

Institute for Tribal Government

Oregon Tribes & Treaties May 2, 2014

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The Institute for Tribal Government

- The Institute for Tribal Government serves elected tribal governments from across the nation and also provides training to local, state, and federal government agencies and others who are interested in learning about tribal government.
- The Institute for Tribal Government is part of the Center for Public Service Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University (PSU) in Portland, Oregon.
- A Tribal Policy Board consisting of elected tribal chairpersons, directors of tribal governmental and policy organizations, and representatives of institutions of higher education provide policy guidance to the Institute.

The Institute for Tribal Government

Need for the Institute

- While there are over 560 tribal governments in the United States, each with its own government structure, there is no national institution that provides training specifically designed for elected tribal leaders.
- Newly elected officials are often unfamiliar with the responsibilities of office and must assume multiple leadership duties with little or no systematic training. At the internal level, this can contribute to tribal community instability. At the external level, tribal government officials are increasingly required to address complex intergovernmental issues with local, state, and federal jurisdictions.

The Institute for Tribal Government

Need for the Institute

- Even though a trust responsibility exists between the United States government and federally recognized tribes, it is vital that tribal governments be able to actively protect their rights themselves. Too often tribes must obtain assistance from non-Indian experts, many of whom know little about a particular tribe's treaty or other legal rights.
- A primary goal of the Institute, therefore, is to assist tribes who want to cultivate the necessary expertise and governance skills from within their own tribe. Similarly, government agencies with trust responsibilities and programs which interface with tribal programs, seek services from the Institute.

Eras in Federal Indian Policy

- Removal Period (1825-1850),
- Treaty and Reservation Period (1850 -1887)
- Allotment and Assimilation (1887-1934)
- Termination (1940-1961)

Indian Country over the Years



What is a Treaty?

Contract between Sovereigns

- United States Constitution authorizes Presidents to enter Treaties on behalf of the U.S. subject to Senate confirmation of the treaty
- Many NW Tribes entered into treaties with the U.S. between the 1850-1880's
- Treaty of 1855 with the Umatilla, Walla Walla, Cayuse Treaty confirmed by the Senate in 1859- a few months before Oregon was admitted as a State into the Union

What do Treaties Contain?

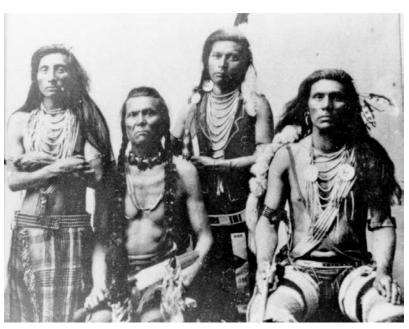
- Indians agreed to relinquish lands (ceded lands)
- U.S. promised to create federally protected Reservations for the Tribes (protecting Tribal lands, people, and resources) Trust responsibilities
- Promised specific services, payments, etc.
- Indian tribes constitute unique legal entities in the United States

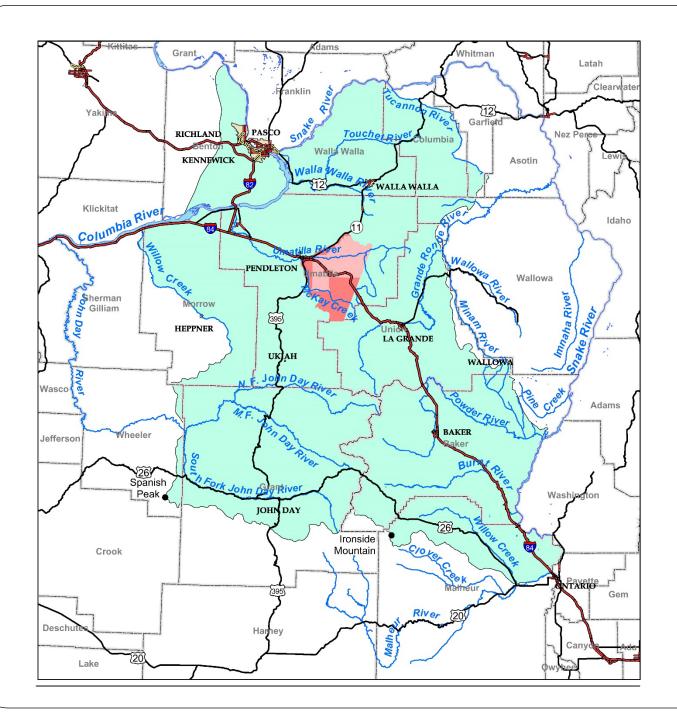
US Constitution and Indian Tribes: Special Status of Tribal Governments

