

Seventh annual  
History and Cultural  
Summit held  
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# Smoke Signals

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UMPQUA ■ MOLALLA ■ ROGUE RIVER ■ KALAPUYA ■ CHASTA

## General Council briefed on portfolio, 2020 projections

By Danielle Frost  
*Smoke Signals staff writer*

A representative from Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc. briefed the general membership on the Grand Ronde Tribe's burgeoning investment portfolio during the General Council meeting held Sunday, Oct. 6, in the Tribal Community Center.

The 20-minute session with Director Joe Hoon was held in open session instead of executive session with all in attendance permitted to hear the details.

"We had a phenomenal third quarter," Hoon said. "Our global portfolio is up to \$753 million. Even though we have downturns in the market, a fully diversified portfolio has worked very well."

Hoon said that two key factors – whether the country is headed toward a recession and if President Donald Trump will be impeached – will likely influence how 2020 looks regarding the economy.

"I'm going to try to give you some insight to how things stand today by looking at the market and other key aspects of the economy to answer those questions," he said.

Hoon said that there are concerns over recent dips in the manufacturing sector, but manufacturing only makes up 10 percent of the economy. Seventy percent of the U.S. economy is consumer-driven, and with the Federal Reserve indicating that there is at least one interest rate cut coming before the end of the year, it should have a positive effect.

"When the Fed lowers rates, it stimulates growth," Hoon said. "We are a consumer-driven economy."

At the moment, Baird consultants believe that there will not be a recession in 2020, but that warning signs are starting to become more prominent.

"The expectation is with the impending impeachment, it is adding a degree of uncertainty," Hoon said. "It will probably add a lot of chopiness as the year unfolds. ... Watch the consumer sentiment, which is key."

Finance Officer Chris Leno fielded one question from the audience after the presentation. He also noted how the Tribe's investment funds have increased over the years.

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# How big can Grand Ronde be?

*Housing Department encouraging incremental growth in area*

By Dean Rhodes  
*Smoke Signals editor*

The Grand Ronde Tribe's Strategic Plan states as a goal that it wants to "attract new Tribal members, diversify and grow the population, and promote a healthier, sustainable community."

If the Tribe is successful in accomplishing that goal, where is the growing population going to live?

The Tribe currently has 225 potential places where Tribal members can live in the Grand Ronde area, ranging from leased

*(Editor's note: This is the third in a series of Smoke Signals stories in 2019 that examine the infrastructure of Grand Ronde and how many Tribal members could conceivably return to live in the community safely and comfortably. The first two stories examined the area's water supply and transportation needs.)*

mobile home sites to Elder housing to low-income and market rate homes to apartments.

And there is consistently a waiting list for every conceivable housing option. Occupancy rates in 2018 were between 94 percent and 100 percent for all Tribal housing, according to the Housing

Department's annual report.

"Our biggest waiting list is one bedrooms," says Housing Department Manager Shonn Leno, citing more than 20 people waiting on that particular Tribal housing

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