

Department of Agriculture establishes consultation rule

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has signed a departmental regulation which “establishes over-arching department-wide guidance” concerning consultation and coordination with Indian Tribes.

“This regulation is intended to ensure that American Indians and Alaska Natives have full access to the programs and services offered by the department,” said Vilsack. “To achieve this goal it is essential that all agencies of USDA engage with Tribes in timely and meaningful consultation on policies that directly affect one or more Tribes.”

The regulation implements President Obama’s 2009 Memorandum to Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies on Tribal Consultation, which directed “complete and consistent implementation of Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Tribal Governments.”

As approved by Vilsack, the departmental regulation directs USDA and its agencies to provide federally recognized Tribes the opportunity for government-to-government consultation in policy development and program activities “which have direct and substantial effects on their Tribe.”

The intent is to ensure that Tribal perspectives be heard and fully considered “on the social, cultural, economic and ecological aspect of agriculture, as well as Tribal food and natural resource priorities and goals.”

The policy sets forth criteria that all USDA agencies will use to identify actions that require the extension of an invitation to a federally recognized Tribe to engage in consultation. It sets minimum requirements for consultation and coordination, holds agency heads accountable and affirms that each USDA agency is responsible for appropriate consultation and collaboration with the Tribes.

The regulation also specifies that “each USDA agency shall provide an opportunity for Tribes to participate in policy development to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law” and it notes that “all USDA agencies and personnel shall respect and uphold the sovereignty of all federally recognized Tribal governments.”

Under the regulation, each USDA agency and office shall maintain an accountability process and “administrative records shall be retained by the pertinent agency and entered into the USDA Tribal Consultation Database, once it is established by the Office of Tribal Relations.”

Since 2009 USDA has stepped up Tribal consultation, holding more than 2,000 meetings with Tribes each year. USDA has consulted with Tribes on more than 100 new USDA rules and regulations. For example, since 2009 the Department has worked with more than 270 Tribal governments to provide healthier food for more than 250,000 low-income Tribal citizens. Additionally, USDA has partnered with Tribal colleges to enhance community gardening efforts and improve nutrition education.

In 2010, USDA reached an historic settlement to provide compensation for Tribal producers who were wronged in the past. Last year, Vilsack appointed a Council for Native American Farming and Ranching to advise USDA efforts in Tribal communities. In addition, USDA entered into new agreements with the Bureau of Indian Affairs that will improve access to USDA programs on Tribal lands. ■

Annual fish distribution

Attention Enrolled Grand Ronde Tribal members
CTGR Annual Fish Distribution
Powwow Weekend

Thursday, Aug. 15, 2013, 1-5:30 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 16, 2013, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 17, 2013, 9 a.m.-Noon

Tribal members in the Portland Area - Portland Satellite office
Tuesday, Aug. 20

Look for detailed information in future articles.

Education seeks strategic plan help

The Tribe’s Education Division will hold a Community Forum from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 4, in Adult Education’s Rooms 126 A and B to accept input from the community in the creation of the division’s five-year strategic program plan.

Education Division Manager April Campbell said the division is seeking input on the educational programs offered, including the Tribal Library, Higher Education, Youth Education, Early Childhood Education, Recreation and Tribal Language.

“Your input is valued and we look forward to having you help us shape the future of the Education Division,” Campbell said.

Refreshments will be provided.

For more information, contact Debbie Bachman at 503-879-2275. ■

UOFO MOTHER'S DAY POWWOW
MAY 10TH & 11TH, 2013
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
@ MAC COURT, EUGENE, OR
SALMON BAKE
ON MAY 12TH, 2013
@ THE MANY NATIONS
LONGHOUSE
COMPETITION FOR ADULT & TEEN CATEGORIES

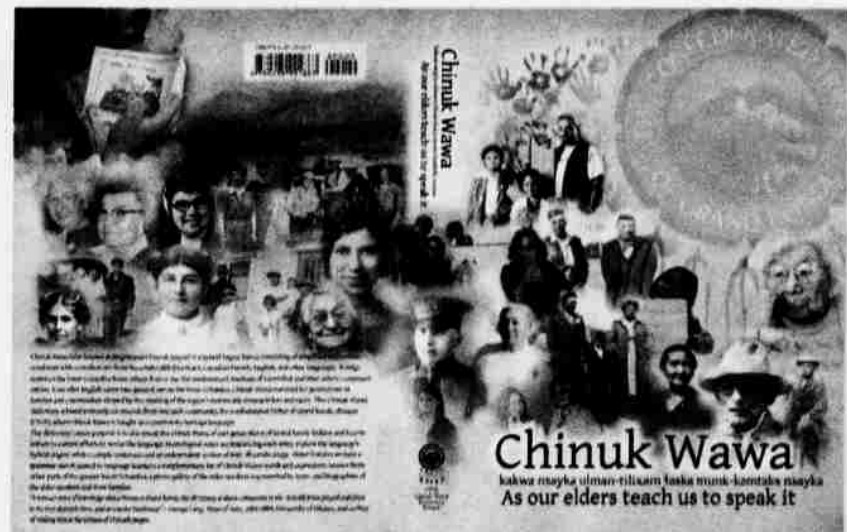
Elders' garage sale seeking donations

Tribal Elders are regularly seeking donations for fundraising garage sales. To donate an item or items, contact Tribal Elders Linda Brandon at 971-267-0918 or Duane Wheeler at 541-992-3254. ■

TEEN NIGHT DANCE
Saturday, March 9 7:30-10pm.
In the Grand Ronde Tribal Gym
Live DJ!
For Middle School Students!!!
(6 - 8th grade)
Students must bring ID to get in!
There will be door prizes, raffles, free pizza and other fun games. Come and dance or just hang out with your friends!
Have more questions? Call Tina Lara at 503-879-2040
CTGR Recreation Department
CTGR Prevention Department Local Native Youth Leaders
Thank you for respecting Grand Ronde Community & Culture by not displaying gang affiliation and by not bringing drugs, alcohol, or weapons to this event.
PRIZES!

Ad created by George Valdez

Chinuk Wawa Dictionary Order Form



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Number of books x \$20.00 each \$ _____

Shipping \$5.00

Total \$ _____

Checks only please

Books may be purchased from the Tribe's Cultural Resources Department located on the second floor of the Adult Education Building. To have an order mailed to you, please fill out the form and include an additional \$5.00 for shipping and handling costs.

Mail this form to:

CTGR Cultural Resources:
9615 Grand Ronde Road
Grand Ronde, OR 97347

call us at 503-879-2268 for multiple book orders, as additional shipping fees apply