

Council approves new Housing policies

Tribal Council has recently approved revised policies for the housing programs administered by the Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority. They are:

Minor Medical Adaptation Grant

This grant allows for funding for medically required access ramps, grab bars, and other minor accessibility accommodations. In the past, this work could be done through the Emergency Repair Program, which has now been discontinued. Under this new program there are no income limitations and the property can be located anywhere in the continental USA. The maximum grant amount is \$3,000, and preference will be given to tribal Elders.

Home Repair Grant

This replaces the Major Rehabilitation Grant, the Emergency Repair Grant, and the Deferred Payment Loan programs. This program provides for basic home repairs and is limited to roofs, wood damage, heating, plumbing, electrical, foundations, and weatherization items. To qualify, the property must be located in the Housing Authority's ten county service area of Polk, Yamhill, Marion, Tillamook, Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas, Linn, Benton, or Lincoln counties in Oregon. Tribal applicants must be below the income limits of 80% of the area median income according to their family size. The maximum

grant cannot exceed \$10,000, or \$3,000 for mobile homes. Travel trailers and RVs are not eligible.

Down Payment Assistance Grant

This program will essentially remain the same, with tribal applicants meeting the definition of "first time homebuyer," and having annual incomes between \$15,000 and \$65,000. This program provides a grant of up to \$10,000, subject to a five-year residency requirement in the new home. The applicant must participate in a homebuyer education class and contribute a minimum of \$1,000 towards the down payment, closing or related costs. The property can be located anywhere in the continental USA.

More General Information

• All programs give priority based on the date of receipt of a fully completed application, and preference is given to Elders.

• Applicants are **not** eligible to participate in any of these programs if they have any past due unpaid debts owed to the Tribe or the Housing Authority.

• For more information and applications please contact:

Housing Authority
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97437
Local: (503) 879-2401
Toll free: 800-422-0232, ext. 2401
<http://www.grandronde.org/Housing/index.htm>

Cultural Resources staff will travel in search of Grand Ronde artifacts

The goal of the Cultural Resource Protection program of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is to protect, preserve, and promote the cultural heritage and history of the Tribe. As the Tribe recognizes that many cultural resources, including traditional sites and burial grounds, are invaluable, irreplaceable, and endangered, the Cultural Resource Protection program was established to ensure that these resources are protected and preserved by the use of policies, tribal, federal, and state protection laws.

One law in particular, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), has taken into consideration the tribal viewpoint by making possible the return of ancestral remains from museums and providing for the protection tribal burial grounds.

In essence, repatriation is the act of returning sacred objects taken from tribes for museum collections or scientific study, beginning in 1868. Up until nine years ago, there was minimal legal recourse for tribes to prevent disturbance of burials and theft of sacred objects. On November 16, 1990 NAGPRA became law.

Specifically, NAGPRA establishes procedures and legal standards for tribes to repatriate human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and cultural patrimony by federal agencies, certain museums, and state and local governments. It also recognizes certain tribal rights in regard to burial sites located on federal and state lands.

Thanks to NAGPRA, there are now several federal grants available to Indian tribes interested in starting the extensive repatriation process.

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has just received preliminary notification that a recent grant application has been approved, meaning that the National Park Service could award the Tribe a substantial amount of money to supplement our repatriation endeavors. The objective of our proposed project is to perform on-site investigations of four museums that are holding the largest and most significant collections of Grand Ronde materials.

These museums include Chicago's Field Museum, the American Museum of Natural History in New York, Harvard's Peabody Museum, and the Phoebe Hearst Museum in San Francisco. The grant will provide funding for five tribal employees to travel to each of the four museum locations and digitally videotape relevant collection items, photocopy accessions information, and return the information to program offices for analysis and data entry to be used for all repatriation efforts.

The Cultural Resource Protection program staff of June Olson and Lindy Trolan will be making the trip, along with our repatriation contractors Ryan and Adrienne Heavy Head, and Museum Director Lisa Watt. The trip is tentatively scheduled for the month of September.

Russellville

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eral traditional apartment units within a single building to single unit rowhouse-style buildings.

Sizes vary from a handful of one bedroom units with 607-square-foot of space for \$550 to 1,348-square-foot townhouses with three bedrooms for \$1,085 a month.

But Russellville Commons is more than just a place to live.

"It's not the usual straight-type of apartments," said Shelley Hanson, SMDC's development specialist. "It's more of a community."

Thomas Manseau, leasing manager, said that in addition to all the amenities included with Russellville residency, "we also plan to have activities to get neighbors to know each other and watch out for each other."

He says the housing project also aims to help revive Portland's southeast quarter.

"Southeast Portland has been traditionally known as the part of Portland that nobody cares about," said Manseau. "We've taken an upscale property and built it in what has been a low-income area. A lot of money is being brought into the area."

Russellville apartments are open to anyone who passes a standard credit check and has a gross monthly income that is equal to or greater than three times the rent.

The nearly complete project is the first of a larger two stage housing development.

Phase two of the project is still in the planning stages and will be completed in 2000. The additional 196 units will include a multi-level apartment building, affordable housing and retail space.

CULTURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, April 22 9 am to 4 pm
New Governance Center 9615 Grand Ronde Rd

Anyone interested in learning more about the Tribe's Cultural Resources program is invited to attend.

- Opportunity to watch a flint knapper and make arrowheads.
- Learn more about family trees.
- Help update what has been recorded in family trees.
- Tribal history quilts will be on display.
- Help identify old Grand Ronde photographs.
- View a video of Grand Ronde objects the Tribe hopes to reclaim from museums.



Stop by
and visit
our exhibits.
Snacks will be
served during
lunch.

Russellville Commons

1 bedroom apartment: \$550-\$660
2 bedroom apartment: \$715-\$995
3 bedroom townhouse \$1085
10320 SE Pine Street
Portland, OR 97216
(503) 408-1111
www.apartment.com/russellville