



Yooyoolah!

COWLITZ INDIAN TRIBE VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1 SPRING 2011



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Bill Iyall

Importance of Sovereignty

The Cowlitz Tribe was reaffirmed by the federal government recognition process in 2002 as a sovereign nation in what was a turning point in the history of the Tribe.

Sovereignty is important to all of the nation's tribes and provides for self-governance and self-determination protected by federal law. The Cowlitz Tribe is now on the verge of achieving full sovereignty with the establishment of our initial reservation as designated in the Department of Interior Record of Decision (ROD) in December 2010.

This is a profound advancement in our Tribe's history that realizes the dreams of generations of our past Cowlitz leaders including John Barnett, Roy Wilson, Joe Cloquet, Frank Iyall, and countless council members that served for the better part of the preceding century, who dreamt of the day when the Cowlitz people would again have a home land.

With our progress and the Department of Interior's ruling came an appeal of the Record of Decision that has been filed in federal court in Washington, D.C. This challenge is proceeding with a review of the very comprehensive record of federal documents.

We expect a favorable court ruling by the fall. We will conduct a blessing of our reservation on June 25, 2011 where there will be a great celebration for all.

The complex sequence of events of the past two years led us from a moratorium in the BIA response to fee to trust applications after the decision in *Carcieri v. Salazar* to the approval of our ROD below.

Sequence of Events

- January 20, 2009: President Obama inaugurated and the Proposed Record of Decision (ROD) sent to BIA Central Office by BIA Portland Regional Director, Stan Speaks with a recommendation for a positive determination.
- February 24, 2009: U.S. Supreme Court issues its *Carcieri v. Salazar* decision. The decision was made without input from the parties and the federal government concerning federal jurisdiction for the Narragansett Tribe.
- April 2009: Clark County rescinds the MOU and agrees to rely instead on the Tribe's Environmental and Gaming Ordinances for mitigation, after the Growth Management Hearing Board had issued a decision striking down the MOU.
- April 2009: The House Natural Resources Committee held its first hearing on the *Carcieri* Decision. Chairman Iyall sent a letter to Chairman Rahall encouraging the Committee to act quickly on a *Carcieri* fix.
- April 2009: President Obama appoints Larry EchoHawk to serve as the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs.
- April 2009: At the NIGA conference in Phoenix, Chairman Iyall met with John Echohawk, Native American Rights Fund Executive Director, to secure their support for a *Carcieri* fix.

- May 2009: Larry EchoHawk confirmed as Assistant Secretary.
- June 2009: The Cowlitz Tribe submitted an 86 page memo to the Department of the Interior presenting the legal arguments why the *Carcieri* decision should not prevent them from approving our project. In it, we identified over 260 documents in the federal records, mainly from the 1920s and 30s, which show clear evidence that the federal government exercised jurisdiction over the Cowlitz as required by *Carcieri*.
- July 2009: BIA Consultation on *Carcieri* in Sacramento.
- July 2009: The deadline for the city of La Center to respond to the Tribe's offer to meet and negotiate a MOU passed.
- October 2009: Senate Indian Affairs Committee Chairman Dorgan, and three other Senators, introduced a bill to "fix" *Carcieri*.
- November 2009: The first White House Conference with President Obama and tribal leaders.
- November 2009: Testimony at a hearing of the House Committee of Natural Resources discussing two *Carcieri* fix bills.
- December 2009: The Senate Indian Affairs Committee passes

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Chairman's Report-Continued

the "Carcieri Fix" bill out of committee.

- February 2010: At the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Winter Meeting the Executive Board first passed, but then reversed itself and tabled, a resolution calling on the Department of the Interior to end its de facto moratorium on fee-to-trust applications. We meet with several other disadvantaged tribes at the NCAI Winter Conference to establish a Fee-To-Trust-coalition and to work to reverse this NCAI decision.
- March 2010: Chairman Iyall meets with Assistant Secretary Larry EchoHawk, Deputy Assistant Secretary Lavedure, and Deputy Solicitor Pilar Thomas in Washington, D.C. to present the arguments stating why the department should move ahead with the Cowlitz application.
- June 2010 Mohegan Chairwoman Lynn Malerba and Chairman Iyall meet in Washington, D.C. with Asst. Secretary Larry EchoHawk and Asst. Solicitor Pilar Thomas. We ask the BIA to proceed with a decision and not wait for Carcieri legislation. Secretary Salazar finally announced the department's position on processing fee to trust applications, saying that he would move forward "in a lawful and timely manner" on the backlog of fee to trust applications, including those involving gaming. Asst. Sec. EchoHawk met with Chairman Iyall at the NCAI conference in South Dakota and confirmed the Secretary's message. The NCAI General Assembly passed a Resolution, which we sponsored, calling on the Secretary of the Interior to follow through on his commitment to acquire trust land for tribes. We had broad support from tribes around the nation. This marked the real beginning of the Coalition of Landless and Disadvantaged Tribes. This provided a powerful statement on behalf of disadvantaged tribes and allowed the BIA to move forward in earnest.
- July 2010: Chairman Iyall and Tribal Gaming Attorney Ed Fleisher attended a NCAI conference in Washington, D.C. to meet with administration and congressional leaders and lobby members of congress to support a Carcieri fix. Letters of support were gathered from tribal leaders across the country. The department made its decision to take land into trust for the Tohono O'odham tribe as the first gaming acquisition of the Obama administration. The Carcieri fix language was added to the House Interior Appropriations bill.
- August 2010: The Coalition of Landless and Disadvantaged Tribes sent the second of three letters to Secretary Salazar asking for a private meeting with our group.
- August 2010: The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in Seattle ruled against City of Vancouver in their challenge to the Cowlitz Gaming Ordinance approved by the National Indian Gaming Commission.
- September 2010: Chairman Iyall sends a letter to Solicitor Hillary Tompkins and Assistant Secretary EchoHawk restating our Carcieri arguments and expressing concern to them of unreasonable delay on our application.
- October 2010: Chairman Iyall again met with Department of the Interior officials in Washington, D.C. to encourage them to move forward on our issues, and ask for administration support for a Carcieri fix.
- October 2010: The National Indian Gaming Association at their mid-year meeting adopted a position opposing any amendments to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.
- November 2010: Chairman Iyall and Mohegan Chairman Boszum sent a joint letter to the Secretary and the Solicitor pressing for action on our application and explaining the devastating consequences that delays are having on both tribes. Chairman Iyall sent a strong letter to our congressional delegations stressing the urgent need for a clean Carcieri fix and opposition to the Feinstein language.
- December 2010: Chairman Iyall sent a letter to Senate leaders urging a Carcieri fix in the budget bill.
- December 2010: Chairman Iyall attended the second White House Tribal Nations Conference in Washington D.C., attended a DOI consultation work session, and met with DOI chief of staff Laura Davis and DOI solicitor Hillary Tompkins.
- December 2010: Congress came very close to getting a Carcieri Fix included in the budget bill. It was included in the House version. Thanks to the work of the Coalition and NCAI we had a letter signed by 127 Indian tribes supporting our position.
- December 23, 2010: The decision was finally announced! We have a Record of Decision approving the Cowlitz Tribe's Initial Reservation! On January 4, 2011, the ROD is published.
- January 2011: Clark County, Vancouver, CARS, Al Alexanderson, Greg and Susan Gilbert, and the card rooms filed suit opposing the Cowlitz Initial Reservation in federal district court in Washington D.C.
- February 2011: Grand Ronde Tribe files suit in federal court in Washington D.C.

Initial Reservation

Very soon, after 150 years of persistence, our initial reservation is

to be established in north Clark County near Chelatchie Prairie as was originally proposed by Indian Agent William Tappan, giving us equal footing with the other established tribes in Washington and Oregon.

The passage of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) of 1988 has allowed for increased growth and progress on many levels, and has subsequently opened many doors for the native people across the country. Through the IGRA tribes operate casinos, which in turn have helped fund improved health services, new infrastructure, tribal housing and myriad of new and expanded community programs. The Cowlitz Casino, when opened, will be a source of pride for our people and it will fuel community development and tribal services as gaming enterprises have in other communities.

Landless tribes

Amongst the 565 federally recognized tribes in the United States, the Cowlitz Tribe has been at the forefront of the plight of landless tribes to gain reservation status, a hard fought victory in the battle of tribal sovereignty and the recognition of our inherent rights.

The advancement of Native Americans' rights faces challenges in the *Carcieri vs. Salazar* federal court case. The Cowlitz Tribe has set a precedent for other disadvantaged landless native peoples across the country, with the affirmation of our initial reservation by the federal government.

The Cowlitz Tribe will continue to work at improving our Tribal programs, diversifying our economy and improving conditions for Cowlitz people. We must ensure the protection of tribal rights, preserve tribal culture, enhance education

opportunities, improve health and safety, and support the tribe's elders and youth while increasing their prospects and building a strong foundation for our future.

The Cowlitz Tribe will be a strong, prosperous native community for generations to come. Thanks to our recent progress and the perseverance of generations of our tribal leaders, we will have an unlimited ability to improve the lives of future generations, to ensure our stability, and protect the values of our people to be passed onto future generations.



VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Vice Chairman Phil Harju

Self Governance

We begin 2011 with great news. Finally, we have the long awaited decision that our land in Clark County has been taken into trust, for our reservation, by the Department of the Interior. The official Record of Decision is over one hundred pages and a complete victory for the Cowlitz Tribe. Over the years, many in our Cowlitz family have worked long and hard to accomplish this historic and important event. Since an appeal has been filed, we will have to wait for a court ruling in Washington, D.C. before the final trust documents can be filed.

In another important decision, the Federal Government has approved a Self Governance compact with the Cowlitz Tribe for the funding and administration of our health programs. This is another historic event for our Tribe, and another clear exercise of our Tribal sovereignty. I am proud to have

been a part of this process which took over a year of negotiations and meetings with the Indian Health Service. Congratulations to the Tribal Council, our Health Board and our Health officials for getting this done for our Tribe.