- U.S. Constitution recognizes only 3 forms of government: federal government, states, and Indian tribes
- U.S. Constitution contains several references to Tribes, the most important 'Indian Commerce Clause' (Article 1, Section 8)
- Empowers Congress to regulate commerce and affairs in Indian Country
- Recognizes tribes as having sovereignty along with States
- 1830's U. S. Supreme Court ruled that Tribes did not lose status as sovereigns in entering Treaty-"Domestic Dependent Nations"

Umatilla Tribe

- Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla Tribes were brought together to negotiate a Treaty with the U.S. government in 1866
- Peace treaty, not a war treaty, intended to open land for non-Indian settlers
- 3 Tribes ceded 6.4 million acres
- Reserved 510,000 acres for Umatilla Reservation
- Actual surveyed Reservation totaled 245,000 acres
- Umatilla Reservation currently 172,000 acres (due to federal legislation in late 1800s)



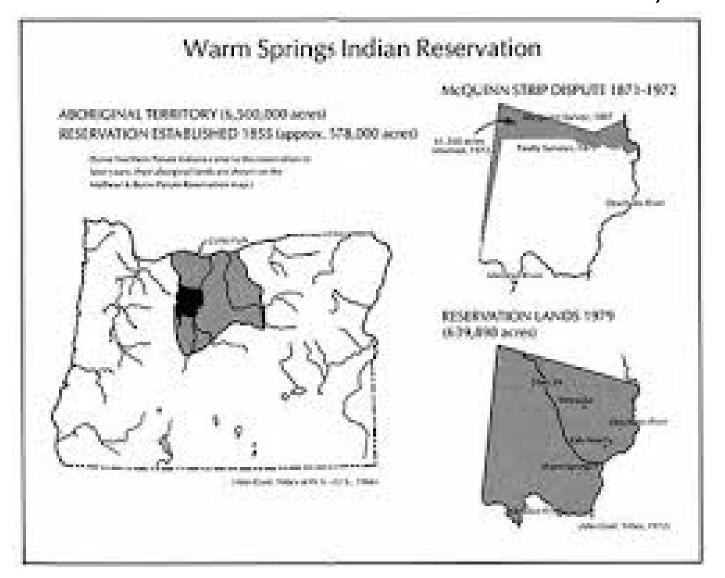


Umatilla, Walla Walla, & Cayuse Aboriginal Lands

Ceded Territory and Rights

- Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla Tribes gave up 6.4 million acres of homeland
- Rights resources still retained in ceded area (northeastern Oregon and southeastern Washington)
- Rights were reserved, NOT given to the Tribes
- The 1855 Treaty involved a commitment by the United States to establish the Umatilla Indian Reservation as a tribal homeland, to recognize the sovereignty of the Tribes over our Reservation and to reserve certain off-reservation rights to fish, hunt, gather foods/medicines, pasture livestock

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs



Coquille Tribe

- Coquilles' ancestral homelands included more than one million acres of lower Coos Bay and the Coquille River watershed
- Coquille had two treaties with the U.S. government in 1851 and 1855
- Ceded over 1 million acres of land in exchange for reservation land that never materialized because the treaties were never ratified by the U.S. Senate.

