

## 2023 Report of Government-to-Government Activities with Oregon's Nine Federally Recognized Tribes

In compliance with ORS 182.166 (3), the Oregon Business Development Department, dba Business Oregon, is submitting its annual report of Government-to-Government Activities with Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes. This report outlines activities from January 2023 through December 2023.

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Business Oregon participates in the Economic Development and Community Services Government to Government Cluster.

### Implementing Business Oregon's Strategic Plan

There are unique challenges and opportunities Native American entrepreneurs and tribal governments face. To ensure an inclusive and competitive economy, it is critical that economic development entities invest in communities and populations that encounter significant systemic barriers to economic prosperity. That is why Business Oregon created a strategic priority to "Advance Economic Opportunity for Underrepresented People" (*Business Oregon Strategic Plan 2018-22*). Business Oregon is currently developing its next strategic plan and has asked tribal representatives to participate on the advisory committee, in addition to soliciting tribal feedback in surveys and listening sessions. A representative from the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Economic Development Corporation is serving on the Advisory Committee.

In 2023, Business Oregon hosted an in-person virtual Economic Development and Community Services State - Tribal Cluster meeting at its Salem office. Throughout the year Business Oregon staff continued to be proactive with outreach efforts. Business Oregon sponsored a two-day event at The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) 2023 Winter Convention Marketplace. Business Oregon staff engaged and supported Tribal small businesses, micro entrepreneurs, local governments, Tribal governments, and communities. We look forward to expanded opportunities for in-person outreach and enhanced tribal nation engagement.

### Agency Programs that Affect Tribes

Business Oregon has myriad programs that affect Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes. Primarily these programs exist in two functional areas: 1) Economic Development Programs that address both business and community needs, and 2) Arts Commission/Cultural Trust Programs.

### Economic Development Programs

Business Oregon delivers its business development programs primarily through Regional Development Officers (RDOs) who work on a day-to-day basis with businesses and local governments, including tribal nations. Assistance and engagement with Oregon's federally recognized tribes this past year includes:

#### BURNS PAIUTE TRIBE:

- We conducted a listening session with tribal staff in preparation for formal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program Tribal Consultations on April 7, 2023.
- Our staff acknowledged the remarkable efforts of the Tribal Economic Development Department and its staff over the past year to establish the Tribe's first-ever Tribal Corporation, complete with the accompanying Tribal Business Code. In 2023, both the Code and Corporation received formal approval from the council. Next step involves securing funding for the Corporation and launching key enterprises and projects. As the Tribe is investigating ways to fund the Corporation, Business Oregon staff provided information on Opportunity Zones, Foreign Trade Zones, and utilizing a Business Oregon sub-consultant to vet any potential foreign investors.
- We engage monthly with the Burns Paiute Economic Development Department and staff. This monthly and often more frequent engagement with the Tribe allows Business Oregon to gain insight into the Tribe's interests and enables staff to provide valuable leads, programmatic information, establish connections, and engage sister state and federal partners effectively.

