

## EDUCATION

# Government-to-Government meeting is educational

By Marion Mercier, Education Department Manager

The Grand Ronde Tribe's Higher Education program hosted the quarterly Government-to-Government Education Cluster meeting on March 9 at Spirit Mountain Casino.

Participants were Brenda Frank, Klamath Tribe; Ellen Hansen, Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw Tribe; Lou Farrow and Kat Brigham, Umatilla Tribe; Wendell Jim, Warm Springs Tribe; Bev Youngman and Rosemary Landis, Siletz Tribes; Judy Rocha, Coquille Tribe; and Marion Mercier, Ed Pearsall and June Sell-Sherer, Grand Ronde Tribe. Other tribal representatives were present as well.

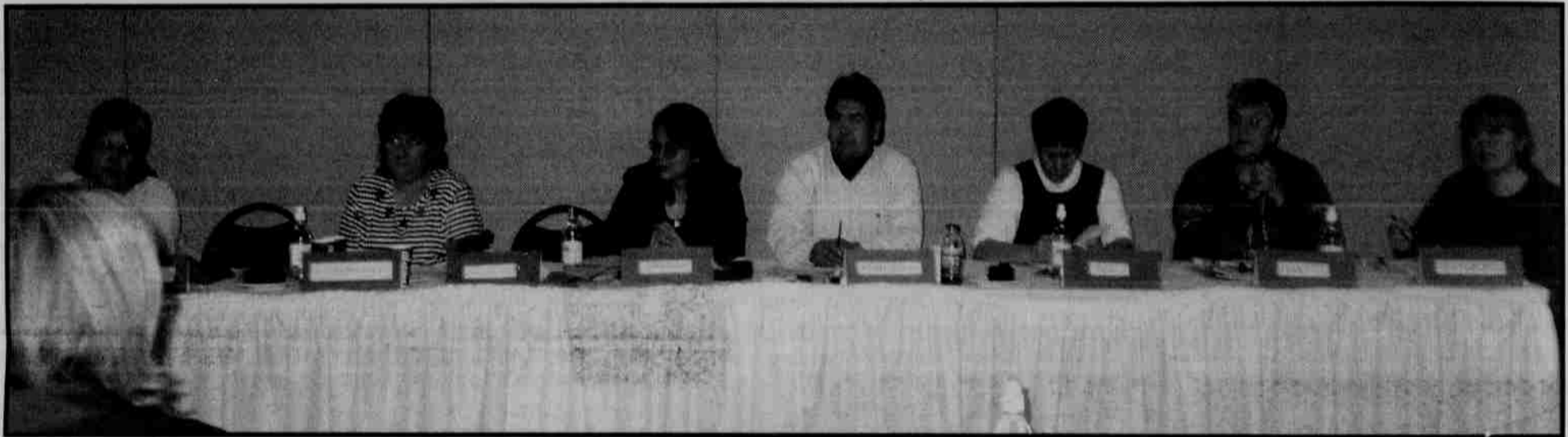
Representatives present from the Department of Education (ODE) were Gloria Muniz and Yanna Underwriter reported on Bilingual/Language. Muniz and Underwriter are members of the Northwest Indian Language Benchmark workgroup. The group's task is to determine Northwest Indian languages proficiency benchmarks that set standards outlining how students comprehend and gain information from a variety of material. Joni Gillis, of ODE, gave an updated report on Charter Schools in Oregon.

Diane Walton, a representative from the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, presented information received from tribes on a technology survey. Additional information is still needed in order to complete the data results. Watson also updated the group on the Workforce Investment Act Unified State Plan (draft) and provided handouts for clarification of what the Act is about.

Dr. Teresa Rapida, Portland State University was present to introduce Steve Nelson who gave a report on the Enterprise Networking System that will provide better technology services for a better price to an expanded service area within Oregon. This network system allows satellite classes to be offered on site to tribes. A pilot program is being offered in Grand Ronde at this time via satellite from Portland State University that brings the Tribal Administration Program classes right to the membership in Grand Ronde.

Tina Garcia, of ODE, reported on meeting with Oregon Indian Education Council on the Statewide American Indian/Alaska Native Education Plan. There will be a statewide mail out of the plan to all Oregon School Districts sometime in September of this year. Tribes are somewhat frustrated because this plan has not been implemented in the majority of Oregon schools yet was endorsed by the State Board of Education and the Department of Education in 1994. Garcia is currently recruiting volunteers to train school district staff in implementation of the plan. Garcia encouraged tribes to select representatives to participate on the Superintendents Advisory Committee on Diversity. Garcia can be contacted by calling the Oregon Department of Education at (503) 378-5585, ext. 664 for additional information.

The next Government-to-Government meeting will be held in Klamath Falls on Thursday, June 22. The meeting will be hosted by the Klamath Tribe. You may contact Brenda Frank for more information.



Government-to-Government Education Cluster meeting held on March 8. Left to right: Brenda Frank, Ellen Hansen, Kat Brigham, Wendell Jim, Bev Youngman, Judy Rocha, and Marion Mercier.

## First American Education Series

### American Indian Art

*American Indian art is explored through literature, storytelling, and plays written by American Indians.*

*The music, dance, and regalia of the pow-wow are discussed from a cultural and historic perspective.*

**Music, Dance & Pow-wows ..... April 18 5:30 to 8 pm**

Instructor: Craig Whitehead

Location: Grand Ronde — Tribal Governance Center, Room 204

**Literature ..... May 2 5:30 to 8 pm**

Instructor: Debbie LaCroix, PhD

Location: Grand Ronde — Tribal Governance Center, Room 204

**Sherman Alexie ..... May 19 5:30 to 8 pm**

Instructor: Sherman Alexie\*

Location: Portland — PSU, Extended Studies Bldg., Basement Room 9

\*At Mr. Alexie's request, admissions for his May 19 presentation will be two or more cans of food which will be donated to Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest, Inc. (NARA).

**Tuition is \$45 per course.**

TO REGISTER CONTACT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

**GRAND RONDE** — Tribal members may contact Hollie Larsen at 879-2275; or Deena LaRue at 879-4591; or 1-800-422-0232.

**SALEM** — Please contact Bee Jai Repp, PhD at (503) 315-4587; or email: repp@chemek.cc.or.us.

**PORTLAND** — call (503) 72-LEARN (725-3276).

## SCHOLARSHIP INFO

### Free scholarships to law school

INROADS is implementing a new program for students of color planning to attend law school in 2000 or 2001 called the INROADS Law Internship Program.

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

- College junior or seniors with at least a 3.0 grade point average.
- Planning to enter law school in 2000 or 2001.
- African American, Asian American, Latino or Native American students.
- Demonstrated leadership skills.

The INROADS Law Internship Program is intended to encourage

greater technical excellence and academic preparation for students of color in the field of law. Students will have a paid internship with a law firm during their last summers of college and on into law school. In addition to the paid internship, the student will attend leadership training and law forums. The ultimate goal is to place the student with the firm. The intern would be obligated to work for a minimum of two years with the sponsoring firm upon graduation from law school.

For more information, please contact Ellecia Williams at (503) 281-0825; or [www.inroadsinc.org](http://www.inroadsinc.org).

### Tribal Trust Fund Scholarships

■ Application deadline is April 30, 2000.

Scholarships range in amount from \$3,000 to \$7,000. Tribal scholarships are renewable as long as academic and attendance requirements are met. Scholarships are available in the following categories:

- ▲ Graduate, full-time and half-time
- ▲ Undergraduate, full-time and half-time
- ▲ Vocational, full-time and half-time
- ▲ Eula Petite, full-time education at Junior level.