Tribal events

On February 13, 2011 we celebrated the eleventh anniversary of our Federal Acknowledgment in the gym at St. Mary's. BIA Regional Director Stan Speaks again, attended the celebration and gave kind remarks in support of the Cowlitz Tribe. We had a great meal and had a great time.

In March we held a smelt celebration on the Cowlitz River at Gearhart Gardens Park in Longview. This year, we had smoked smelt that were taken by Cowlitz tribal members from the Cowlitz River at a smelt ceremony in late February. Roy Wilson blessed the smelt at the ceremonial taking in February. Because the rivers were closed for taking smelt, this ceremonial taking was arranged on very short notice.

Many of us were very disappointed that the Tribe was not able to get timely notification of this smelt ceremony to our members. Our hope for next year, is that we will be able to have a ceremonial taking approved well in advance, so that as many Cowlitz members and friends can be there to participate in the ceremonial taking.

As Roy Wilson noted at the March celebration, there were smelt in the Cowlitz River this year, because of the smelt ceremony we held last year. This year's smelt were kept, prepared and smoked by our Natural Resource and Cultural Departments.

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Vice Chair Report-Continued

Tribal Court

Funding on our Tribal Court planning grant will be ending this year. Unfortunately, the Justice Department did not approve our 2011 request for an implementation grant to fund our tribal court. They said we need a reservation before they will fund a full tribal court. Without funding, we will not be able to start a full tribal court. The Tribal Council has authorized a request to apply again for a tribal court grant in 2012. At this time, the Tribal Court project advisory team has requested that I present a plan for a Tribal Elders Council to the Tribal Council. Also, out of this planning grant, we are working on updating our employment code and our Indian Child Welfare procedures.

June General Council

Once again, I am looking forward to our June General Council Meeting, the encampment and the First Salmon Ceremony. This truly makes for a wonderful weekend for our Cowlitz Family and our many friends. I hope that as many of our Cowlitz family and friends as possible can attend these events.

This is truly an exciting time for the Cowlitz People. There are many new things happening every day for the Cowlitz Tribe. We are working with other Tribes, other governments, have established a Language Department and a Youth Department, just to name a few.

I have always remained confident that with the strength, wisdom and courage of our membership, the Cowlitz Tribe will continue to maintain our sovereignty, provide for our members, to grow, and to prosper.

You continue to have my commitment to listen, to work hard,

and to give my best for the Cowlitz. I again want to thank you for the continuing honor and privilege to serve as the Vice-Chairman of our Tribe.



TRIBAL COUNCIL CHAIR'S REPORT

Chairman Steve Kutz

Canoe Journey

The Cowlitz Tribe will be participating again this year in the inter-tribal canoe journey. We will begin our canoe practices on March 20th and conclude with our arrival at the Swinomish Tribe on July 25th where the journey will conclude with the protocol celebration of the Tribes for the remainder of the week.

This year we plan to start our Journey on the Columbia River and travel with some of the Tribes that historically used the Columbia River as their highway. For the first time the Cowlitz Tribe is planning to host a protocol celebration when the canoes arrive at the mouth of the Cowlitz River. We tentatively plan on a landing at Gearhart Park after which we will travel to St. Mary's for the protocol celebration and camp.

We invite members of the Tribe who would like to participate in this cultural event to begin practicing with the canoe family and travel with us this journey. If you have an opportunity to join us in the canoe practices, or join us on the journey in the canoe or in a support role, or at any of the protocol and ceremonies at each stop, and most especially at the week of celebration at Swinomish, you may find that you have participated in a life changing experience. There are

many different ways you can participate in this event.

The Heads of the Canoe Family for this year's journey are Steve Kutz and Willie Koch, with Devin Reck as vice-chair, Cassie Sellards Reck as Treasurer, Rhonda Grantham as Secretary, Devin Reck and Patty Kinswa-Gaiser as heads of the ground support crew, and Skeet Jensen and Karen Cota and as needed, John O'Brian on the support boat. If you would like to participate and get involved or get on our e-mail list in order to keep up with this cultural event, you can contact Steve Kutz at 360-731-2885 or follow our schedule on the Tribal web site.

Your support

The Canoe Family struggles for adequate funding to support this canoe journey, so we are soliciting funding support from many sources and would deeply appreciate any monetary contribution toward this journey.

Donations to the Tribe are eligible for deduction on your income tax as a charitable donation. For donations questions you may contact the canoe family treasurer, Cassie Sellards-Reck at csellardsreck@hotmail.com. Send your check, with a notation that it's for the Canoe Program, to:

Cowlitz Indian Tribe
PO Box 2547
Longview, WA 98632

Your concerns

Finally, if any Tribal member wishes to talk to me about any of these or other topics, you can reach me at skutz@wavecable.com or on my cell phone at 360-731-2885. You can reach me after hours at this number.



AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Rod Van Mechelen, Chair

More Vests!

Due to the popularity of both the new Tribal Elder and the Cowlitz Warrior vests, Tribal Chairman Bill Iyall authorized the purchase of 44 vests in the most common sizes. For the elders, these include 12 women's and 12 men's vests.

For the veterans, these include 16 men's and 4 women's vests. We will have these vests, as well as the previously ordered elder vests, at the June General Council meeting. You can preorder vests by clicking on the "Awards & Recognition" link on the Tribal website, downloading the appropriate order form, filling it out and mailing it in. Note: these are for elders and veterans who have not already received a vest.

Patty Kinswa-Gaiser honored

At the November 13, 2011, General Council meeting, Tribal Secretary Nancy Osborne and Rod Van Mechelen honored Patty Kinswa-Gaiser with a "Cowlitz Indian Tribe Elder" blanket and certificate for her many years of service to our Tribal elders.

Patty manages the Tribe's senior nutrition program. The certificate, featuring a photo of Patty, read: "For the past several years you have taken care of our Elders. You feed them, transport them, hold banquets for them, and generally show them that they are important to you and to our Tribe. This certificate and Cowlitz Elder blanket are to show our appreciation for your devotion."

The Committee

Being a standing ad hoc committee, we have not been holding meetings but have handled our committee work by email. Following the 2007 honoring of selected elders, the committee was directed by Tribal Council to honor new elders and veterans every year.

When the Tribe's budget allows, we hope to expand the program to recognize the service of our many unsung heroes, volunteers who contribute many long hours without recognition, as well as noteworthy achievements.

What we can do now is to note their names, service or accomplishments in this column. If you know of someone whose service or achievements warrant recognition, write to me c/o of the Tribal Office, so that we can be sure to recognize them in a future issue.



Photo by Jeanne St. Martin



Photo by Jeanne St. Martin

YOYOOLAH!**CANOE**

Steve Kutz, Co-Chair

Possible Practices & Events

- May 13-15 - Cold Water Training with Nisqually – Camping TBD
- May 27-30 or May 28 for Cold Water Training at Makah, or Swinomish practice landing
- June 4th Salmon Ceremony
- June 17-18, or Saturday 18th only – Site to be determined.
- July 3 Fundraiser at Eatonville 4th of July weekend – Indian Taco's
- July 4 Fundraiser at Eatonville - Salmon Bake
- July 9th final practice TBD or pack for the journey
- Early July 15 - 16 pull with Warm Springs on Columbia – TBD after discussion with Warm Springs. Possibly hosting Warm Springs, Grand Rhonde and Chinook for protocol at Cowlitz (St Mary's on Saturday evening (July 16th)
- July 17th Leave for journey and Travel to Squaxin Island Tribe to begin Journey.
- July 18th Travel to Nisqually
- July 19th Travel to Puyallup
- July 20th, Travel to Muckleshoot
- July 21st Travel to Suquamish and stay extra day July 22nd
- July 23rd Travel to Tulalip
- July 24th Travel to Coupeville
- July 25th Travel to Swinomish and final landing.
- Begin protocol July 26th

**For additional information,
contact: Steve Kutz,
skutz@wavecable.com
Cell: 360-731-2885**

COMMITTEE REPORTS**COMMUNICATIONS**

Rod Van Mechelen, Chair

Radio

When Grandfather Roy Wilson proposed to establish a Tribal Communications Department, he suggested that we consider several activities, including production of a radio show. From February 2009 to September 2009, Roy was a regular guest on a radio talk show on KEDO in Longview, WA. He did a wonderful job of educating his audience about the Cowlitz people, our history and heritage, legends and culture, and the hosts invited Chairman Bill Iyall and others to appear on the show with him to speak about our current activities. Unfortunately, the hosts dropped their show.

Since then, KEDO has changed their format and now features conservative news talk and sports. Nonetheless, they remember Roy with fondness and are open to making room for a nominal fee. And so the station manager has expressed a willingness to work with us to put together a proposal for a *Voice of Cowlitz Country* show.

Considerations will include show topics, guests, whether to take calls and emails, and more. The reach of the 1,000 watt station is limited to Cowlitz County, but that could be extended by archiving the broadcasts on the Tribal website.

Light editing

Starting in grammar school I had an affinity for writing. This continued into college, where, along with all the business, science and math, I took journalism, speech and writing. After college, regardless of my vocation, writing remained my primary avocation, and I wrote

many published articles, editorials, some essays, two (unpublished) books, and I published a 'zine, or large newsletter, similar to this one.

When I began the 'zine I knew nothing about layout, design and editing, so I read several manuals and books to improve my skills. The writers with whom I worked included nationally syndicated columnists, college professors, several widely read authors, including a few of international renown, and a cadre of sometimes cantankerous activists. All of them expected professional quality editing, none of them complacently accepted anything less than my best, and I worked hard to present them at their very best.

I brought this same zeal for quality and clarity to bear on the Tribe's newsletter. We missed a few typos, but all things considered they have been credible efforts, I think. But I made one big error in judgment: like me, the board and committee chairs, and some officers, are volunteers. In addition to all that they do for the Tribe, they have lives that leave little time for details of some importance to an obsessive editor but nobody else.

In plain English, a few said enough already, and so Chairman Iyall agreed to provide light editing of the reports. Hence, I handled the layout, but have not edited any of these reports.

Savings continue

The new format and printer for the Tribal newsletter, and bulk mail permit now used for all bulk mailings, continue to save the Tribe money.