- We coordinated several meetings with the Tribe's Economic Development Department staff to discuss their current economic development projects. For example, upon learning of the Tribe's interest in food sovereignty and agricultural-related enterprises, staff arranged an on-site meeting between Tribal staff and the Oregon Department of Agriculture. This meeting explored various agricultural projects, including the cultivation of specialty crops, potential foreign direct investments in high-quality grass and hay crops, and cattle ranching. Furthermore, Business Oregon extended its support by providing a letter of endorsement for the Tribe's application to the Native American Agricultural Fund, expressing our support for the Burns Paiute Tribe's agricultural initiatives at Foley Field.
- When learning of low-pressure water issues and breaks in the water lines, our staff reached out to connect the Tribe to Business Oregon's Special Publics Works Fund program to help address the system issues and possibly serve as a match to Indian Health Service funding. Staff also discussed a potential feasibility study extending existing tribal water and wastewater infrastructure to tribal property that is directly adjacent to a newly planned housing development.
- The Regional Development Officer and Tribal staff have been collaborating for the last couple of years on different economic opportunities for the tribes that would provide income to the tribe, and employment opportunities for Tribal members. After working directly with a small but profitable re-packaging business in Eugene, Oregon, staff connected the owner of that business to the Tribe's Economic Development Director to discuss how to replicate that operation on the reservation. Economic Development staff are currently securing a contract to grow this new Tribal enterprise on the reservation starting in 2024.
- In learning that the Tribe had interest in the Community Heat Pump Deployment Program, our staff connected the new tribal housing manager with the Oregon Department of Energy's Community Navigator.
- The Tribe recently purchased the Oregon National Guard Armory in Burns, Oregon, and over the last year have completed interior upgrades including a new workout room and equipment, laundry facilities, restrooms, and kitchen. The Armory serves as a community wellness center and may someday also serve as the tribes Workforce Development Program. The age of the building opens up the opportunity for Hazardous Materials that need to be assessed and mitigated with future planned upgrades to the facility. Agency staff have connected Economic Development staff with the Business Oregon Brownfields Program and are currently working to find Technical Assistance funding for a hazardous materials survey and a cost estimate to mitigate those hazards as they begin construction on Armory.
- The Burns Paiute Tribe owns 100 acres of arable land that was previously cultivated with alfalfa. In recent years, the land was leased to a company for hemp cultivation, with processing occurring at a separate facility on the reservation. However, when the hemp market collapsed, the business departed, leaving the field fallow for a few years. Recently, the Tribal Economic Development Department received permission from the Tribal Council to revive the agricultural program, either with alfalfa or other profitable crops. Our Regional Development Officer provided a list of local contacts and agricultural experts to help the Tribe assess the condition of the field. The Tribe has located and engaged a local contractor to prepare the field for future cultivation by mowing, discing, and spraying. However, a challenge arose with irrigation. The previous lessee had used drip irrigation, which was costly to refurbish and required daily labor, making it inefficient in a drought-prone area with a depleting aquifer. In light of these concerns and the need to conserve water, local agricultural experts recommended switching to pivot irrigation, which is both labor-efficient and water-conserving and opens the possibility of diversifying crops. Business Oregon staff and tribal Economic Development staff continue to work together on potential funding for this project.
- When learning of the childcare funding from HB3005, our Regional Development Officer reached out the Tribe's economic development staff regarding early childcare infrastructure activities on the reservation. Creating a childcare program on the reservation has been a priority for tribe for some time, and together discussed capital assets and infrastructure investments, and the importance of providing stakeholder feedback in the first quarter of 2024 and having a plan to make application for funding in 2024.
- The High Desert Partnership (HDP) received a \$350,000 technical assistance grant funding from Business Oregon's Rural Opportunity Initiative to support underrepresented business responding to the impacts of COVID-19. HDP is the lead applicant but named partners in the project include Launch Pad Baker, Northeast Oregon Economic Development District (NEOEDD), Euvalcree, and the Burns Paiute Tribe. Collectively, the group is enhancing technology access and proficiency; access to capital; responding to specific agricultural needs, compliance and adaptation; and resource navigation.
- In 2023, our staff met face-to-face with the Burns Paiute Tribe Economic Development Director and staff twelve times.

#### **Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw**

- Our staff met with Chief Doc Slyter to tour parts of the reservation and facilities for future broadband infrastructure development on March 27, 2023.
- We held a listening session with tribal staff in preparation of BEAD Formal Tribal Consultations on March 31, 2023.

#### **CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF WARM SPRINGS (CTWS):**

- Business Oregon Project Managers continued efforts to administer \$7.8M in funds awarded to Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (CTWS) through the Oregon state legislature for water/wastewater infrastructure projects, including improvements to the Dry Creek Water Treatment Plant, Shitike Creek Water/Sewer Crossing, Dry Creek Water System

Metering, Simnasho, Schoolie, Sidewalter and Le- Claire Water System Improvements, Simnashio Wastewater System Upgrade, etc.

