

Poster Contest

AMERIND Risk Management Corporation
2003 National Fire and Home Safety Poster Contest

It's time for children within the six county service area to sharpen their crayons and dip their paintbrushes.

All submitted posters must illustrate a "fire safety" or "home safety" theme.

Children in K-8 are eligible to participate. All entries must be original and created by crayons, markers or paint. Posters must be on 8.5" by 11" paper.

This year's winner can select one of two prizes — \$1,000 or a trip to AMERIND's 17th Annual Meeting and Expo in Las Vegas, Nevada in October 2003.

Entry forms are available through the Tribal Housing Authority. Contact Shawn Kennedy at 503-879-2401 for entry forms. Entries must be submitted to the Housing Authority office no later than April 30, 2003.



Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority

Down Payment Grants Available

The Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority's budget for 2003 is in place and grant dollars are now available to assist qualified Grand Ronde Tribal members with the purchase of a home.

The upper income limit for participation in this program has been removed, with the lower income limit remaining at a minimum of \$15,000. This, combined with last year's program changes have made the Down Payment Grant process efficient and accessible to more Tribal members. There no longer are waiting lists for applicants. Grant awards are driven by the applicant's eligibility and readiness to buy and by the amount of grant dollars available. The Down Payment Grant can be used anywhere in the 50 United States or the District of Columbia. Grants range from \$10,000 to \$12,500, depending on the Tribal member's contribution toward their home purchase.

Current economic conditions have provided an active sales market and low home loan interest rates. If you have been thinking about purchasing a home, these conditions make it an excellent time to take advantage of our Down Payment Grant Program.

This program assisted 66 Tribal families in 2002 with the purchase of a home. With the new expanded program parameters, the Housing Authority looks forward to assisting many more Tribal members, with the fulfillment of the dream of homeownership.

If you have any questions, or would like to apply, contact Nancy Holmes, Homeownership Coordinator, at 1-800-422-0232, ext. 2445, or direct at 503-879-2445.

Request For Proposal

Tribal Housing Landscape Maintenance

The Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority desires to contract for services for landscape maintenance and mowing services at the following locations in Grand Ronde, Oregon:

- 1) the GRAND MEADOWS MANUFACTURED HOME SUBDIVISION and WETLANDS; and
- 2) the ELDER HOUSING RENTAL SUBDIVISION.

Proposals must be received by the Grand Ronde Tribal Housing Authority, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, Oregon 97347 no later than 4:00 p.m., February 17, 2003.

Contact the Authority at 503-879-2401 for further information or a proposal packet.

NWIHA SCHOLARSHIP FOR TRIBAL YOUTH

The Northwest Indian Housing Association annually provides scholarships to Tribal youth, defined as individuals ages 24 years old, or younger. The intent is to provide financial awards to youth for education and training programs at schools, colleges, job training organizations, sports camps or other worthwhile organizations. Traditionally, individual awards have not exceeded \$1,000. Applications are available by contacting the Housing Authority at 503-879-2401. **Applications must be turned in to the Housing Authority by April 24, no later than 5 p.m.**

Proposed Revisions

Proposed Tribal Council Ordinance Revisions

The Tribal Council in consultation with the Tribal Attorney's Office has proposed revisions to the Tribe's Tribal Council Ordinance. The first reading of the proposed Ordinance revisions was on January 15, 2002.

The proposed revisions establish a single Legislative Action Committee ("Committee"), comprised exclusively of the nine-member Tribal Council members, for the purpose of studying, developing appropriate legislation and making recommendations on issues, requests, and other matters before the Tribal Council.

The proposed revisions are intended to replace the existing council committee structure under the Ordinance.

The revisions provide that the Tribal Chairperson shall appoint members of the Tribal Council to serve as chairperson for one or more meetings of the committee. The revisions further provide that:

- (1) the chairperson may participate in the discussion of any issue before the committee and vote on a recommendation of the committee;
- (2) the times and places of committee meetings shall be posted in the Tribal Governance Center in a location generally accessible to the Tribal membership;
- (3) committee meetings shall be open to the Tribal membership except that the Committee may discuss matters in executive session in the same manner as the Tribal Council; and
- (4) the committee may recommend items for the Tribal Council agenda to the Tribal Council Chairperson by an affirmative vote of five members of the committee.

For a copy of the proposed Tribal Council Ordinance revisions, please contact the Tribal Attorney's Office at 503-879-4664 the Tribal Council invites comment on the proposed revisions. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney's Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347.

Comments must be received by March 15, 2003.

Open For Comment

Proposed Election Ordinance Amendments

The Tribal Council, in consultation with the Tribal Attorney's Office, has proposed amendments to the Election Ordinance. The first reading of the proposed amendments was made at the January 29, 2003, Tribal Council meeting.

The purpose of the amendments is to make various technical updates and substantive changes to the ordinance to provide for an efficient election process. The proposed amendments include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Reducing the number of Election Board members to three and the number of alternates to two
- Clarifying the role of alternates
- Clarifying the roles of the Election Board and the Election Administrator
- Modifying the composition of the voters address list to include the names and addresses of all adult Tribal members except those who have stated on their Signature Verification Form that they do not want their name and address released to candidates
- Providing a ten-day period following the election for voters to cure rejected absentee ballots if the number of rejected absentee ballots could affect the outcome of the election **
- Modifying the times when returned absentee ballots will be retrieved from the Post Office from at least twice weekly to not more than two days before and election and after noon on the day of the election

** This cure period would be triggered if the number of rejected absentee ballots (absentee ballots returned unsigned or with a signature that does not match the Voter's Signature Verification Form) is equal or greater than the difference in the number of votes between the third and fourth place candidates in a Tribal Council election, or between the number of votes cast for and against a measure. In such instances, the Election Administrator would mail the rejected absentee ballots to the respective voters by certified mail with a notice that the voter has ten days from the date of mailing to correct the deficiency and return the absentee ballot to the designated Post Office Box. When triggered, the cure period would postpone the posting of the results and certification of the election.

For a copy of the proposed Election Ordinance amendments, please contact the Tribal Attorney's Office at 503-879-4664. The Tribal Council invites comment on the proposed amendments. Please send your comments to the Tribal Attorney's Office, 9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347.

Comments must be received by March 14, 2003.

USDA Distribution

~SALEM~

Feb. 18: 2 p.m. to 7

Feb. 19: 9 a.m. to 7

Feb. 20: 9 a.m. to 5

USDA

Siletz: 1-800-922-1399

Salem: 503-391-5760