Increased attention

On May 7, 2011, I submitted written notice of my resignation from the Health Board to give more attention to the Communications Committee.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Rod Van Mechelen, Secretary

Tribal Entrepreneurs

We have Tribal members who are or want to be entrepreneurs. But we have multiple governmental regulations that make it hard for small businesses to survive. We want to help our members, and this is a problem the Tribe might try to address. But how can we do this? How can we help alleviate the burdens of regulations and taxes?

Several tribes are testing different models, including business incubators, grants and seminars. In addition to these, what else might we do?

To see some of the possibilities, check out the Tribal Business Structure Handbook, from the Office of Indian Energy & Economic Development, Tribal Self-Governance Project of the Tulalip Tribes, Sponsored and Published by The Office of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs, that is available to download on the Internal Revenue Service site at http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/tribal_business_structure_handbook.pdf.

Participation invited

The business environment is tough, and the Economic Development Committee is working to develop the resources to provide assistance and services to our Tribal members. We invite members to join us.

To learn more about the Economic Development Committee, contact Taylor Aalvik : 360-575-3306; taalvik@cowlitz.org



EDUCATION

Mike Iyall, Chair

Important website updates

As you read this, some important things have happened. The Committee has updated our webpage on the Tribe's website, with help from our Tribal webmaster. We will have received scholarship applications. The Committee will have evaluated those applications and assigned scholarship awards, to be announced at the June meeting of the General Council.

High value on education

As a Tribal Council member who helped write the distribution plans for our land claims settlement funds, I know the value my elders placed on education. The guidelines in the Docket 218 materials instruct us that the funds are to be used for tuition at accredited institutions for vocational and college education.

We sometimes get requests for funds for other educational experiences. The Committee reviews and discusses those requests. We look to our guidelines to help guide our evaluation, and to help us make consistent and fair decisions. The committee members know how expensive higher education is and that our Tribal members depend on these scholarships to help fund their education. We have listed other scholarships and links to scholarship websites to assist you in finding help in funding your education. All of this information can be found at www.cowlitz.org/education.

The members of the Education Committee donate their time and serves without a stipend to keep

expenses down. I really appreciate the help and advice each member of the Committee brings to the Tribe.



HEALTH BOARD

Cassandra Sellards-Reck, Chair

Honor to serve

It's such an honor to be able to serve on the Cowlitz Health Board. It is with pleasure that your Health Boards able to advocate, build and grow the Cowlitz Health and Human Service programs. We have been able to invest and have pushed to exercise more control over our health care programs legislatively in Washington and Nationally. We advocate for Federal funds to reach the tribal member level where they can be used to maximize our services and in turn help you and your family.

Congress passed a continuing resolution to fund the Federal government after it was unable to complete the regular appropriations process for fiscal year 2011. The continuing resolution funds the government at the fiscal year 2010 level. President Obama requested \$4.4 billion for the Indian Health Service, which represents an 8.7 percent increase over fiscal year 2010.

The budget demonstrates the Administrations continuing commitment to honor the Federal governments trust responsibilities and treaty obligations. Exempting Indian Health Service (IHS) from the same freeze that the other programs and agencies are under is a significant sign. However, with IHS deeply and chronically underfunded, IHS services remain in

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YOYOOLAH!

Health Board Report-Continued

need. Over 104,000 Indian people in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho receive their primary health care from Indian health programs. Nationally, over 2.1 million American Indian/Alaska Natives receive care from Indian health programs. In many areas of the country, the Indian health care provider is their only option for health care. The partnerships forged among Congress, Tribal Governments, urban Indian health organizations and the Indian Health Service over the last 60 years has resulted in significant improvements in the health status of Indian people. While American Indians continued to lag behind in a number of health status measurements, real progress has been made. Death rates of Indian people from infectious diseases, gastrointestinal disease, and tuberculosis have decreased dramatically. In the Northwest, mortality from sudden infant death syndrome has declined significantly and other diseases have prevented due to the increase emphasis on health promotional and disease prevention projects for diabetes, HIV/AIDS, cancer and commercial tobacco use.

At the Health Board we take all this work very seriously and meet monthly sometimes more often if needed. Many of the Board members and HHS staff members sit on local and national committees and lead in health organizations that promote the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. I want to personally thank each and every Tribal member for their support. We are open to comments, concerns and questions. Please contact me anytime at csellardsreck@hotmail.com or my cell phone at 1-360-513-1243.

COMMITTEE REPORTS



POWWOW: HONORING THE SPIRIT OF ALL COWLITZ PEOPLE

Linda Foley, Secretary

Powwow in September

Greetings once again from the Powwow Committee. Preparations are well underway for the 2011 Cowlitz Powwow in late September. As you might expect, it takes a lot of effort and working together by a dedicated group of individuals to do the planning, fundraising, coordinating of efforts, notification of vendors, and asking for and then utilizing the volunteers to help put on our annual event.

Committee members

Our committee is made of 12 members, some of whom work from a longer distance and contribute behind the scenes or who come to help the last few months beforehand. These individuals are Kim Bublitz who prints the flyers, brochures and mailings; Jane Meyer, who has connections in the local community and provides janitorial help for the powwow; and Lindsey Foley, who helps with merchandise decisions and has come home from college to be in charge of the raffle and merchandise sales the day of the powwow.

Our committee officers include Suzanne Donaldson-Stephens, who is Chair; Larry Knutson, who is Vice Chair; Jess Groll, who is the tribal CFO and works with the budget and finances; and Linda Foley, who is Secretary. Other committee members not yet mentioned include Lenny Bridges, Jennifer Johnson, Patty Kinswa-Gaiser, Curt Stephens, and our newest member this year, Teona Kinswa. Each individual on the committee has a variety of jobs that he or she does at various times

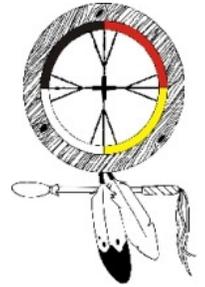
during the planning phase and when the powwow arrives. It really is a huge group effort! Meetings are held monthly during the winter until the fall when the powwow date arrives, and committee members are busy in the weeks between meetings fulfilling their specific tasks.

Fundraising

Fundraising has been a large focus of the committee through the years and has been successful enough, along with fees paid by the vendors, donations, and sales of concessions, to support the thousands of dollars that the event requires. As you may know, each year a new design is chosen for the T-shirts and sweatshirts that have become so popular for tribal members and friends to buy starting in June. Other merchandise is also ordered and several items have also been very popular. The Pendleton blanket raffles are always a well-liked fundraiser. Last year the committee hosted a pancake breakfast the morning of the November General Council meeting and we will continue to provide that fundraiser twice a year in June and November. Thank you for supporting us through your purchases and donations to our fundraising efforts!

Powwow Princess

When summer arrives, some of the focus shifts to the Powwow Princess competition. A sub-committee reviews the applications of interested young women who are tribal members and helps them and their parents or sponsors understand the commitment



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required to fulfill the position for a year's duration. The competition is held the last day of the Cowlitz Kids Camp held at St. Mary's in August. Volunteer judges question the applicants, observe their dance and regalia, and choose the princess for the following year. She then represents the Cowlitz Tribe at our own powwow and tribal gatherings, as well as at other powwows and events around the region. This year our chosen princess Elora Shields was unable to continue after a few months, so Teona Kinswa (the previous year's princess) was asked to step in and hold the position for the remainder of this current year's reign.

Other details

Other important details for committee members to attend to include working with the vendors who register to come sell their wares, inviting individuals in the traditional way to be head man and head woman dancers, securing the master of ceremonies, arena director, and head cook for the 5 pm salmon dinner, determining host and honor drums, soliciting donations of cash or food items from various businesses and individuals, making a special item to honor each of the veterans who attend during the grand entries, preparing prizes for the children's program following dinner, and working with the budget to make sure that all anticipated costs are considered. In addition, just before the powwow, a lot of activity centers around preparing St. Mary's Center for the event and the attendance that numbers in the hundreds.

As you may by now realize, there are a number of ways that volunteers can help with the planning and implementation of the powwow each year, too many to list

all of them here. We welcome help and have opportunities for anyone who has time to give in one way or another before, during or after each powwow. Please contact Suzanne Donaldson-Stephens for any additional information. The tribal website at www.cowlitz.org/events is another good source of information, including the vendor registration form and princess application, and contact numbers of some of the committee members.

This year's event

The Powwow Committee looks forward to seeing you at this year's powwow. Many individuals near and far look forward to attending this annual cultural event to listen to the drums, dance on the floor, reconnect with old friends or relatives, be honored as a military veteran, watch the dance competitions, or enjoy an Indian taco. Our new friends from last year Jeff Guidry and Freedom the eagle from Sarvey Wildlife Care Center will be attending again and participating in the grand entries. Please come and join us and perhaps even help out by volunteering. You won't be disappointed that you did!

suzanne@donaldson-enterprises.com

Suzanne Donaldson-Stephens
360-280-2321



VETERANS GROUP

Mike Caso, Chair

Encampment to honor our veterans

The weekend of August 6th there will be an encampment to honor all of our Veterans. It will take place at the Vader Property, which is close to

St. Mary's. This is the same weekend as the Tribal Council weekend so we should have a good turnout. The Encampment will start Friday evening and end Sunday afternoon. So bring your chairs and tents for a good time. Meals will be pot luck and the weather should be perfect for social gathering and sharing, drumming, Sweat Lodge and Medicine Wheel Teaching, all in honor of our Vets, and our Warriors coming home.

Contact person – Mike Caso 360-457-0579 -- mcaso@olypen.com

Agent Orange

I just recently went through receiving an Agent Orange disability rating. One of the first things I learned was that there isn't a Cowlitz who helps our Korean and Viet Nam Vets with the process. We never needed one because most Agent Orange medical situations happened way back when. But today advancements in medical research are uncovering new disorders and connecting older disorders to Agent Orange. Everything from Diabetes, Parkinson, soft tissue cancers, skin disorders, heart problems, and the list goes on.

The VA has learned that some of the medical problems can be directly linked to Herbicides while others have a frequency higher than normal and the only common denominator is Agent Orange. To help with their case load and to make the process easier for our Veterans to navigate, the VA now says that if a Veteran has one of the disorders on the Agent Orange "presumptive list" of diseases, then it is presumed to be caused by exposure to Agent Orange.