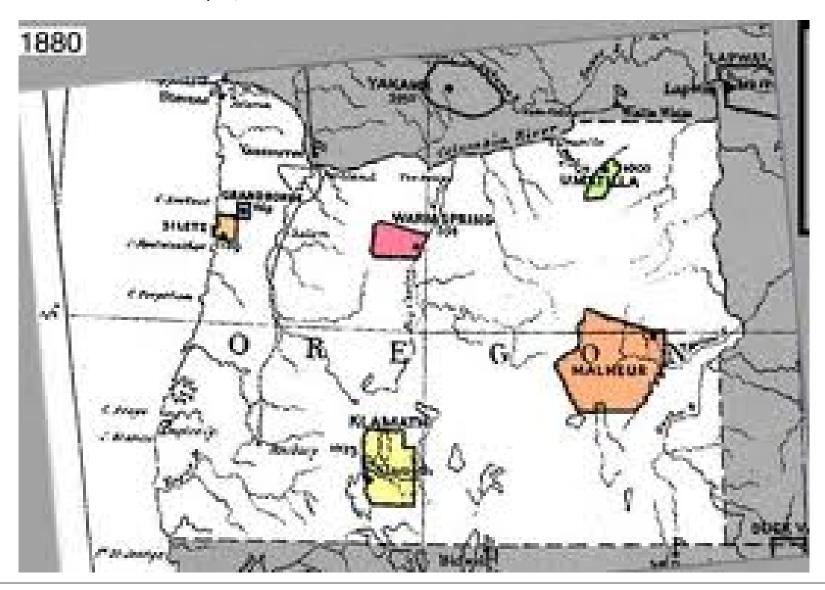
Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw

- In 1855 a treaty with U.S. government was drafted to allow for the peaceful acquisition and settlement of the Confederated Tribes ancestral lands. (1.6 M acres)
- The treaty provided for compensation to the Tribes in terms of food, clothing, employment, education, and health benefits.
- United States Senate did not ratify the Treaty. In 1856, the U.S.
 Army forcibly removed the tribal people to the new 18,000 acre
 Great Coast Reservation

Burns Paiute

- 1868 Burns Paiute signed a treaty guaranteeing them a reservation in their homeland
- The President signed into law the Malheur Reservation, taken from the larger area of Oregon's entire southeastern corner, which was the first set aside for that purpose.
- The reservation was 1,778,560 acres
- However, Congress never ratified this treaty

Tribes of Oregon -Reservations 1880's



Federal Termination Policy in the 1950s

- Attempt to sever federal trusteeship and support for tribal sovereignty - of the 109 tribes and bands terminated nationwide, 62 were located in Oregon.
- Several tribes began the process to restore their sovereign nations
- 1977 Confederated Tribes of Siletz was the second tribe in the nation to achieve restoration
- 1982 Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
- 1983 Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde1
- 1984 Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw
- 1986 Klamath Indian Tribes
- 1989 Coquille Tribe

Tribes who retained Federal Recognition

- Treaty of 1855 Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
- Treaty of 1855 Confederated Tribes of Umatilla
- 1972 Executive Order established Burns Paiute Tribe

Tribes of Oregon -Reservations Today



Eras in Indian Country

- Indian Reorganization Act 1934 restored to Indians the management of their assets (being mainly land) and included provisions intended to create a sound economic foundation
- Self Determination (1962 to present)
- Tribal leaders replacing federal bureaucracy
- PL 93-638 Indian Self Determination Act (contract federal and state programs)

1949 Constitution

- Created our modern form of government
- General Council voting membership age 18 and older
- Board of Trustees a 9 member governing body, elected by the General Council every two years



Participants in Tribal Government

- Tribal Citizens General Council
- Tribal Council
- Committees and Commissions
- Tribal Staff

Tribal Citizens Roles in Government

Elect

• Tribal Council/General Council

Participate

- In General Council meetings & provide guidance to Tribal Council
- In public forums

<u>Serve</u>

• On Commissions, Committees, Advisory, and Enterprise Boards

Communicate

• With Tribal Council members, Commission & Committee members, and Tribal staff on Community needs and concerns

Tribal Council Roles in Government

<u>Identify</u>

Community needs

<u>Legislate</u>

 Tribal policy through resolution (including strategic plans)

Establish

Priorities and goals (Implementation Plan)

Review and Approve

 Department / Program missions, goals, Annual Work Plans, and Budgets

Represent

 Tribal government and communicate Tribal policy

Monitor

• Tribal governance

Committee, Commission, Enterprise Boards Roles in Government

Report

To General Council, Tribal Council, and Tribal citizens

<u>Advise</u>

Tribal Council and staff in the development of policy

<u>Regulate</u>

By developing and enforcing policy and regulations

Oversee and Direct

 Tribal Enterprises by directing, reviewing, and approving operating plans, budgets, and monitoring financial and operational results