- We continue to work with the CTWS tribe on their submitted Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund (SDWRLF) Letter of Interest (LOI) to help fund critical improvements to the existing water treatment plant until a new one can be built. This Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funded project was ranked #1 in the state by Oregon Health Authority this year. Our staff have coordinated multiple meetings with the Tribe, their legal representative, and consultant to understand their financial need under the SDWRLF program. Meetings included additional Business Oregon staff as well as HIS, EPA, and DEQ representatives. With the understanding that funding for the new plant is secured, the tribe plans to use \$5M from Congress toward the existing plant so reduced the amount needed from Business Oregon to \$1.25M half of which will be loan.
- We conducted a site visit of the CTWS Old Commissary Building with Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC) and Warm Springs Community Action Team. The building is now moved to its new location, with a new water line, parking lot is graded with a gravel surface on the parking lot. This completes the work provided by the \$250,000 Regional Infrastructure Fund grant.
- Warm Springs Community Action Team (WSCAT) was awarded \$200,000 from the new Economic Equity Investment Program (EEIP) from Business Oregon's Innovation and Entrepreneurship division intended to close long standing economic inequities. WSCAT funds will support up to 800 members of the Warm Springs Reservation with business coaching and specialized workforce training focused on hospitality, food preparation, retail and the arts, and financial skills and education.
- We coordinated a meeting with Warm Springs Ventures Jim Souers and Warm Springs Community Action Team Executive Director Chris Watson and EDCO's Executive Director Jon Stark to connect CTWS to EDCO's regional economic development efforts and initiatives.
- Facilitated discussions with WSCAT Executive Director Chris Watson and staff at the Innovation Hub Summit hosted by OSU-Cascades. Staff helped connect CTWS to stakeholders in the region to make sure they are invited to participate in economic development initiatives early and often. We attended meeting with COIC's Scott Aycock and WS Ventures Jim Souers in preparation for the submittal of the region's Innovation Hub application.
- We attended panel discussion with Tribe Chairman Smith and WSCAT Executive Director Chris Watson and staff at the Built Fest/Cultivate Bend event during High Desert Innovation Week. Chairman Smith discussed the WSCAT's economic development initiatives including the small business programs in development through funding from Business Oregon.
- Met with Bill Flood of the CTWS Museum. Discussed business model, connected him to partners and funding resources (including philanthropic) as well as programs to assist.
- Our Business Incentive Coordinator improved information at webpage for interested parties to reach local zone manager, after checking with tribal contacts, and advised zone manager on relevant property tax issues with business development.

#### **Coquille Indian Tribe**

- We conducted a listening session with tribal staff in preparation for formal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program Tribal Consultations on April 7, 2023.
- We conducted regular check-ins between Business Oregon staff and Tribal 1 (Coquille Tribe's economic development department), most often with Ray Doering, Director of Public Affairs and Compliance as well as Judy Farm, Chief Executive Officer.
- Agency staff provided guidance for different development projects, including a three parcel property in development north of the Mill Casino. Parcel #1 will be business offices, Parcel #2 will be rented to Southport Lumber and Swanson Group to begin shipping out energy pellets to Japan, Parcel #3 will be retail establishments and restaurants.
- Business Oregon staff drafted a letter of support for Tribal 1's wharf upgrade project which takes place alongside Parcel #2 of the property north of the Mill Casino. Letter was sent to the U.S. Department of Transportation with the application. The tribe is being awarded \$7,729,650 in grant funds by the U.S. DOT out of the 2023 Port Infrastructure Development Program. This is the largest grant award the Tribe has ever received. The money will be utilized for dock improvements, new power sources for visiting vessels, and a preliminary plan for a dock extension.

#### **KLAMATH TRIBES:**

- We conducted a joint outreach call with Governor's Regional Solutions Coordinator with the Klamath Tribes Chair, Clayton Dumont, and Executive Director, George Lopez. This call was a follow-up to a call between the Tribe and Governor Tina Kotek.
- Business Oregon is coordinating with the Klamath Tribes on a business recruitment project to develop housing for tribal elders who are in danger of becoming homeless. An outcome of engagement was the Governor's Regional Coordinator was able to report that the State of Oregon will be able to offer an extension to a grant deadline for \$1 million, thus allowing the Tribe to proceed in a more thoughtful and deliberate manner.
- Toured the Ambodat Department where the Klamath Tribe operates a fish hatchery and rearing ponds for the C'waam and Koptu focused on aquatic resource management in the Upper Klamath Basin.

