

Constitutional Enrollment Amendment Educational Meetings

EUGENE: 11 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 2, at the Valley River Inn, 1000 Valley River Way.
PORTLAND: 6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, at the Monarch Inn, 12566 S.E. 93rd Ave., Clackamas.
BEND: 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at the Riverhouse Hotel, 3057 N. Business 97.
GRAND RONDE: After the 4 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12, Tribal Council meeting at the Tribal Governance Center.

NOTICE — Monthly Tribal Council Wednesday Meetings

DATE	TIME
Wednesday, Oct. 12.....	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 26.....	4 p.m.

Please note that these times and dates are subject to change if needed.

Letters

Dear Tribal members:

First off, I want to thank all of you who supported me over the years. While my re-election may not have been successful, I am eternally grateful to have had the opportunity to serve the Tribe and general membership. Those were some good years.

But because I am off Tribal Council doesn't mean I can't fight for my beliefs and for what is right and just. There seems to be a lot of fuss over this most recent constitutional amendment on enrollment. I personally believe most of it is nitpicking. Whether it's one issue or four or five, the Tribal Council is dealing with it how they see it best. The amendment in 1999 was also a bundle but nobody seems to be criticizing that council.

I see one issue at stake in this constitutional amendment, and it is very simple: Enrollment justice. As somebody on the Restoration Roll, it would be very easy for me to sit back and let things take their course. My family is safe. But it wouldn't be right. This Tribe would not exist if there hadn't been people thinking about future generations, and not just themselves. This Tribe formed so we could be a united people and look out for one another. Most importantly, when this Tribe was restored, we were all equal.

That all changed with the 1999 amendment. Now, not everybody gets to pass on their Grand Ronde blood the same. Only some of us do. And that is a shame.

The amendment we have before us is not perfect. There may not be any language that can address all enrollment issues, because they will change with time. But the newest version we get to vote on will reverse a lot of the inequity and heartache caused by the 1999 amendment. It does so in a way that specifically prevents a rapid influx of people, so if you are hearing any wild rumors about floodgates and less per capita then take a better look at the language.

No, it may not be perfect. But there might not be another proposal that balances the concerns of everybody. More importantly, it might be our last chance to fix this problem for awhile.

That's why I am voting "yes" and urging you to do the same.

Wink Soderberg
Roll #777

See page 10 for more letters.

General Council meeting

Sunday, Oct. 2 — 11 a.m.
Valley River Inn, 1000 Valley River Way,
Eugene, Ore.

Smoke Signals

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DEADLINE DATE	ISSUE DATE
Wednesday, Oct. 5.....	Oct. 15
Thursday, Oct. 20.....	Nov. 1
Friday, Nov. 4.....	Nov. 15
Friday, Nov. 18.....	Dec. 1

Editorial Policy

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Our editorial policy is intended to encourage input from Tribal members and readers about stories printed in the Tribal newspaper. However, all letters received must be signed by the author, an address must be given and a phone number or e-mail address must be included for verification purposes. Full addresses and phone numbers will not be published unless requested.

SMOKE SIGNALS reserves the right to edit letters and to refuse letters that are determined to contain libelous statements or personal attacks on individuals, staff, Tribal administration or Tribal Council. Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Letters to the editor are the opinions and views of the writer. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of **SMOKE SIGNALS**, Tribal staff, Tribal administration or Tribal Council.



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Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

2011 Annual Education Division Open House

OPEN HOUSE!

**Wednesday
Oct. 5
5:30-7:30 p.m.**

An opportunity to visit:
Head Start/Preschool
Youth Education-K-12
Kindergarten/ Chinuk
Wawa Language
Immersion Program
Adult Education
Programs
Tribal Library



Join us for a free BBQ dinner and great conversation in the Tribal Gym at 5:30 p.m.

Prizes and a BIG book giveaway!!!

9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347

All are welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult.

Ad created by George Valdez

2011-12 Tribal Council

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