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YOYOOLAH!

Veterans-Continued

In the middle of my case the VA added Stents to the presumptive list, which meant my heart, cholesterol and stents went to the head of the disability claims list, along with every heart, cholesterol and stent case that had been denied over the last several decades. But, the VA had mine in hand so they ruled on it then. Of course my diabetes which was the disability that I had requested went way down to the bottom of the pile along with all the other non-heart, cholesterol and stent applications.

Diabetes

I knew that my shipmates from Da Nang, Viet Nam were coming down with diabetes, so when I came down with it I applied for a Disability. They asked me to write down every medical problem I have or had, and all but one is on the presumptive list. So because I was in the Agent Orange Area, they are presumed to be caused by it, and connected to my military service. Medical problems that arise while in the military or are later connected to military service are considered military connected. Remember some military related medical problems show up 30, 40 years later.

Disability Determination

Two experienced people have volunteered to teach me how to help our veterans determine if they have a military connected disability and how to apply for Disability. I don't know how long the training takes, so in the meanwhile go to your local V.A., D.A.V., V.V.A. for help. For a list of medical problems associated with herbicides go to www.vva.org/agent_orange.html or <http://www.dav.org> or <http://www.vfw.org>.

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Returning Veterans

Presently we have Warriors who are returning from both Iraq and Afghanistan wars, as well as those who already returned from the Gulf War. All not only need our open hearts and understanding, but our support. A few decades back a couple of White men discovered that the Indian way of welcoming and integrating Warriors back into Indian society through Talking Circles worked, and the White man's way didn't. These men began using the Indian way and gained worldwide fame for their work.

Part of what we need to do is form a Cowlitz Veterans Group, with talking a circles and Sweat Lodge. And that is where our older Warriors come in with your perspective on how to handle problems, how they dissipate and ebb away. And the importance of no blame because one did what our country required.

Remember, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, our people have stood up for America in greater percentages than any other group of Americans and have served proudly as privates to high ranking officers. We have honored America and we have honored our people. And now the time has come to honor our Cowlitz Warriors.

Your Tribe is asking who among our Cowlitz Warriors is close to St. Mary's and the Fir Complex.

CALLING ALL VETERANS

Charity Sabido-Hodges

Calling all Veterans and their families!!!

We are attempting to put together a list of Veterans who are returning from deployment or have served in the time of conflict. If you are a veteran, have a family member who

is a veteran, or know of a tribal member who is returning from deployment or served in the military during a time of conflict, we would like to know about them and give them the honor they deserve. If you know of a service member who is currently deployed or stationed away from home, please pass their name on as well.

If you have a name and information to pass along let us know:

Contact Charity Sabido-Hodges at (360) 270-3762 or email charity.sabido@gmail.com or Mike Caso at (360) 457-0579 or email mcaso@olympus.net

COWLITZ WARRIORS

Mark Anderson, Proud Parent of a Cowlitz Warrior



Supporting our active Duty Tribal Members and their families

As we now enter the 10th year of the Afghanistan War with the Iraq War winding down, it's good time to reflect upon the sacrifices our young active duty men, women and their families are facing every day.

Many of our current warriors experience deployments to a combat zone time and time again. That takes a toll on our warriors and their families, for some it's

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devastating. Because of this, they will need our help, support and understanding for a long time to come.

Coming home

Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD), Alcoholism, Divorce and the slim chances of employment, once they get out of the service, are problems our young warriors and their families face together on a daily basis.

Many of them don't know how to face these problems. It's hard to talk to their parents about these things and their friends can't relate to what they've seen, done and experienced.

The Veteran Groups try, but it's not easy for our active duty warriors to join these groups. First of all, they're still active duty and when they get out of the service, they're looking to put those experiences behind them.

So our warriors keep their thoughts and feelings inside themselves. Many times, those become demons that force them to make life choices they normally wouldn't. We've all heard the stories of suicide, homelessness, divorce and diminished work careers that our returning warriors struggle with when they get home.

Toll on families

Families of deployed service members also carry a heavy burden.

Each day, worrying about their son or daughter can take its' toll.

Alcoholism and drug abuse are hidden ways for parents to lessen the stress. They need our help and understanding as well.

That's where we come in as a Tribal family. Each time one of our warriors comes home, make sure they're welcomed. Whether it's on a leave or getting out of the service,

they all need us. Not just their families' help, but ours as well.

Make sure you reach out and see how they're doing and help them feel like they're a part of our world. Get them involved with our Tribal Community.

And make sure they are not left to themselves. When someone feels alone with their problems, they sometimes feel those problems are bigger than they really are. Let's not let that happen.

Tribes can help

One way you can help is to call our Cowlitz Council member Mike Caso at 360-457-0579 or just call the Tribal office at 360-577-8140 and let them know of your sons or daughters service. That way, we can work together to help our active or recently active duty warriors feel at home again.

Contact information is important, because we all want to help. We need to know how to get a hold of them.

Personal connection

This subject is near and dear to my family and me. My son Ian is a Sergeant in the Marine Corp and is currently deployed to Afghanistan. This is his third deployment in four years. As a Heavy Machine gunner in an Infantry Battalion he has now seen a little of over two years of combat in two different wars. He'll need all the help we can give him when he gets home.



WEBSITE

Rod Van Mechelen, Webmaster

Time for a change

The time has come for a new webmaster. dAVE Burlingame was the Tribe's first webmaster, the long

-defunct "Technology Committee," or Tech Team, briefly managed the website. And, since 2003 I have been the Tribe's volunteer webmaster.

In 1995 I taught myself how to build websites so I could publish my writing on the web. And, for a few years, I had one of the most widely read websites in the world because it was one of the very few that had any regularly updated articles on it.

Time for a professional

It was never my goal to be a professional webmaster, and by 2000 I stopped trying to keep up with the changes in technology. But when the Tribe needed a better website I stepped up to fill the need, though it was always understood that the day would come when I would be replaced by a professional.

That day has come. At my request, the website was placed on the agenda for the April 2011 Tribal Council meeting, and we discussed several issues. A number of Council members expressed concerns about my limited skills, and the question was asked why I don't use more up-to-date tools.

It has never been my intention to do that. I have a day job working for the State of Washington, and in addition to my volunteer work on Tribal Council, and other boards and committees, I write, keep current on leading edge longevity and health (not to be confused with "health care," which is a euphemism for "sickness care"), I spend a lot of time researching and making investments, and I look forward to working with my best friend to produce movies about natives, starting with a biopic of Jim Thorpe, I have a magazine concept in development, and much more.

Continued on Page 12

YOYOOLAH!

Website-Continued

Several years ago when Tribal Council appointed me to take over as webmaster, I made a solemn promise to Chairman John Barnett that I would remain webmaster and act as gatekeeper to maintain the integrity of the Tribal website, ensuring that it was never used for political purposes and held to a high standard, until either we found somebody better to replace me or the Tribal Council relieved me.

At the April 2011 meeting, Tribal Council voted to relieve me. By the time you read this, we may have already found a replacement. The transition will be an orderly one. It has been a privilege to serve as this Tribe's webmaster, and I will give my enthusiastic support to help whoever replaces me get quickly up to speed.

Bright future

The future of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe is bright, I see a day when all the people of the world will look to Cowlitz Country as a shining example of what an Indian tribe can do, and the majority of our Tribal members will once again call Cowlitz Country "home." (Rod, A note of thanks for many years of diligent service as our webmaster, thanks again. - Bill Iyall)

Tribal Veterans

We would like to compile a list of our Cowlitz Veterans who were Killed in action, Prisoners of war, and who have passed away. Please send in their names and all military information on these brave Warriors to:

Mike Caso, Administrator
Cowlitz Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 2547
Longview, WA 98632

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CULTURAL RESOURCES

dAve Burlingame, Director



Sweat Lodge

I want to start off talking about the Sweat Lodge on our property near the I-5 Vader exit. The Lodge has seen some rough times lately, and needs to be rebuilt; it has become unsafe to use. To that end, one of our Elders has taken the blankets off the Lodge, disassembled the frame, and smoothed the ground over. Once the weather allows, when the sap is right, the Lodge will be rebuilt. Let me know if you're interested in helping rebuild the Lodge or just want to learn about the Sweat in general, and I'll make sure you're notified when the time comes.

Another concern with our Lodge is the difficulty in having enough wood on hand so people can sweat; many times have people ventured down to the Property only to find there is not enough—or any—wood to start a fire. Therefore, I would ask that people donate wood or funds to purchase wood so there will always be an adequate supply. Please contact me if you can help out in any capacity.

12-14 October—Ed and I attended the State/Tribal transportation conference at Tulalip. Among the topics covered were employment opportunities for Tribal members and cultural resources issues. At one of the sessions I asked if any Native plant guidelines in the state had been produced in consultation with any Tribal government or organization; the answer was "No".

18 October—We hosted the Oregon Department of Transportation in one of our regularly scheduled meetings to discuss upcoming ODOT projects. We also discussed mitigation banking opportunities.

21 October—Ed and I traveled to the Portland Yacht Club to discuss museum plans and opportunities. The group sought our advice regarding appropriate historical displays and input, given our presence on the Columbia. While funding, planning, and construction are still years away, it's still exciting to know we can have a big part in the outcome as well as having our concerns represented.

13 November—I flew to DC to participate in a couple panels regarding our successful participation in the NAGPRA (Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act) process—namely the forming of the Intertribal Consortium that sought the return of Ancestors who were unearthed during the construction of Interstate 5. The first panel I sat on was a bust; the time was taken up by Federal agencies congratulating themselves on what a great job they were doing, without the two Native speakers being given a chance to relate their points of view. The second panel afforded me an opportunity to tell how well our project went, and I touched a little on the respect consistently denied our Elders...

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15 November—Lower Columbia College, as part of Native American Heritage month, hosted a "Native American Day" on their Longview campus. Roy gave a presentation, Robert demonstrated his woodworking, and drum group members performed.