- We are working with the Klamath Tribes to help address ground water in the upper Klamath Basin. The water quantity in many springs is diminishing, and the Klamath Marsh is going dry in late summer.
- We discussed the Barnes Ranch and Agency restoration, a potential project to return 14,000 acres of land into marsh and aquatic habitat. This project will reduce the phosphorus levels in Klamath Lake and improve water quality.
- Agency staff met with Tribal Health & Family Services to discuss the completion of the new Tribal Health Center in Klamath Falls. Follow up includes inviting Business Oregon's Tribal Liaison to tour facility in early 2024.
- We discussed economic development and redevelopment of an industrial site owned by the Klamath Tribes.
- We partnered with Klamath County Economic Development Association on a proposal to implement a project with the goal of improving the water quality in the southern portion of Klamath Lake and Lake Ewauna. Klamath Tribes Chair, Clayton Dumont, attended the meeting and indicated the Tribe would support improving water quality, if this project proves feasible. The Tribe can potentially assist by monitoring water quality.

#### **Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians**

- We conducted a listening session with tribal staff in preparation for formal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program Tribal Consultations on October 20, 2023.
- We held regular check-ins between Business Oregon staff and Umpqua Indian Development Corporation (Cow Creek Tribe's economic development department), most often with Travis Hill, Chief Operating Officer. The Tribe continues to partner well with the City of Canyonville on project development on a recurring basis as well as the Umpqua Economic Development District. The Tribe also has a strong emphasis on workforce development in the area.

#### **CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION (CTUIR):**

- We conducted a listening session with tribal staff in preparation for formal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program Tribal Consultations on October 12, 2023.
- Agency staff is working a business recruitment project (~\$30 million flour mill) that looks likely to land at Coyote Business Park South. If successful, this project would be the first private investment in the industrially zoned part of the park, and it is hoped that it will demonstrate the viability of large industrial projects on Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation lands for other potential developers. Should the parties agree to terms, staff will further support the project with applicable Business Oregon programs.
- We met with CTUIR public works director to discuss a planned \$36 million wastewater project. The project would develop a wastewater treatment system to serve the reservation and would eliminate CTUIR's reliance on the City of Pendleton for wastewater treatment services. Treated wastewater would be used to irrigate CTUIR's golf course and would reduce demand on wells by 280–300-acre feet per year. CTUIR allocated \$15 million to the project, and they intend to pursue large grants from IHS, OWRD, and possibly others. Once the funding gap is better understood and within range of Business Oregon programs, staff will work with CTUIR to access programs for which they are eligible.
- Business Oregon sponsored the Northwest Native Economic Summit, hosted by CTUIR at Wildhorse Resort & Casino October 3 – 6, 2023.
- Joined Business Oregon's Innovation and Entrepreneurship team for meeting at Nixyaawii Community Financial Services to learn about a new business incubator project. Staff is working with NCFS staff to explore further ways Business Oregon may support this project.
- Staff coordinated an introductory meeting of new Business Oregon recruitment and industrial lands staff with CTUIR economic development staff, which included a tour of CTUIR industrial lands.
- Met with new CTUIR economic development staff to provide an overview of Business Oregon programs and incentives.
- Regularly engage with Columbia Development Authority, for which CTUIR is one of five stakeholders.
- Business Incentive Coordinator conferred during the year with CTUIR Tax Administrator on legislation and matters related to potential business development inside enterprise zone.

#### **CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF GRAND RONDE COMMUNITY:**

- We conducted a listening session with tribal staff in preparation for formal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program Tribal Consultations on April 7, 2023.
- We conducted another listening session with tribal staff in preparation for formal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program Tribal Consultations on October 20, 2023.
- Coordinated a virtual meeting between Grande Ronde Tribal Council and Business Oregon Director Cheang to discuss various development projects and available Business Oregon programming.
- Agency staff attended a "legislative gathering" organized by Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments and hosted by Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde at the Spirit Mountain Casino. This gathering was well-attended by Oregon State Senators and Representatives as well as Mayors and City Council members from across Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties; many attendees left feeling a stronger connection to their elected representatives and to the Tribe. Following this meeting, Tribal Chairwoman Lisa Leno agreed to Chair the Council of Governments Board of Directors for one year.
- Hampton Lumber is rebuilding its sawmill near Willamina, in the service territory of the fire district operated by Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde. Hampton is utilizing Business Oregon's Strategic Investment Program,

which provides Counties the ability to offer property tax breaks for certain very large investments. Yamhill County chose to approve a SIP for Hampton's project but required the company pay CTGR \$200,000 to create, equip, train, and maintain a ropes team for emergency rescues involving high-rise buildings and other hard-to-access locations. SIP is a locally managed program and Business Oregon did not tell the County how to negotiate the tax break or suggest what fees Hampton should pay to get the abatement, but the agency did provide the County technical assistance about what is and is not allowable under program rules.

