marilyn Porter, Cheryl Carl and Connie Holmes.

Pictured in back row from left: Teresa Bailey, Scott Mode, Cindy Freeman, Sheila Elliott, Marilyn Porter, Stephanie Valleton, John Reis, Robert Schmid, Wendy Izlar, J.R. Jones, Tera Stewart, and Verna Spaniol.

Front row from left: Daphney Colton, Patti Norton, Tammy Gould, Connie Holmes, Karen Schmid, Cheryl Carl, Candy Rice, Bev Smith, and Carol Scott.

Not pictured: Hester Phillips and Karen Realander.