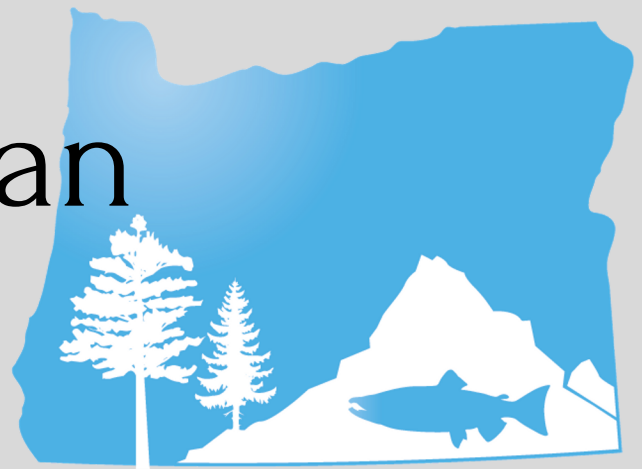


Native American Caucus

Newsletter Volume 1 Issue 2
October 2019



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

Hello Friends,

We hope you had a wonderful Indigenous People's Day. We are bringing you updates of the work the Native American Caucus is doing, highlights from the 9 Tribes, and state and national political news. We also have a call to action for our reorganization in November.

Thank you for taking your time to join us and stay in touch with your Native American neighbors, and we hope to see you in November.

Jenn Wig, Communications

CALL TO ACTION: REORGANIZATION

We will be holding our reorganization meeting at the upcoming 4th Quarter DPO State Central Committee meeting.

The following positions will be up for election:

- President
- Vice President
- Recording Secretary
- Treasurer
- Communications Officer

Position descriptions will be discussed at the reorganization meeting. To vote, you must have attended 2 of the last 4 meetings. Voting by proxy is allowed at reorganization meetings.

CAUCUS OFFICERS

CARINA MILLER
President

LAUANA BEATY
Vice President

RUTH JENSEN
Recording Secretary

BOB HEALD
Treasurer

JENN WIG
Communications Officer



NEWS FROM THE NINE TRIBES

What is happening in our Tribal communities? Several stories are linked below but much more is happening. For more information on each Tribe and to view their newsletters, visit their websites, also linked below.

Conservation programs on tribal properties have improved habitat for fish and wildlife on riparian, upland and forest lands.

In August, Three Rivers Casino was the site of the Oregon Legislative Coastal Caucus which sponsored an economic summit, "Infrastructure Investments: A Collaborative Approach."

Klamath Tribes Youth Council obtained Indigenous People's Day proclamation from Governor Brown.

New state-wide lesson plans developed by tribal leaders that explore topics such as Native American history, language, tribal governments, genocide, and treaties debut in January.

Burns Paiute Tribe

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon Newsletter

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



Check out the websites of each of the 9 Tribes here

INDIGENOUS X POLITICAL COMMENTARY

Presidential Politics:

The impeachment inquiry into President Trump is in full swing. Trump undermined national security, undermined our elections, and abused his power. As Congress seeks to hold him accountable for those actions, remember just a few ways Trump has shown his disregard for indigenous people, communities, and lands:

- This year Trump removed the only Native American from the Cultural Property Advisory Committee. (<https://psmag.com/news/trump-removed-the-only-native-american-member-from-the-cultural-property-advisory-committee>)
- Regarding immigration, Rep. Haaland reminds us that "There is no moral high ground from which President Trump or any of his followers can tell anyone to leave this country, because they are not the first inhabitants of this land." (<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/07/22/opinion/trump-immigration-native-americans.html>)
- Construction of Trump's border wall has begun and is cutting through Native lands and literally dividing Tribal communities. (<https://www.npr.org/2019/10/13/769444262/border-wall-rising-in-arizona-raises-concerns-among-conservationists-native-trib>)
- Litigation is ongoing regarding injuries to Native people and communities at Standing Rock. (<https://earthjustice.org/features/faq-standing-rock-litigation>)

Oregon Politics in the interim

Since the long session ended in June, politics in Oregon have gone on.

- Governor Brown signed a proclamation declaring Oct 14th Indigenous People's Day.
- Attempts by Republicans to recall Governor Brown have failed.
- Renew Oregon prepares to bring ballot measures to reduce carbon emissions. (<https://www.opb.org/news/article/oregon-ballot-measures-greenhouse-gas-war/>)

ISSUE SPOTLIGHT: NATIVE AMERICAN RESOURCE KIT

A major action Members of the Native American Caucus have been working on is developing a resource kit for Native people, advocates, and allies. The resource kit will provide tools for helping Native people, advocates, and allies to engage Native people in the democratic process.

The purpose is three-fold:

(1) getting out the Native vote, (2) getting Native people elected to office, (3) informing Native people about advocating for issues of concern.

This 20-page document will include at least 10 resources for helping Native people, advocates, and allies make a positive difference in their communities.

What have we done and where are we now?

March:

Louise Seymour Wilmes (Native Hawaiian/Otoe Missouria) suggested developing a resource kit.

Haunani Kalama (Native Hawaiian) suggested making it an online resource.

April: Ruth Jensen (Tlingit) and Louise prepared an action plan for developing the kit.

May: The Native American Caucus approved the plan.

May-present:

Louise and Ruth have met almost every week.

Louise and Ruth held two four-hour sessions with community members who brainstormed ideas and collaborated in developing resources.

October: Louise recruited Cristal Finley (Yakama), MBA, for graphic design.

The goal is to have a draft available for the upcoming meeting of the Native American Caucus on November 17 in Portland.

JOIN US AT OUR EVENTS AND STAY INFORMED

Next event: We hope to see you at the quarterly meeting which will be held in conjunction with DPO State Central Committee meeting. This is our call to action for re-elections for all of our officer positions.

Date: Sunday, November 17th, 10:00 am

Location: PCC Sylvania- 12000 SW 49th Ave, Portland, OR 97219

More Info: <https://dpo.org/events/2019-11-16/4th-quarter-state-central-committee-weekend>

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