- At request of DEQ, Business Oregon staff introduced DEQ Regional Solutions Staff to CTRG's Chief of Staff to discuss wastewater infrastructure planning.
- Staff invited CTGR to attend the Oregon Infrastructure Summit.
- Staff invited CTGR to attend a listening session for Business Oregon's strategic plan revision.
- Staff invited CTGR to attend a listening session hosted by the Oregon Broadband Office; apprised CTGR of opportunities to comment on map development.
- Staff apprised CTGR of various funding opportunities from COVID-related small business grants to SRF-funded industrial lands technical assistance to CARES-Act CDBG (which is the only State CDBG available to Tribes).

#### **Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians**

- We conducted a listening session with tribal staff in preparation for formal Broadband Equity Access and Deployment program Tribal Consultations on August 2, 2023.

#### **OTHER PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

#### **Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas Counties**

- Participated in Regional Solutions Team discussions about Willamette Falls interpretive/historical access project.

#### **Hood River, Wasco, and Deschutes**

- Agency staff met with Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission Salmon Marketing Staff to discuss economic development issues and opportunities for tribal people along the Columbia. Conversations included future broadband funding from Business Oregon and entrepreneurship development.
- We developed and coordinated a first-of-its-kind, 2-hour Tribal Economic Development Training as part of the Northwest Economic Development Course in Olympia, Washington. The course, in its 31<sup>st</sup> year, brings together sixty economic developers from Washington and Oregon over four days to discuss economic development topics. The training included speakers from multiple recognized and unrecognized Northwest tribes and was facilitated by Washington Department of Commerce's Tribal Liaison. Business Oregon also provided scholarships to multiple tribal economic development representatives.

#### **Lane, Linn, and Benton Counties**

- Staff attended the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians NW Native Economic Summit and Native American Fashion Show in Pendleton, Oregon. Staff supported multiple conference panels in support of access to capital for Tribal businesses and a panel representing the State of Oregon exploring Government to Government engagement.
- Facilitated meetings with Federal and local Tribal Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) and Business Oregon's finance team to model joint financing options around the federally funded State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI). Engagement led to introductions between the ATNI economic development staff and the Small Business Development Center Network to help Tribal businesses with resources
- Helping research future collaborations between the ATNI conference and Business Oregon Arts and Culture/ Cultural Trust. Business Oregon helped fund an African American Fashion Show at the Portland Art Museum and it would seem this tool could be used by the Tribes in Oregon as well.

#### **Tax Abatement and Incentives:**

- Provided news and information regarding Tribal enterprise zones and the opportunity for designation, the Business Incentives Coordinator regularly attended economic development cluster meetings and alerted tribal representatives about relevant workshop trainings throughout the year.
- Business Incentives Coordinator updated administrative rule for tribal tax credit with correct web page for business forms.
- Business Incentives Coordinator made tribal tax credit a more prominent feature of online profiles for CTUIR and Warm Springs enterprise zones.

#### **US EDA Grant: Tribal Collaboration**

- Business Oregon is in contract negotiation with Public Solutions Northwest, to provide technical assistance and administrative services to increase sovereign capacity to Oregon's nine Federally Recognized Tribes. The contract's scope of work was divided into two phases, to accommodate relationship protocol, information gathering, strategy development, and related logistics. This work is authorized under the agency's US EDA Statewide Planning Grant

award, which aims to further tribal interests, needs, and priorities relating back to [Economic Recovery Plan](#) recommendations.