29 November—Several members of the Columbia River Crossing (CRC) project met with us to discuss the latest developments, namely, at the Chairman's behest, the status of the proposed waterfront park being planned beneath the bridge. The City of Vancouver is heading up the park project, with advice from CRC.

18 January—I met with Rose Bowman, Treasurer of Centralia (we know each other from previous meetings) to discuss the installation of new tennis courts and associated structures near the current ball fields by the middle school. We had requested an archaeological survey, and I explained it could take forms other than a full-blown dig. We discussed the failure that is Opus, and the "unboundaried" Mellen Street site that still has no defined borders. Ms. Bowman resolved to keep us in the loop as the project moves forward. **Update:** Centralia contracted with an archaeological firm who has since performed a study on the site and found an isolate, corroborating our concern about site borders. I also wrote a letter of support for the city of Mossyrock as it moves forward with a grant designed to enable the building of a community center near a former cemetery that contained many Cowlitz and community members. Most, if not all remains have been removed from the cemetery and relocated in other grounds (including the Kinswa family cemetery), and Mossyrock wants to ensure proper attention and respect is paid to the Tribe and its People.

14 January—Nathan and I went to a Mr. Bob Cramer's residence. His land, located in Longview, contains a landmark known as Huntington Rock, which was once a skyward-reaching column of basalt that stretched some 70 feet into the air. It has since (in the 1970s) been reduced by blasting to a form that stands between 20 and 30 feet. Mr. Cramer has had some difficulty with trespassers claiming the rock holds great spiritual power, and they have repeatedly accessed the rock and ignored his "no trespassing" signs. Mr. Cramer contacted the Tribe to elicit our help in resolving the situation. At some point in the near future we will be granted access to the formation to try to determine the cultural relevance of the rock.

9 February—Smelt Ceremony: After conferring with the Chairman, Ed, and Nathan, I was instructed to contact Guy Norman from Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and inform him of our intention to dip for Smelt on the Cowlitz River on Feb. 9. The Chair and Mr. Norman agreed the Tribe could take Eulachon under the Tribe's Endangered Species Act (ESA) grant, as long as the fish first went to the Natural Resource Department (NRD) for processing. The end result is the Tribe has around 80 Eulachon for the Smelt Celebration on 6 March.

17 February—CRC: I went to the Columbia River Crossing Tribal Leadership meeting, as the Chairman and Taylor had other commitments. The talk centered mostly around the progress of the project, with an opportunity for Tribes to voice concerns, which ranged from the effectiveness of ground penetrating radar (GPR) to the "fluidity" of the area of potential effect (APE).

22 February—Camas: Ed and Nathan met with Rick McClure of the US Forest Service to discuss the possible reintroduction of Camas at Chelatchie Prairie. Topics included possible funding sources and site preparation (invasive species management).

24 February—Newaukum Bridge: Ed traveled to the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) to discuss the draft Memorandum of Agreement with WSDOT, DAHP, Lewis County, and FHWA. As you may recall, the rebuild of the bridge over the Newaukum River on Jackson Highway hit a snag when a previously unknown archaeological site was discovered. While the particular resources were cared for, the county destroyed other resources in the project. The process is ongoing.

6 March—Smelt Celebration: The weather was unexpectedly nice; enhancing what was already a great Celebration. Singing, dancing, and drumming were all part of the event allowing us to thank the Eulachon for making the journey, to show the Cowlitz has not forgotten the swimmers. As many as 70 people showed, including invited guest Guy Norman.

Thank you for your time.
dAVe Burlingame, Director, Cultural Resources
360.577.6962
360.508.1677 (cell)
culture@cowlitz.org

YOYOOLAH!



ENROLLMENT

Randy Russell, Enrollment Officer

Enrollment Criteria

Our current enrollment criteria, effective 01/01/2006, are: Applicant must be a lineal descendant of a Cowlitz Indian, Applicant must have a parent (mother/father) on Cowlitz Tribal Roll and Applicant shall be no older than 12 months of age.

Updates

We have enrolled 35 infants since our Fall Newsletter went to print, 11 in October 2010 and 24 in March 2011. The enrollment office has been advised of the deaths of 16 tribal members September 01, 2010 – March 15, 2011.

Please try to remember to advise the tribal office when you have a change of mailing address.



GRANTS PROGRAM

Jan Healy, Grant Writer

Pathways to Healing

Since my last grants report to you, it has been six months of long winter and rainy early spring. I will fill you in on developments. One of our successes was a grant for another three years of funding from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) for the Tribe's *Pathways to Healing* program. The program advocates help American Indian and Alaska Native people who have been victims of domestic violence and/or sexual assault. Another two-year grant from Washington State's Office of Crime Victims Advocacy focuses on advocacy for victims of sexual assault and this year we will emphasize prevention activities, too.

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There may be another grant opportunity this spring that would allow the program to expand to serve people who have been victims of other sorts of crimes. *Pathways to Healing* Program Manager Debbie Medeiros also provides advice to other Northwest Tribes interested in starting or improving their programs.

DOJ Grant

In 2008, the Tribe received a two-year DOJ grant to plan and implement a Tribal Court, and Tribal Attorney Phil Harju and Legal Analyst Tessa Cohen have been working to draft legal code to present to Tribal Council. Some form of an Elders Council and possibly a more formal Tribal Court are part of the project's recommendations. The Tribe did not get a 2010 DOJ grant for the Tribe's emerging justice system, but we have applied for 2011-2014 funds to enhance the Tribe's justice system.

We have also submitted another application to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Native Americans, for a grant to conduct comprehensive planning for the Tribe. Our previous application didn't convince reviewers that enough members of the Tribe supported a big planning project—efforts have been more based in the Tribe's departments—but we now have more evidence of broad support, and will emphasize developing youth projects as part of the planning process.

DOE Grant

The U.S. Department of Energy is considering the Tribe's request for an energy efficiency grant to replace most of the roof on the Tribe's office building in Longview. The project includes installing solid foam

insulation under a new metal roof and closing gaps that have decreased the efficiency of the heating and air conditioning system. The project would also largely complete the energy conservation improvements in the building that were done last year with federal stimulus funds, with Mike Iyall managing the project. Under that grant, we were able to replace the exterior doors, all windows, and the interior lighting. We also had the heating and air conditioning units revamped or replaced and improvements made to the ductwork. The lighting changes allowed the Tribe to receive a significant rebate from Cowlitz PUD.

DOT Grants

The Washington State Department of Transportation should be announcing grant awards soon for transit services. The Tribal Transportation Department has applied for operating funds for the transit program and to purchase an all-wheel drive vehicle that will be useful in icy-road situations.

Salmon Recovery Fund

The Tribe's Natural Resources Department restoration biologist Rudy Salakory is hopeful that the Tribe's proposal for salmon and steelhead habitat restoration will get funding through the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service). Besides funding about five restoration projects to benefit salmon and steelhead, the grant would allow the Tribe to develop a unique plan for choosing future projects.

HHS Electronic Files

We are about to start the third year of a grant from the HHS, Indian Health Service, to shift from paper

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files and reports to electronic health records (computerized files) in the Tribal clinic, including for mental health therapy, and later for the chemical dependency treatment program.

This is a major effort requiring staff training and it will streamline recordkeeping and could lead to improvements in patient care.

Elders Nutrition

We also expect to receive another three years of funding from HHS, Administration on Aging, for Elders nutrition (group meals and home-delivered meals) and support for Elders' caregivers.

Canoe Grants

As in years past, we've applied for a grant from the Potlatch Fund in Seattle, to help cover costs for the Cowlitz Canoe Family to take part in the annual Intertribal Canoe Journey in mid-July.

This year, it's the "Paddle to Swinomish". The Canoe Family's been active in fundraising, too, such as preparing and selling meals during Eatonville's Fourth of July weekend, plus crafts and t-shirt sales, and raffle tickets.

Language Grant

Another cultural grant we've applied for, from the organization Native Languages of the Americas, would fund a series of 18 monthly classes in the Chinook Jargon language. There is high interest from Tribal members, based on a survey conducted last winter.

Roy Wilson would teach the classes, using his new compilation of Jargon dictionaries, a phrase book, and compact disc recordings to guide pronunciation.



HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Todd Bratton

Services

Over the past several years, the Health Board and Health and Human Services Department have been engaged in ongoing discussions about the future of the department and the health programs offered by the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. The Tribe currently offers several programs including: Primary Medical Care, Mental Health Services, Alcohol and Chemical Dependency Services, Vocational Rehabilitation, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Advocacy, Indian Child Welfare and Senior Nutrition. In 2011, the Tribe provides these services from the following locations:

	Longview	Seattle	Vancouver	Toledo
Medical	X			
Mental Health	X	X	X	
Alcohol/CD	X		X	
DVSA	X		X	
Senior Nutrition	X			X
Voc. Rehab	X		X	
Child Welfare	X			

Growth to continue

The Health and Human Services Department is not done growing. The Health Board has already asked the Department to conduct feasibility studies regarding Dental, Pharmacy, and Lab. These studies are currently underway, though there is no easy way to provide these services without additional funding.

One important program the department has been able to expand is mental health. Last summer the Tribe began to operate a mental health program in Seattle. Tribal Council approved the program as long as the department could operate it without losses. After some initial implementation issues, that program has taken off and revenues are exceeding expenditures by a good margin. This is good news for Tribal Members and other American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) from the Seattle area who need access to Mental Health Services. Several Tribes have extended their appreciation to the Cowlitz Indian Tribe for stepping up to provide these services, and the Tribe should be proud to sanction this good work.

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YOYOOLAH!

HHS-Continued

The Seattle mental health program is an example of how the department will work with the Health Board to manage growth. As financially viable, the department will seek ways to enhance, expand, and create programs which promote an optimal level of health for Tribal Members and other AI/AN from the area. Unfortunately there are not large pots of money out there right now to immediately add dental, pharmacy and lab services. The need for these services is well understood, and Tribal Members can trust that we are working on ways to add these and other services.

Self-governance

The Tribe's primary health contract with IHS was recently converted to a Self Governance compact after several years of planning. Self Governance will allow the Tribe to utilize funding in a more flexible manner within the health programs. The Health Board is currently wrapping up strategic planning and beginning to have discussions about needs for infrastructure, facilities, services, and more.