Staff Roles in Government

<u>Develop</u>

- Tribal strategic plans in support of the Tribal Council
- Annual action plans and budgets that will accomplish strategic plans, policies, and goals
- Enterprise business plans

<u>Implement</u>

- Execute plans through operations and monitor results
- Make adjustments to improve results

Report

 Progress on strategic and tactical levels to the Tribal Council, commissions, committees, boards, and Tribal citizens

Our Tribal Government Today

- Elected officials the Board of Trustees create policy
- Board appoints Tribal members to commissions and committees that monitor issues and make policy recommendations to the Board
- Staff implements policies
- \$245 million overall operating budget (includes tribal government and all enterprises)

Board of Trustees

- Governing body of the CTUIR
- Nine (9) members of the General Council
- Comprised of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, 4 at-large board members, and the Chair of the General Council
- Elected every two years

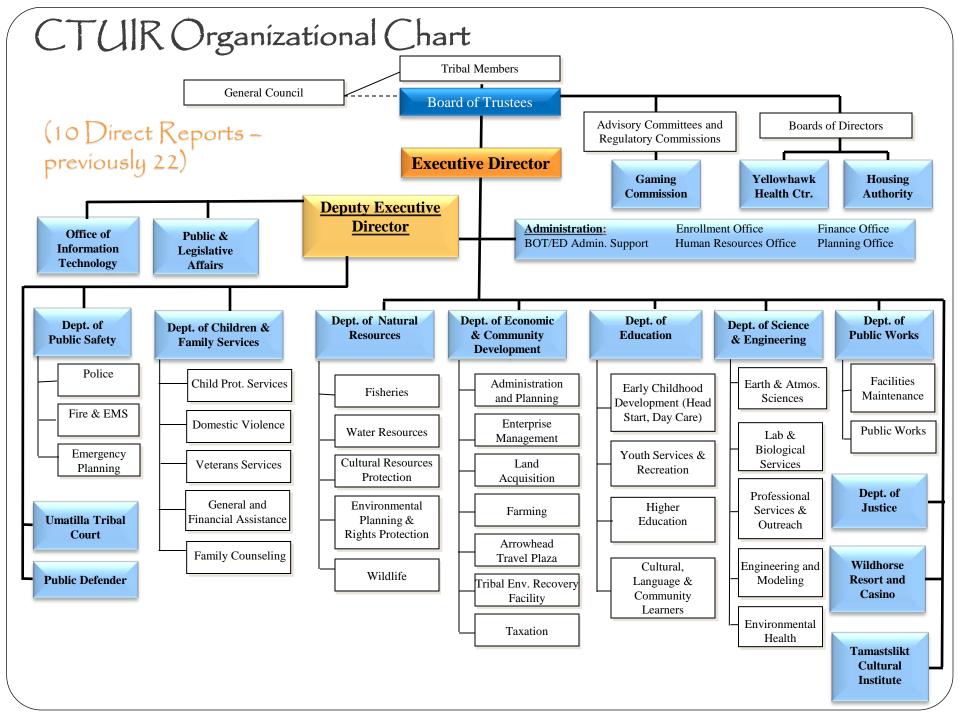


Commission and Committees

- Advise the BOT in recommending policies and procedures, identify needs and priorities
- Some exercise regulatory authority
- Coordinate and exchange information
- Nearly 20 committees and commissions
- Examples Water, Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife, Law and Order, Education, Cultural Resources, Gaming, Housing, Health, TERO, ECDC, CSC, etc.