#### **Economic Equity Investment Program (EEIP) Tribal projects and investments**

- NAYA (\$900,000) – This project will support home ownership through creating a land trust model, down payment assistance, foreclosure prevention, and home repair assistance.
- Nixyaawii Community Financial Services (\$400,000) – This program will provide Native and rural businesses with direct grants, matching federal (SSBCI) forgivable loans, and will purchase a food truck to lease to clients. They will also provide entrepreneurship training.
- NW Native Chamber (formerly ONAC) (\$456,464) – NWNC is using EEIP funds to launch an ‘Equity Investment Entrepreneur’ pilot program that will support a cohort of 5-7 Native entrepreneurs / small businesses from across Oregon for 12-18 months. Its goal is to identify, support, and facilitate strategic high value capital purchases to increase the businesses capacity, market share, growth, and employment. EEIP staff attended community listening sessions to help refine development of the pilot.
- Warm Springs Community Action Team (WSCAT) (\$200,000) – EEIP funding will expand economic equity for 800+ members of the Warm Springs Reservation through coaching, workforce training, business capacity building, financial skills, IDA matched savings, and tax prep.

#### **Rural Opportunity Initiative (ROI) Tribal projects and investments**

- High Desert Partnership (\$100,000) – HDP continued to refine its “Idea to Ownership” pipeline in Harney Co, working in tandem with The Burns Paiute Tribe to incorporate culturally specific training and curriculum while also supporting Tribal youth through career exposure camps.

**2023 Government to Government TA Program** – Business Oregon’s Technical Assistance Program awarded grants to organizations to provide support to historically underrepresented and under-resourced small businesses.

Projects funded during the 2021-23 biennium:

- The High Desert Partnership (HDP) received \$750,000 to support underrepresented businesses in Eastern Oregon. Partners in the project include Launch Pad Baker, Northeast Oregon Economic Development District (NEOEDD), Euvalcree and the Burns Paiute Tribe. Together, the group provides customized technical assistance to small businesses in 5 counties.
- NAYA received \$300,000 to expand its Native Business Accelerator, microenterprise program, and vendor-focused TA program to provide comprehensive wrap-around support to Native businesses in the metro area.
- The Oregon Native American Chamber - ONAC- received \$500,000 to partner with Nixyaawii Community Financial Services to provide culturally specific legal, logistics and business planning, marketing, and human resource services to Native businesses throughout OR in the areas of tourism, marketing, small-scale agriculture, technology, energy, construction, and food and retail-based businesses.

Projects awarded funding for the 2023-25 biennium:

- High Desert Partnership was awarded \$350,000 to support the “5 County Technical Assistance” project to provide one-on-one TA, resource navigators, and business training to underfunded rural entrepreneurs and small business owners across Eastern Oregon. Partners include the Burns Paiute Tribe, Northeast Oregon Economic Development District, EUVALCREE, Oregon Frontier Chamber of Commerce, and Launch Pad Baker.
- NAYA was awarded \$220,000 to support the Indigenous Business Equity Project, which provides Native entrepreneurs in the Portland metro area with access to experienced business mentors, intensive TA, partner resources, capital, and retail and online sales opportunities through the Native Business Accelerator and the Native Marketplace and Retail program.
- Nixyaawii Community Financial Services - NCFS was awarded \$120,000 to support staff capacity to provide business TA, access to capital, financing, and credit readiness to Native-owned small businesses on the Umatilla Reservation through one-on-one counseling, workshops and training, and exposure to new markets.
- Northwest Native Chambe (formerly ONAC) was awarded \$300,000 to support the Native Technical Assistance Initiative, which assists Native American small business owners in Oregon through one-on-one TA, individualized support from trained facilitators and experts, and the Native Enterprise Program.
- Warm Springs Community Action Team (WSCAT) was awarded \$220,000 to support staff capacity to provide small business coaching, business classes and workshops, business plan development, Individual Development Accounts (IDAs), and accounting assistance to aspiring and existing business owners on the Warm Springs Reservation.

#### **Telecommunications**

- On March 23, 2023 the first NTIA Tribal Broadband Summit took place in Chandler, Arizona. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) hosted the first in-person meeting of the Tribal

Broadband Leaders Network in conjunction with the National Tribal Telecommunications Association. This meeting offered critical assistance to Tribes for applying to NTIA's grant programs, share challenges and best practices, and feature some of the high performing broadband projects in Indian country. This summit allowed for Tribal leaders to connect with federal program officers at NTIA to ensure broadband projects succeed in connecting Internet for All. Krystal Stone attended on behalf of the Oregon Broadband Office and was 1 of only 5 state entities represented at this conference with over 117 tribes registered.