New clinic

The completion of the new facility in Longview is a major milestone for the Tribe. News about the grand opening and ceremonies will be announced soon, but the move will start in the next several weeks. This will not be the last new health facility for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. The Tribe's members are dispersed across western Washington and beyond. With direction from the Tribal Council and Health Board, the department is ready to start expanding services to meet Tribal Members' needs. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you now and in the future!

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

HOUSING

Gary Lowe, Services Manager

Assistance

Cowlitz Indian Tribal Housing (CITH) provides direct monetary assistance to an average of 150 households per month, plus rehab work to an average of 5 tribal member homes each month. The need for mortgage and foreclosure counseling is rising every month and is provided to any tribal member who calls Sheryl Bertucci at 360-864-7019.

Construction

The Membrane Bioreactor plant for St. Mary's has been built and is awaiting installation in a new building provided by Lewis County. CITH Executive Director Larry Coyle worked out a sweet deal with the county to locate the plant on county property, thereby avoiding a sewage treatment facility on St. Mary's land.

Survey

In October we sent out a survey to all tribal households, and the responses are still trickling in 4 months later! CITH would like to say a big THANK YOU to the 250 + households who took the time to fill out and return the surveys!! The intention of the survey was to get opinions from ALL tribal members about our housing services and to collect fresh data on the NEEDS of Cowlitz Tribal members how so we can better serve our people.

Fire Extinguishers

CITH is delighted to report that we provided automatic over the stove fire extinguishers to more than 200 tribal homes in Nov. & Dec 2010. The extinguishers were sent to tribal homes as far away as Florida and New York! If you would still like to order a set you can call Bob Bouchard at 360-864-7000.

Internet access

The Toledotel grant to provide training, internet access & laptop computers is in full swing. Classes began at the first of the year and will continue for the next 18 months to qualifying tribal members. Toledotel will soon be reaching out to tribal households in Thurston, Lewis, & Cowlitz counties urging households who have not already done so to sign up for this great program.

Heating

CITH has installed a new propane heating system in the gym to replace the boiler ruined in a flood caused by a broken pipe.

Longhouse

The tribe asked CITH to apply for an ICDBG grant to build a longhouse on St. Mary's land. CITH paid a grant writer to submit a grant request for the maximum of \$500,000, with Housing contributing matching funds to make the grant acceptable to HUD. We did not receive the grant and will try for it again this year; however news reports indicate that the Federal Government is cutting back or eliminating Community Block Grant Funds, so our longhouse is on hold till funding is procured.

Recognition Day

A celebration of Cowlitz Recognition Day was held February 13th, 2011 at St. Mary's. Many eagles nest in the area, and on this day at least 3 of the majestic birds circled overhead as members and guests arrived.

Housing Services Available

Cowlitz Indian Tribal Housing offers a wide range of services to Tribal members. We have a beautiful Elder housing facility at St. Mary's in Toledo, Washington, situated in a pleasant rural setting with sweeping views of Mt. Rainer and Mt. St.

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Zoomed view of Mount St. Helen's as seen from St. Mary's Center, photo by Rod Van Mechelen

Helens. If you are a low income Elder you may qualify for one of the apartments at St. Mary's. For more information on our Elder housing facility, please call Bob Bouchard at 360-864-7007.

In the market?

Thinking of buying a home? We can offer up to \$20,000 in down payment assistance to Tribal members who meet our eligibility standards and who qualify for a home loan.

Need temporary assistance?

If you need temporary assistance to get you through a tough time we can help with your rent or mortgage payments for a maximum of six months at a maximum of \$500.00 per month.

Student rental assistance

Our Student Rental Assistance Program is for full time students (12 credits or full time equivalent) who need help paying their rent while they are in school. We can pay a maximum of \$350.00 per month in rental assistance for as long as students are enrolled.

Rent & Mortgage assistance

Elders (62 and over) and disabled Tribal members may qualify for rental or mortgage assistance as well. This program has the same

\$500.00 per month maximum as our Standard Rental Assistance Program, but there is no six month limit on assistance.

Rehab & repairs

We also do rehab and repairs on Tribal members homes. From roofs to foundations and everything in between our skilled carpenters can do it all.

Water & septic problems

Water, septic, or sewer line problems? We work with Indian Health Service to fix any water or sanitation problem you may be having. Cowlitz Indian Tribal Housing facilitates the application process for you and Indian Health Service does all assessment, engineering, repairs, or replacement.

Limitations

All of our programs, with the exception of Student Rental Assistance, are limited to the State of Washington, and all programs are subject to other eligibility criteria.

Contact us

To find out if you qualify for housing services please call us at 360.864.8720, mail us at PO Box 219 Toledo WA 98591 or e-mail Gary Lowe, Housing Services Manager: glowe@toledotel.com



HUMAN RESOURCES

Nancy Osborne, THRP, Director

Sharing office space

With limited space most departments have not had the ability to expand. Those that have been approved to add staff at the Longview offices have done so by sharing office space, phones and so on. Once the new clinic is open we will have space to expand and to seek additional funding for new staff.

New positions added

Since the last newsletter the new positions we have added were Eulachon (Smelt) Biologist, two Fisheries Technicians, Medical Biller, Executive Administrative Assistant (Longview HHS), Chemical Dependency Clinical Supervisor, Mental Health Receptionist/Administrative Assistant (Seattle), Mental Health Therapist Extern (Seattle), Fill in/on call Receptionist, Psychiatric, ARNP (Longview), and Accounts Payable Clerk.

We still have not posted to hire the two Administrative Assistant positions approved by Tribal Council at the December 4, 2010 meeting.

Watch the website

Please check the Cowlitz website for any future job postings. I would recommend checking at least once a week, as we never know when a position will be available.

All job postings are posted on the website for seven (7) days. If the Director/Program Manager feels there were not enough qualified applicants then the position is posted out to other media sources.

YOYOOLAH!**NATURAL RESOURCES**

Taylor Aalvik, Director

Smelt Research underway

The Natural Resources Department has begun and is well underway on a smelt research program. We are poised to take the lead in future knowledge and management for their recovery. We continue to work with the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Abernathy fish technology center in research projects on understanding the science of how they spawn, rear, and other scientific details of the needs for their survival. Once we secure additional infrastructure to house the program, we plan on developing our own laboratory, and research projects in regards to better understanding smelt. We have plans to expand our smelt program and foresee many future opportunities to work towards their restoration. Currently, we are also studying smelt larvae which are making their way to the ocean.

White-tailed Deer

After successfully transferring endangered Columbian White-tailed deer to Cottonwood Island last fall, we are beginning plans to follow up with an additional work. There continues to be a need to monitor the transferred deer and add to their numbers. This work is important to re-establish them above Longview, WA, particularly to raise the population to a point where inbreeding concerns and other health issues do not become a problem. Our program successfully developed a new protocol on how to handle the deer in a delicate way where no harm comes to them as part of our management strategy. There is also habitat improvement plans needed to be developed to improve the value of feed for these deer. Funding for future efforts is a focal point for this program and we are turning over many stones to find the adequate resources to continue this very important work.

Columbia River Treaty

We continue to be a proud partner with 14 other Columbia Basin Tribes in regards to the Columbia River Treaty.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

This treaty between Canada and the United States over the management of all the dams and water on the Columbia River is nearing a point where there is a great potential for it to be amended.

The tribes with our direct involvement are working hard to have ecosystem function as an important component of a future treaty provision. Currently, the US and Canada primarily manage for flood control and power production, which has done considerable damage to salmon, and other natural resources and creates a big problem towards restoration efforts. This process of pushing for a better managed river system will be long and arduous, perhaps as much as two decades. The tribes are being very proactive and diligent to see positive changes in the future and are very committed to see it through. There are plans to take the issue to Washington DC in Mid-May. We plan to be a part of this concern for years to come as the health of our salmon resources and habitat of the Lower Columbia River Estuary within our homelands are at stake.

Huckleberry Restoration

We are well underway on planning efforts with the US Forest Service and the Pinchot Partners on a Huckleberry restoration project. We recently submitted for a grant to assist in future implementation of increasing huckleberry resources in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. After the planning phase this summer, we have to do an Environmental Assessment and hopefully be ready to implement projects during the summer of 2012. On a related matter, the Forest Service is looking to change rules on how they implement their management protocols. We are participating in the development of future rules which would hopefully increase our influence in getting improved management of the forest and to further recognize the sacred resources tribes need protection over.

Salmon Habitat Restoration

We continue to build upon our salmon habitat restoration program with a set of new projects in the works for the Lewis River. Plans are underway to tackle potentially large projects on the

Columbia River. The Bonneville Power Administration is close to funding our ability to bring large restoration projects forward to be implemented. We are working to acquire additional lands for conservation purposes and are exploring options of mitigation banking as a natural resources business venture. We submitted for a multi-million dollar grant to do additional salmon restoration and associated salmon restoration coordination efforts throughout the region through the National Marine Fisheries Service. If funded, it will greatly improve the tribe's capacity and status in the region as a major player towards looking after the health, sustainability, and overall positive future of natural resources in the region.

Copper Mine Concerns

The department has been looking closely at a number of concerns in our region. One is the issue of potential copper mining in the Mt. St. Helens area. There is a company planning to test drill for gold, copper, silver, etc on National Forest lands. It is a difficult, complex, and concerning situation. If mining was ever developed, it could have serious consequences and long-lasting damages of the environment.

Mining practices are well known for the damages that they do. If brought here, it would bring another concern and potential environmental devastation to the region. We will be seeking formal consultation with the BLM in the permitting issues. We plan to work closely with tribal leadership as we move forward.

We are also addressing issues concerning restoration of salmon in the Cowlitz River. Plans are to push for additional reforms in the management of these salmon at both the hatcheries and transporting concerns. We continue to push for better alternatives and protocol on getting the fish above the dams in an efficient manner.

Funding

Staff has been very busy and doing a wonderful job on finding new sources of funds and keeping very important projects and programs alive. Tribal Council has adopted a very broad and extensive strategic plan which calls for

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

considerable expansion for the future. It is planned for us to become a leading role in the future health of our environment.

