

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Government



Vocabulary

Constitution: A plan which is developed and written for a government that represents the rights and responsibilities of the government to the people

Sovereignty: the act of having independent power, political, social and economic, or being free

Democratic Government (Democracy): Democracy is a form of government that allows the people to choose leadership. The primary goal is to govern through fair representation and prevent abuses of power.

Tribal Council: At Grand Ronde a nine member governing and decision making body elected by the Tribal membership, the General Council, responsible for upholding the tribal constitution. Tribal Council members serve three year terms. They may choose to run for re-election at the end of each three year term. The Tribal Council has a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

General Council: Enrolled members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon who are eighteen (18) years of age or older

After Restoration

After the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde was restored on **November 22, 1983** they had to decide as a people how they were going to operate (or run) their Tribe.

They wanted to make sure they, as a people, had control over their own property, people, and rights.

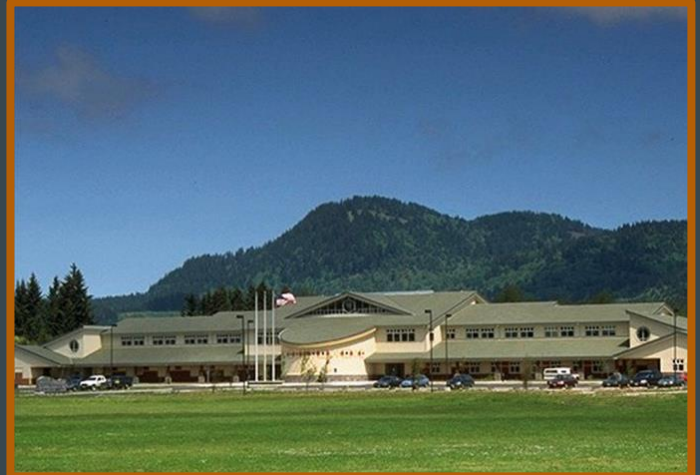


Grand Ronde Tribal members paddling Grand Ronde's canoe, Stank'iya

Sovereign Nation

Sovereign Nations have the right to:

- Form their own government
- Determine membership or citizenship
- Make and enforce laws
- Regulate trade within borders
- Govern the conduct of members and non-members on tribal lands
- Form alliances with other nations



Form their Own Government

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde has a democratic government - the General Council votes for who will be on Tribal Council

Tribal Council

- Gives power to multiple people, not just one person
- These are people elected by the Tribal General Council to govern the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.
- A total of 9 members are on Tribal Council.
- Elections are held each year and members of Tribal Council hold 3 year terms.
- Tribal Council is responsible for upholding the Grand Ronde



First Post Recreation Tribal Council: Kathryn Harrison, Dean Mercier, Candy Robertson, Frank Harrison, Daryl Mercier, Mark Mercier, Russ Leno, Merle Leno, & Henry Petite

Determine Membership or Citizenship

Native Americans are U.S. citizens and are entitled to the same legal rights and protections under the U.S. Federal Constitution that all other U.S. citizens enjoy but Native Americans may also be members of self-governing tribes and also have legal rights and protections under the Tribal Government Constitution.

Membership Requirements for CTGR:

- Person cannot be enrolled in another recognized tribe, band or community
- Person's name appears on the official tribal membership roll prepared under the Grand Ronde Restoration Act or is a descent from any person who was named on this roll
- Person possess one-sixteenth (1 / 16) or more degree Indian blood quantum of The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

SEC. 7. (a) MEMBERSHIP ROLL ESTABLISHED AND OPENED.—The membership roll of the tribe is established and open. 25 USC 713e

(b) CRITERIA GOVERNING ELIGIBILITY.—(1) Until the first election of the tribal governing body is held pursuant to section 6(d), any living individual may be enrolled on the membership roll of the tribe if—

(A) that individual's name was listed on the final membership roll of the tribe published on April 6, 1956, in volume 20, number 101, Federal Register, pages 3636 through 3642;

20 FR 3636-3642.

(B) that individual was entitled to be on the membership roll of the tribe on August 13, 1954, but was not listed; or

(C) that individual is a descendant of an individual, living or dead, described in subparagraph (A) or (B) and possesses at least one-fourth degree of blood of members of the tribe, living or dead, or individuals who are or would have been eligible to be members under this paragraph.

(2) After the first election of the tribal governing body is held pursuant to section 6(d), the provisions of the constitution and bylaws adopted in accordance with section 6(a) shall govern membership in the tribe.

(c) PROCEDURES FOR VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—(1) Before the election of the members of the Interim Council is held pursuant to section 5(b), verification of (A) descendency, for purposes of enroll-

Make and Enforce Laws

Writing a Constitution: A written set of guidelines for a government

May include:

- Laws
- Rules
- Elections
- Roles & Responsibilities of elected officials

Tribal Court:

- Includes a Chief Judge
- Limited Power: no criminal hearings

Tribal Police:

“The mission of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Police Department is to uphold the constitutional sovereignty and customs of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde; to protect life and property, and to promote and preserve peace within the Grand Ronde Community.”



The Tribe has its own police officers and tribal court system.



Elected by the membership and governs & leadership to the Tribe.



Programs include Education, Health, Housing, and many others.

The Tribe has several different ways to fund its governmental functions (timber sales and casino revenue)





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