- On April 5, 2023 the Native American Advisory Council held a meeting attended by Krystal Stone from Busienss Oregon that works on the Oregon Broadband Office team, and gave a broadband update presentation. The NAAC consists of Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes and the president of the UO. The NAAC helps facilitate consultation and healthy government-to-president relations. We meet twice annually; in the fall at the UO and in the spring at a tribal reservation.
- In March Business Oregon facilitated sending letters from Governor Kotek to all nine tribal administration offices requesting Formal Tribal Consultations for BEAD funding. A second letter was certified-mailed in October to all tribal administration offices.

### **Oregon Arts Commission & Oregon Cultural Trust Programs**

The Arts Commission (OAC) and the Oregon Cultural Trust (OCT) advocate for arts, heritage and humanities as cornerstones of community and civic life; each agency focuses on providing Oregonians with wide access to arts (OAC) and culture (OCT). This includes offering high quality cultural programs across the state, providing better access to quality arts and culture learning opportunities, preserving historic assets and heritage traditions, and assisting Oregon's artists and culture keepers in developing their skills and careers.

#### **Oregon Cultural Trust**

##### FY24 Cultural Coalition Grant Awards: \$59,979

Oregon's 45 county and tribal Cultural Coalitions are funded directly by the Trust and are unique to the state. Led by dedicated volunteers, each coalition prioritizes community cultural goals and annually distributes seed grants that address the needs of each county. Among these are Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes, whose cultural contributions are integral to the region's cultural vitality. Direct, annual grant funds to tribal cultural coalitions to redistribute in accordance with their community cultural plan.

1. Burns Paiute Tribe: \$6,345
2. Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw: \$6,437
3. Coquille Indian Tribe: \$6,423
4. Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians: \$6,504
5. Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde: \$7,017
6. Klamath Tribe: \$6,902
7. Confederated Tribes of Siletz: \$6,873
8. Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation: \$6,628
9. Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs: \$6,850

##### FY23 Cultural Development Grants

Grants are awarded in four categories and are intended to fund arts, heritage, history, preservation and humanities programs. Cultural Development Grants are for project activities that: protect and stabilize Oregon's cultural resources; expand public awareness of, access to, and participation in quality cultural experiences in Oregon; ensure that Oregon cultural resources are strong and dynamic contributors to Oregon's communities and quality of life; and build an understanding of the value and impact of culture to Oregonians. Competitive grant awards for projects that serve tribal communities/audiences include:

1. The Museum at Warm Springs, Warm Springs: \$36,400  
To support renewal of The Museum at Warm Springs heating, ventilation & air-conditioning (HVAC) system. This is the Museum's most immediate funding priority; the HVAC must be completely renewed before winter. Total cost of renewal is \$611,000; other funds raised include grants from the U.S. Congress/National Park Service, Ford Family Foundation and The Roundhouse Foundation.
2. Warm Springs Community Action Team, Warm Springs: \$32,673  
To preserve the rite of passage ceremony of the Name Giving Ceremony where Native youth receive their Indian Name. It will help families prepare for the giveaway part of the ceremony by hosting craft nights, food gathering trips and first-food processing classes. It will also provide a matching savings program to purchase other giveaway items. A local filmmaker will teach film and video production skills to create a movie to document and guide other families through this process.
3. Nuu-da' Mv-ne', Eugene: \$6,887

To support the development and publication of 10 short biographies of significant Dee-ni' language and culture bearers from the Siletz and Tolowa Dee-ni' communities. A professional writer will be hired from the Siletz community to develop biographies of Dee-ni' language speakers in consultation with their families.

4. Southern Oregon University Foundation/ Schneider Museum of Art, Ashland: \$29,116

To support All My Relations, a program providing access for Native American families to Indigenous cultural arts, heritage and history through bi-weekly virtual Longhouse nights and targeted in-person workshops that are planned and facilitated by Native American instructors and artists. Activities and discussions feature Native artists, entrepreneurs and culture bearers.

#### Celebrate Oregon License Plate

To commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the creation of the Trust, staff worked closely with cultural advisors and artists to create a new plate design. Artists and designers were nominated by a diverse group of 33 individuals representing Oregon's artistic and design community. Each nominator was invited to forward the creative brief to artists or designers they felt might be interested. A total of 36 artists submitted statements of interest and work samples. A diverse jury evaluated the submissions and recommended 20 artists be invited to submit preliminary concepts in exchange for a \$250 honorarium. An expanded jury evaluated the concepts based on criteria derived from the creative brief and unanimously recommended Liza Burns' design to the Cultural Trust Board of Directors, which unanimously approved it in October. Burns met with several content experts, identified through the Governor's Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, to finalize symbols included in the design.