There are many day-to-day activities we continue to implement. Please contact me for additional information.

**To learn more, contact
Taylor Aalvik : 360-575-3306;
taalvik@cowlitz.org**

TRANSPORTATION

Kim Stube, Program Manager

Clinic Phase III-A Complete

As of March 15th Phase III – A of the Clinic/Admin Project is complete. We had some difficult weather to work through trying to do this part of the project in the winter months. As the project started with all the mud and concrete tore up it was hard to imagine how beautiful the final product would be. I know the tribe will enjoy the fire pit and all the native plants surrounding it.

I am now putting the final touches on the scope of work and budget for Phase III-B which is the Administrative parking area and the complete overlay of the whole area, lighting and new landscaping in the parking lot and access road between 9th and 11th street. I will be adding approximately \$45,000 to cover change orders recommended by the BIA Northwest Region. This part will start up on June 1st due to the required temperature for the overlay and is a 20 calendar day's contract.

Reserve-A-Ride Contract

The Transit Program now has a Medicaid and Reserve-A-Ride contract with Human Service Council out of Vancouver which covers Cowlitz and Clark counties. This contract is a reimbursement of qualified riders that comes back to the Transportation Department. The department is currently working with the broker that services Lewis and Thurston counties so we can get reimbursed for



New Tribal Clinic in Longview, WA, photo by Kim Stube

qualified riders in the Winlock, Toledo and surrounding areas of Lewis County.

Funding continues

The Transit Program has been awarded another year of funding through the Federal Transit Administration/Tribal Transportation Program FY 2010 for \$373,658. We currently have applied for a continuing grant application with WSDOT to sustain existing service and an expansion capital and operating for FY 2011-2013. I hope to hear by the middle of May if these 3 grants have been awarded to the tribe.

With the WSDOT sustaining existing service grant I have put funding for a web page for the department. This is a much need service to help our tribal members with transit and to keep up on construction projects and will be posting RFP's to the Cowlitz Tribe existing web page and transits web page.

New Phone Numbers

Kim Stube 360-636-4444
Becky Morton 360-636-4523



YOUTH

Cassandra Sellards-Reck
Vice Chair, Interim Youth Board

Schedule of Events

The Cowlitz Youth Department provides this List of Cowlitz Youth Gatherings that are sponsored by the tribe from around the Northwest. Many of these gatherings are being scheduled in conjunction with other tribal event. We

January 15	Plank house Gathering
February 13	Cowlitz Recognition Celebration
March 6	Smelt Ceremony
March	Cedar gathering Trip
April 5-9	Spring Break Gathering
April 23	Red Heart Band Ceremony
May 21	Kelso Powwow
June 4	Youth Day/GC Meeting
June 3-5	Cowlitz Encampment and 1st Salmon Ceremony
July 13-31	Cowlitz Canoe Journey
August 15-19	Summer Camp
August 30-Sept. 3	Huckleberry Camp
Sept 30-Oct 2	Northwest Native American Weavers Conference
October 27	October Gathering
November 5	Youth Day/GC Meeting
November 19	Thanksgiving Gathering
December 17	Christmas Winter Gathering

YOYOOLAH!

Youth-Continued

will have Cowlitz bus available for transportation.

**Health Summit Youth Conference through the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board in Portland- in the summer the date is to be announced

***There are always gatherings with the Drum Group and Canoe Family that are open to all youth who are interested. Please contact Cassy for more information.

We have a beautiful group of Cowlitz Youth. It is such a blessing and privilege to be able to work with and them. We have been able to increase the number of events that we will be offering to the youth in 2011. The largest of these are the Canoe Journey and August Gathering. We will be offering transportation thanks to the Cowlitz Transportation Department. They have opened up their fleet and generously work with us to be able to assist us with getting the Youth all over the Northwest. The thought is to expand our reaches all over the Northwest. We want to be a part of our Native family. We are striving though these events to create a Cowlitz community for our youth to interact grow and learn.

With the help of the many Tribal programs the Youth Department has been able to grow from a couple of gathering a year to meeting weekly for drumming, monthly for Youth Department meetings, events and gatherings. The Health and Human Services (HHS) and Cultural Department have been instrumental in being able to provide funding and support. Many of the staff from HHS programs like, Elders Program, Alcohol Chemical Dependency program, Pathways to Healing, Health Education and Voc Rehab has been able to come to the gatherings and educate our Youth. It really does take a village!

The goal of the Youth Department is to be able to have our youth learn from our Elders. The Elders have so much to offer our youth. The knowledge, values, history, culture and teachings they have to offer are priceless. Grandfather Roy has been tirelessly giving and teaching Cowlitz history, stories and language at almost every event we have. He gives

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

them priceless attention and we are so grateful for the work he puts in.

Another goal of the Youth Departments is to be able to teach our youth the traditional teachings and cultural activities that our Cowlitz thrived on since the beginning of time. We want to be able to offer ceremonial activities, traditional events like Huckleberry picking, the Cowlitz Canoe Journey, and Cowlitz youth gatherings at St. Mary's.

Health education and prevention teachings are instrumental in growing our people. Improving the health status of our youth by promoting wellness and reinforcing the healthy choices is another goal we share with the Cowlitz Health and Human Services Department. We are so grateful to have many of the staff willing to come to camp to share and teach their knowledge and skills with our youth. We understand that our youth learn by doing so we provide as much hands on as possible. We have a Nutritionist coming this year to teach and play Food Bingo with all our kids.

There is drumming and dancing every first Thursday in Longview and the second and third Thursdays are at St. Mary's. The Drum Group that is family focused and all are welcome. We always have great food so just bring your drum.

At the Summer Break Gathering this year we are excited to be able to start working with our teens on making their regalia (dance blankets), cedar weaving, beading, wool and fiber weaving, wood carving, health education, cultural knowledge, language, history, drug and alcohol prevention and even some education encouragement and personal fiancé.

Our little ones gain so much by being a part of all we do. Watching them grow and be able to participate in all we do is amazing. We have so many activities for our little ones that they are able to partner and learn.

Working with the cedar continues to be a focus for our youth. Cedar is sacred and was essential to way of life. At each gathering we are able to teach those who haven't had any experience to start weaving. Many of our youth are able to teach other youth how to start weaving. This is an amazing sight. We will be taking a small group to the Northwest

Native Basketweavers Conference in October. If your teen is interested they need to come to the summer gathering and participate to show us their interest. We will start a list of those who are interested. This conference is focused on youth and preserving the cedar art. This is so important to our people and history.

Darlene Rhodes with the help of other volunteers has started another garden at St. Mary's and there will be teachings of our traditional plants and values. The youth will be able to work in the soil and help grow the plants that were started at the Spring Break gathering.

This is just a small snap shot of what we are working on for the summer gathering. So stay tuned to the website. The youth are currently working on a Cowlitz Youth Program website www.cowlitzyouth.com they will manage with adult supervision of the Youth Department. So look for that it!

In 2011 we are focused on empowering our Youth. We are currently forming a youth group which is dedicated to helping develop some policies, By-laws, website and events. We want to work with them and have them invested in everything we do.

The next seven generations are what we are dedicated to improving. The Tribal Council has approved an interim Youth Department Board. We are looking for people to come and help us do the work. This is such a rewarding way to get involved with your Tribe. We will have upcoming Board meetings announced on the Cowlitz website and Cowlitz Youth website. Tentatively we are trying to meet the 3rd Friday of every month. The location will be announced.

Please contact us to donate financial support, supplies, ideas, and volunteer. Contact us if you want to get your family involved at any event.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cassandra Sellards Reck
Contact Information for the Youth Department

Cassandra Sellards Reck 1-360-513-1243

Patty Kinswa-Gaiser 1-360-520-2578

Darlene Rhodes 1-360-846-5088

DEPARTMENT REPORTS



DRUM GROUP

Cassandra Sellards-Reck

Cowlitz Drum Group

Everyone's invited to Drum with the Cowlitz Drum Group. Families and Children are Welcome

We meet every 1st Thursday at the Longview Clinic office.

The second and third Thursday of the month we meet at St. Mary's in Toledo.

Please call Cassy at: 1-360-513-1243 or Steve at: 1-360-731-2885. Visit the Tribal website and check the calendar for drumming locations.

Food Voucher Program

The Food Voucher program is now up and running since June.

It is also for any tribal member that resides in the State of Washington and is low income and it does help out our Tribal members.

Contact

To apply, contact Carolee Morris at 360-575-3300 at the Cowlitz Indian Tribal Office.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The new program year for LIHEAP starts October 1, 2010.

Any tribal member that resides in the State of Washington who is low income may apply.

Contact

Carolee Morris at 360-575-3300 at the Cowlitz Indian Tribal Office.

This program certainly helps our Tribal families.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



DUES ARE DUE

Jess Groll, Tribal Treasurer

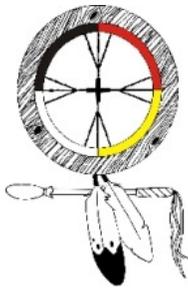
Your dues are important!

It's time to send in your Tribal dues! Dues are used to pay for expenses that cannot be covered by grants, contracts, D218 income and indirect reimbursement.

This year will be tighter than ever as our Docket 218 income is being used up at a rate that we have never experienced before and the pressure for Cultural activity exceeds our funding. Dues are \$10 per adult, \$5 for children and seniors.

Send your dues to:

Cowlitz Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 2547
Longview, WA 98632

TWELFTH ANNUAL POWWOW
Honoring the Spirit of All
Cowlitz People

St. Mary's Center
107 Spencer Road Toledo
Washington 98591

Saturday September 24, 2011
Grand Entry: 1pm, 7pm
Salmon Dinner: 5pm

Dance Competition
Special Guests: Jeff Guidry
and Bald Eagle Freedom

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1

EDUCATION
PROGRAMS

Debbie Medeiros, Tribal Council

Kelso and Longview Indian Education Title VII Programs

Indian Education Programs, located in the Longview and Kelso School Districts offer many features to help students in academic and social settings, as well as strengthening pride in their rich Native heritage.

