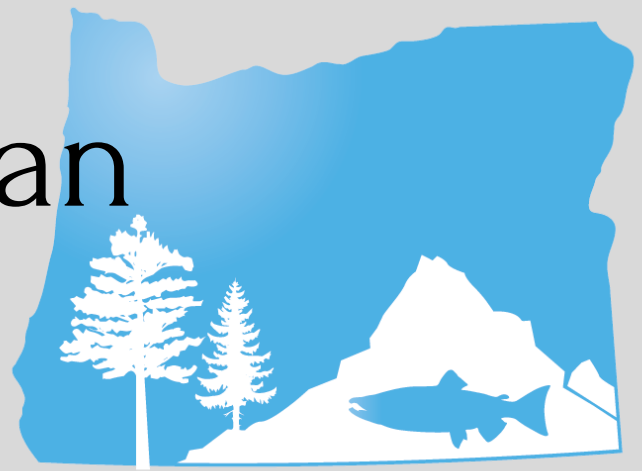


DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF OREGON

Native American Caucus

Newsletter Volume 1 Issue 1
August 2019



WELCOME TO THE NATIVE AMERICAN CAUCUS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF OREGON

Nix lkw'l inmi naimuma,

Good day relatives, my name is Carina Miller and I am the current Chair of the Native American caucus. I am an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The Native American caucus is coming up on its one-year anniversary in August and myself, other officers and other caucus members have been working to capacity build, educate, and reach out to other Native American Democrats in Oregon so we can build together. The main goals of this caucus are: to elect, recruit, and support Native American Democrats running for public office in the State of Oregon, too educate and encourage Native voters across the State, and to advocate and promote issues important to Native Americans in Oregon and the Democratic Party.

With many different Tribes, identities, experiences and stories existing in Oregon, we hope you will take a look at our calendar and join us for one of our upcoming meetings. IF you are interested in becoming a member or contributing to our projects please contact any of the officers or your local County party.

Kwala,
Carina Miller, Chair

CAUCUS OFFICERS

CARINA MILLER
Chair

LAUANA BEATY
Vice-Chair

RUTH JENSEN
Secretary

BOB HEALD
Treasurer

JENN WIG
Communications

READING THIS ONLINE?
FOLLOW US:



NINE TRIBES

There are 9 federally recognized tribes in Oregon. Explore stories and histories of these tribal nations, or visit Tribal Affairs of the State of Oregon for an overview of their government-to-government relationships.

Burns Paiute Tribe

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon

Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians

Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon

Coquille Indian Tribe

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians

Klamath Tribes

About Tribal Affairs in Oregon

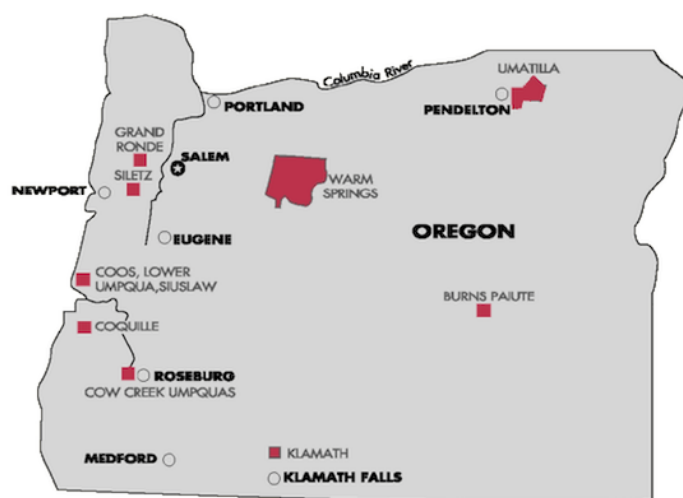


Image credit: <https://www.frbsf.org/community-development/files/Don-Sampson-5-2-2014.pdf>

ISSUE SPOTLIGHT: THE NATIVE AMERICAN VOTE

It is crucial to get out the Native American vote for the upcoming presidential election in 2020, as well as other state and local elections. However, in recent years turnout of Native American voters has been 5%-15% lower than other groups. Nationally, only 66% of Native American voters are registered to vote.

Native Americans face unique barriers to casting ballots, such as distance from polling locations, non-traditional mailing addresses for vote-by-mail, decreased access to internet, and a history of political disenfranchisement. It is important that we help our neighbors to overcome these barriers and make our voices heard.

Please register to vote, and help your family and friends register to vote. You can register to vote [here](#). Voter registration cards are available at many places such as the Division of Driver and Motor Vehicles (DMV), post offices, and county election offices.

<https://www.hcn.org/articles/tribal-affairs-5-obstacles-for-native-voters-in-the-november-election>

http://www.ncai.org/initiatives/campaigns/NCAI_NativeVoteInfographic.pdf



NATIVE LEADER SPOTLIGHT: VALDEZ BRAVO, FOUNDER

A Native Oregonian, Valdez grew up on a small farm near Salem with his mother, grandmother, and three cousins. His dad hails from Guanajuato, Mexico; and his grandmother was enrolled with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.

In 2015, Valdez launched his political activism. In 2016, he became Precinct Committee Person from Multnomah County, was elected as a national delegate for Bernie Sanders at the Democratic National Convention, and relaunched the dormant Veterans Caucus of the Democratic Party of Oregon (DPO). Subsequently, DPO elected him Vice Chair and delegate to the Democratic National Committee (DNC).

Although he worked on myriad issues as Vice Chair and took on many other positions, he considers founding the Native American Caucus a highlight. He recruited Native activists from around Oregon to join him in the effort.

Valdez recalls, "With nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon and Portland-Metro as the ninth-largest urban-Indian community in the United States, the absence of a caucus advocating for Native issues was notable. As one of only nine Native American DNC members, I witnessed the historic formation of the DNC Native American Caucus in October 2017. That inspired me to form a DPO Native American Caucus. With Oregon's rich Native American cultures, I recognized the opportunity to amplify the voices of Indigenous people within the Party, many of whom felt long-ignored or taken for granted."

JOIN US AT OUR EVENTS AND STAY INFORMED

Next event: Quarterly meeting and will be held in conjunction with DPO State Central Committee meeting. This is also our one-year anniversary of the Caucus! Please join us to celebrate!

Date: Sunday, August 11th, 10:00 am

Location: Newberg High School-2400 Douglas Ave, Newberg

More Info: <https://dpo.org/events/2019-08-10/state-central-committee-weekend> (You do not need to buy tickets.)

More events to come as we continue to develop our calendar and newsletter. Stay tuned!

Join the Native
American Caucus

Register to Vote

Donate to the Native
American Caucus