Subject matter experts representing Oregon's indigenous peoples provided culturally significant symbols and narrative content for representation in the new artwork. These experts included:

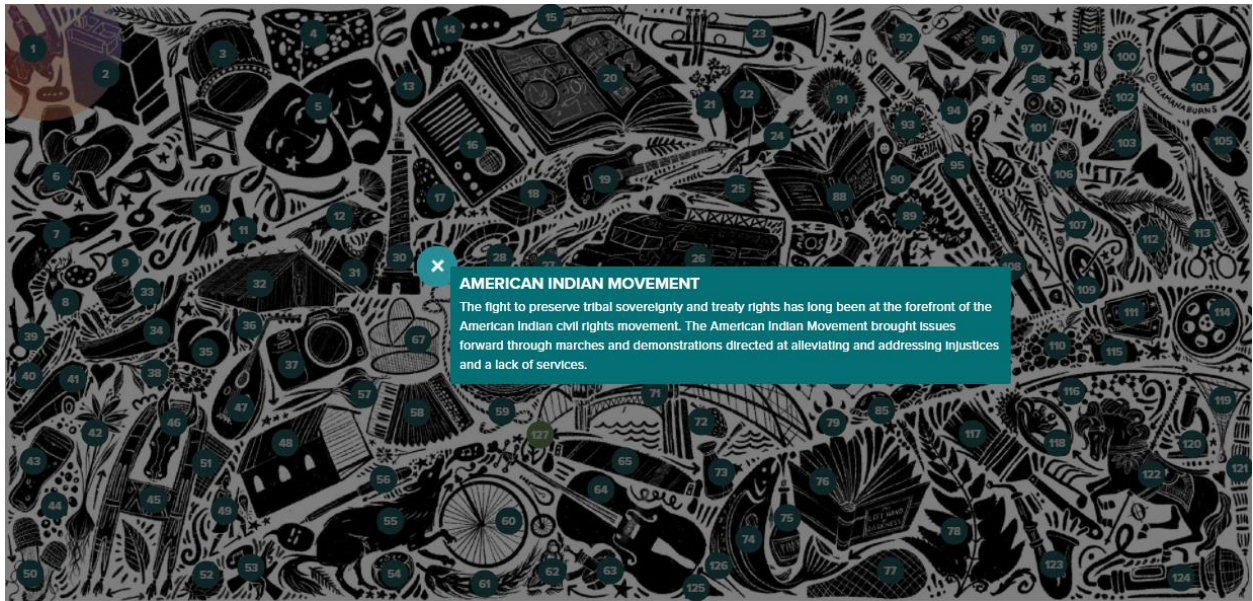
1. Chuck Sams, Deputy Director, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
2. David Harrelson, Department Manager, Cultural Resources Department, Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde

Those symbols of cultural significance to Oregon's indigenous peoples in the new design include but are not limited to:

- Chinook Plankhouse
- Celilo Falls Fishing Net
- Spilyay/Cayote
- Western-style canoe
- American Indian Movement symbol
- Eagle Feather
- Native American Plateau Women's Basket Hat
- Poetry/Elizabeth Woody (Oregon's first Native American Poet Laureate)
- Cayuse Pony
- Dentalium Shell Belt
- Beaver Tail
- Chinook Salmon
- Nez Perce Horse Collar
- Camas Flower
- Chokecherries
- Cougar

The Oregon Cultural Trust acknowledges the many tribes and bands who call Oregon their ancestral territory and honors the ongoing relationship between the land, plants, animals and people indigenous to this place we now call Oregon. We recognize the continued sovereignty of the nine federally recognized tribes who have ties to this place and thank them for continuing to teach us how we might all be here together.





**AMERICAN INDIAN MOVEMENT**

The fight to preserve tribal sovereignty and treaty rights has long been at the forefront of the American Indian civil rights movement. The American Indian Movement brought issues forward through marches and demonstrations directed at alleviating and addressing injustices and a lack of services.