Indian Education is a federally funded program participation requires being registered in your district as well as a signed "506 form", to be kept on file in the Indian Ed offices. This form is a declaration of Indian heritage, listing the tribe, and enrollment of a relative – no further back than grandparent.

Services

Offerings include one on one tutoring, culture classes, parent meetings, newsletters and many other resources and events.

Your students enrollment, whether he/she actively participates in the program or not, will help make it possible for others to do so, as funding is directly related to the number of students with a form on file in the Indian Education Offices.

For information or forms contact:

Kelso School District
Shelley Hamrick—360-501-1655

Longview School District
Judy Duff—360-423-6741

Newsletter Submissions

The newsletter is prepared by the Communications Committee. Send comments & submissions to rod@vanmechelen.net

YOYOOLAH!**TRIBAL COUNCIL & COMMITTEES****General Council Officers**

Chair:	William Iyall	253-677-4833 Term expires 2012
Vice Chair:	Phil Harju	360-957-3036 Term Expires 2011
Secretary:	Nancy Osborne	360-623-5675 Term Expires 2012
Treasurer:	Jess Groll	360-508-1350 Term Expires 2011

Executive Council

William Iyall, GC Chair	253-677-4833
Phil Harju, GC Vice Chair	360-957-3036
Nancy Osborne, GC Secretary	360-623-5675
Jess Groll, GC Treasurer	360-508-1350
Steve Kutz, TC Chair	360-731-2885
Taylor Aalvik, TC Vice Chair	360-575-3306
Mike Caso, at-large	360-457-0579
Rod Van Mechelen, at-large	360-480-7093

Tribal Council**Terms expiring 2011**

Linda Foley	206-364-6757
Cassandra Sellards-Reck	360-666-2417
Karissa Lowe	360-261-4683
Mike Iyall	360-456-8720
Lenny Bridges	360-330-5718
Debbie Medeiros	360-624-7040

Terms expiring 2012

Larry Coyle	360-736-3482
Steve Kutz	360-731-2885
Rod Van Mechelen	360-480-7093
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser	360-864-4658
Randy Russell	360-425-4986
Katherine Iyall-Vasquez	360-413-5897

Terms expiring 2013

Carolee Morris	360-846-5410
Taylor Aalvik	360-575-3306
Mike Caso	360-457-0579
Celine Cloquet	360-268-4123
Cathy Raphael	360-508-1326
Karrie Monohon	253-582-1376

Awards & Recognition Committee

Rod Van Mechelen, Chair	360-480-7093
Bill Iyall	Phil Harju
Nancy Osborne	Steve Kutz
Mike Caso	Katherine Iyall-Vasquez
Cassy Reck	Debbie Medeiros

Budget Review Committee

Lenny Bridges, Chair	360-330-5718
Pat Iyall-Barnes	Katherine Iyall-Vasquez
Karrie Monohon	Cassy Reck

Canoe Committee

Willie Koch, Co-Chair	
Steve Kutz, Co-Chair	360-731-2885
Devin Reck, Vice Chair	Cassy Reck, Treasurer
Rhonda Lee Grantham, Secretary	Tom Fica, Head Skipper
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser, Co-ground crew lead	Sean Britt, Skipper
Skeet Jensen, Support Boat Skipper	Teri Graves
John O'Brien, Support Boat Skipper	Ernie Donovan

Canoe Committee—continued

Linda O'Brien	Mark Anderson
Mike Caso	Debbie Russell
Robert Harju	Melody Pfeifer

Communications Committee

Rod Van Mechelen, Chair	360-480-7093
Phil Harju	Celine Cloquet
Elissa Washuta	Mike Caso

Cowlitz Country Bulletin

Rod Van Mechelen	rod@vanmechelen.net
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Cultural Resources Board

Roy Wilson, Chair-for-life	360-990-4265
Steve Kutz, Vice Chair	Cassy Reck, Secretary
Gerry Brickey	Linda Foley
Mike Caso	Phil Harju
Ed Arthur	Celine Cloquet
Robert Harju	Rod Van Mechelen
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser	Taylor Aalvik
Melody Pfeifer	

Drum Group Committee

Cassy Reck, Chair	360-513-1243
Steve Kutz, Vice Chair	Becky Lowe, Treasurer
Melody Pfeifer, Secretary	

Economic Development Committee

Taylor Aalvik, Chair	360-575-3306
Tim Van Mechelen, Vice Chair	Steve Kutz
Rod Van Mechelen, Secretary	Jess Groll
Mike Caso	Lenny Bridges
Ed Arthur	Robert Harju
Karrie Monohon	Dan Meyer
Don Ryan	Don Van Mechelen

Education & Scholarships Committee

Mike Iyall, Chair	Karissa Lowe, Vice Chair
Becky Lowe, Secretary	Celine Cloquet
Lenny Bridges	David Iyall
Suzanne Donaldson-Stephens	

Enrollment Committee

Michael Caso, Chair	360-457-0579
Nancy Osborne, Vice Chair	Cathy Raphael, Secretary
Ernie Donovan	Lenore Monohon
Larry Coyle	Melody Pfeifer
Daryl Cota	Renee King
Karen Cota	Cathy Lombard

Gaming Board

Sonny Bridges, Chair	Carolyn Medeiros, Secretary
Bill Iyall	Carolee Morris
Bruce Bozsum, Mohegan Tribal Chairman	David Barnett
Phil Harju, ad hoc member	Jess Groll, ad hoc member
Ed Fleisher, Gaming Atty.	

Health Board

Cassy Reck, Chair	360-666-2417
Steve Kutz, Vice Chair	Linda Foley, Secretary
Cathy Raphael	Ernie Donovan
John DeNobrega	Patty Kinswa-Gaiser
Charity Sabido-Hodges	To be determined

TRIBAL COUNCIL & COMMITTEES

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1

Health CommitteeCarolee Morris
Sheryl BertucciMelody Pfeifer
Darlene Rhodes**Housing Board**Ernie Donovan, Chair
Sheryl Bertucci, Vice Chair
To be announced
Rene Kingmothers8@yahoo.com
Bob Bouchard, Secretary
Carolee Morris
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser**Parliamentarian**

Michael Caso

Personnel Committee

Open for volunteers

Powwow CommitteeSuzanne Donaldson-Stephens, Chair
Linda Foley, Secretary
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser
Lenny Bridges
Lindsey FoleyLarry Knutson, Vice Chair
Jess Groll, Treasurer
Curt Stephens
Jennifer Johnson
Teona Kinswa**Sergeant-at-Arms and Election Officers**

Michael Caso

Ed Arthur

Veterans Administration

Michael Caso, Veterans Administrator

Interim Youth BoardPatty Kinswa-Gaiser, Chair
Katherine Iyall-Vasquez, Secretary
Claudia Tenney
Lenny Bridges
Devin ReckCassy Reck, Vice Chair
Debbie Medeiros
Sean Britt
Steve Kutz**DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY**

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cowlitzhr@cowlitz.org	
Phil Harju, Tribal Attorney	360-575-6222
pharju@cowlitz.org	
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cowlitzenrollment@cowlitz.org	
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Jim Sherrill, Director of Health	360-575-3307
jsherrill.health@cowlitz.org	
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skutz.health@cowlitz.org	
Tribal Treatment	360-575-3316
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Debbie Medeiros, PTH Program Manager	360-397-8228
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lhause@cowlitz.org	
Patty Kinswa-Gaiser, Elders Program Manager	360-864-7006
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culture@cowlitz.org	
Ed Arthur, Assistant Cultural Resources Director .	360-575-3314
earthur@cowlitz.org	
Natural Resources	360-575-1952
Taylor Aalvik, Natural Resources Director	360-575-3306
taalvik@cowlitz.org	
Tribal Housing	866-254-3353
Larry Coyle, Housing Director	360-864-7001
CHETRHA@aol.com	
Kim Stube, Transportation Director	360-232-8526
kstube@cowlitz.org	
Miscellaneous Volunteers	
David Russell Fish Program	360-673-2516
Roy Wilson Spiritual Leader	360-990-4265
itswoot@q.com	
Rod Van Mechelen, Volunteer Newsletter Editor	
rod@vanmechelen.net	

For a complete Tribal Employee Directory, see the Contacts section at www.cowlitz.org

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Yooyoolah! is the official news publication of the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, P.O. Box 2547 Longview, WA 98632. Submissions from Tribal members of news and views that are relevant to the Tribe are welcome. The necessity to edit for length, good taste and relevance is reserved.

COWLITZ INDIAN TRIBE

P.O. Box 2547
1055 9th Ave Ste B
Longview, WA 98632

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Please update your name and address! Call or write the Tribal Office: 360-577-8140; email CowlitzTribe@cowlitz.org

JUNE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

The June 4, 2011 meeting will be held at the St. Mary's Center, 107 Spencer Road in Toledo. The meeting will start at 10:00 a.m.

For those of you who have not been there, from I-5 take Exit 68, and then take Hwy 12 East to Jackson Highway, turn right at the Chevron Service station and go South approximately 6 miles.

The facility is on the left.

Raffle (Please bring raffle donations)

Potluck Dinner

Please bring the following to share according to your last name:

A-G Salad H-N Hot Dish O-U Dessert V-Z Beverage

Please bring enrollment card and photo identification to sign in.

10:00 a.m. June 4, 2011

7TH ANNUAL COWLITZ INDIAN TRIBAL HEALTH WALK

Saturday, September 17th, 2011

Registration starts at 9 a.m. — Walk begins at 10 a.m.

Lake Sacagawea Park, Longview, WA — For details, call the Tribal Clinic

360-575-8277

12TH ANNUAL COWLITZ INDIAN POWWOW: HONORING THE SPIRIT OF ALL COWLITZ PEOPLE

Saturday, September 24th, 2011 — See pages 8, 9 & 21 for details

COWLITZ INDIAN POWWOW PANCAKE BREAKFAST!

7 a.m.—10 a.m. Saturday, June 4, 2011

Pancakes, Ham, Eggs, Orange Juice, Coffee

\$5.00 Donation Requested to support the Powwow!