

"Our Story" Debuts



Tribal member Leslie Riggs, Cultural Education Specialist, described the website to Tribal members on August 18 at the Tribal Education Center.



Interim Cultural Resources Director Tony Johnson

Photos by Toby McClary

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be added to."

To start, six major groups include Traditional Lifeways, Making Grand Ronde Our Home, Memories of Our Elders, Termination and Restoration, Our Community Today, and Our Language.

Enter each of these groups and you can click on pages of more detailed information. Scroll over photographs and caption information appears. Sections come with song and spoken memories from Tribal members.

Three Leno brothers — Tribal Elders Merle (passed on), Orville (passed on), and Russ — talk about the old days. Louisa Selkey sings a stick game song recorded in the 1920s. Tribal Elder Leon "Chip" Tom remembers his baseball days.

There is a button that translates all of the entries into the Chinuk language, Chinuk-wawa.

The project has been "close to two years" in the making, said Trolan, who developed content for the project along with Kim Mueller, Special Projects Coordinator for the department, and Tribal member Leslie Riggs, Cultural Education Specialist.

The next piece of the project is inclusion of a "research library," said Trolan. "It will be associated with every page. Its purpose is for those who want to do more research, whether for curriculum, language or just further cultural enrichment."

The research library component will include whole treaties, where current entries include a visual of one page of a treaty and a summary of its content. Many more original documents will be included, and will be "ever growing," said Trolan.

The addition of the research library is currently planned to be up and running "within the year."

The project was made possible by a grant from the Administration for Native Americans in 2005, but in introducing the project to the Tribe on Friday, August 19th, Trolan said, "From our community, acknowledgements must go to all members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, especially our ancestors, to whom we dedicate our time to respecting and preserving their teachings, their stories, and their memories, and carrying them forward to the future."

"Many thanks go to Tribal Elders as well as Tribal Council for your support and input."

"A great friend of the Tribe, Dr. Henry Zenk, deserves special recognition for not only his contributions of historic and genealogical nature to the project, but to the many

hours spent translating text from English to Chinuk Wawa.

"Kim Rogers of the Policy and Planning Department, as the grant manager for the Tribe, deserves thanks for his active participation in keeping the grantors happily supplied with quarterly and annual progress reports."

"Every staff person in the Cultural Resources Department deserves credit for having a hand in the creation of this site, from the initial brainstorming to final review to today's official launch of the website. Primary responsibility of the project fell to Kim Mueller, who learned XML coding specifically for this project, Leslie Riggs, who authored much of the text, and Lindy Trolan, who contributed text on material culture and historical aspects of our growing collection at Grand Ronde, with significant contributions from Tony Johnson and Angella McCallister." ■



Explanation — Cultural Collections Coordinator Lindy Trolan talks about the new website as Tribal Council Secretary Chris Mercier listens.



www.grandronde.org/culture/ikanum