Tribal Court

- Exercises criminal jurisdiction for all misdemeanor crimes committed by Indians
- Exercises exclusive jurisdiction over claims arising from CTUIR Statutes (zoning, enrollment, fish and wildlife, water codes, etc.)
- PL 280 Share jurisdiction with state courts re: contracts, tort liability, and domestic relations
- Chief Judge: William Johnson, CTUIR member, graduate of the University of Oregon law school and a member of the Oregon State Bar



Government To Government

- Emphasis on government-to-government relationships at all levels (federal, state, tribal, county, city)
- Actively involved in Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services
- Played active role in establishment of Governor's Executive Order (for Oregon agencies to work with Tribes) and subsequent legislation enacting the EO into law
- Active in US Congress,
 Oregon Legislature, Washington state Legislature



CONTACT US! WE'RE HERETO HELP

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Working with Tribal Governments

Three fundamental misconceptions:

- 1. Tribes are another racial minority, such as African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, and others;
- 2. Tribes are simply stakeholders, like an interest group or an environmental organization;
- 3. Indian Tribes are equal to a local governmental unit, like a city or county

Tribes are sovereign governments

Tribal - Federal Consultation

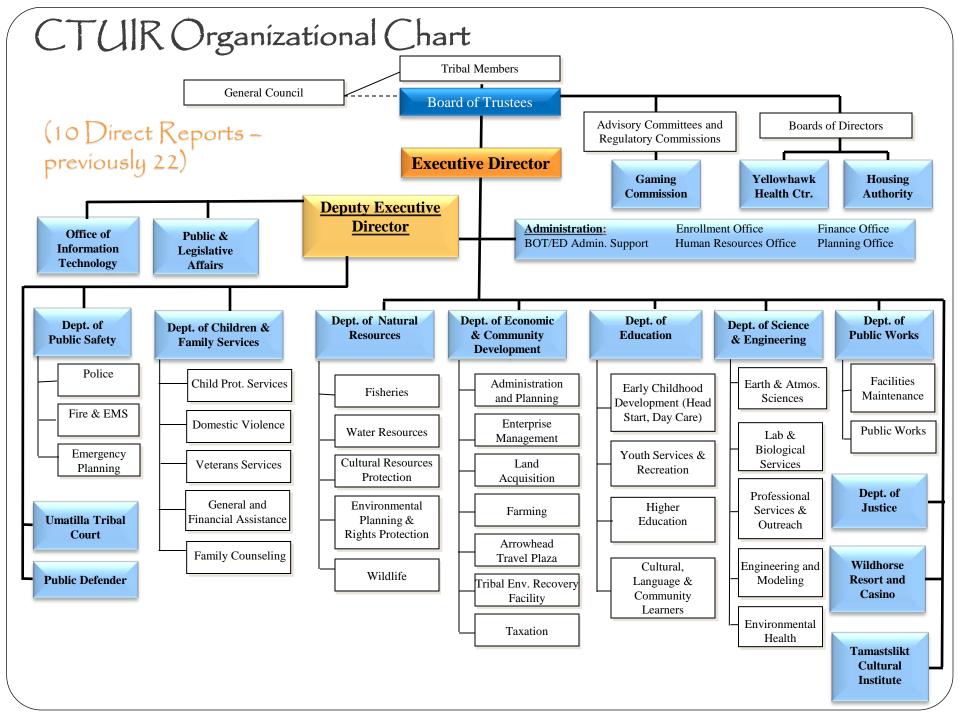
- Government-to-Government consultation occurs between federal agencies and elected tribal leaders
- The appropriate contact for Government-to-Government consultation is someone at approximately the same organizational level
- Typically, tribal leaders expect to meet with elected officials, including members of Congress and the President of the United States
- Many tribes have technical staff, legal counsel, advisors, and administrators employed to help run tribal affairs. These staff people usually do not speak on behalf of the tribe about tribal policies or other tribal governmental actions.

Building a Relationship with Tribes

- Important to tribes that tribal sovereignty and tribal officials be treated respectfully.
- Dealing with a senior tribal official should be seen as equivalent to dealing with a very senior U.S. official
- Due to the long and complex relationship between the Federal government and Indian tribes, tribes often mistrust the Federal government. Trust must be earned over time.

Building a Relationship with Tribes

- Federal staff can earn trust by educating themselves about how tribal governments operate, demonstrating respect for tribal values, having a proactive interest in tribal welfare, and following through on commitments.
- Be respectful, predictable, and credible
- Work to strengthen the capacity of the tribe to achieve its own goals
- Learn as much as possible about a tribal community before you begin to interact with it. The more you know about a culture, the less likely you are to create cross-cultural misunderstandings





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A Guide for DOE Employees: Working With Indian Tribal Nations, December 2000