



COQUILLE INDIAN TRIBE

3050 Fremont Street North Bend, OR 97459
Phone: (541) 756-0904 Fax: (541) 756-0847
www.coquilletribe.org

March 15, 2012

Dear Candidate,

On behalf of the Coquille Indian Tribe and its nearly 1,000 members I want to thank you for choosing to run for public office. We appreciate your commitment to public service.

Attached, please find a candidate questionnaire that my Tribe has prepared to help inform our Tribe and our Tribal members of your positions on key issues.

Please type in your responses and e-mail the completed document to Kay Collins at kaycollins@coquilletribe.org no later than April 15, 2012.

Thank you once again for stepping up to serve the public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edward L. Metcalf".

Edward L. Metcalf, Chairperson
Coquille Indian Tribe

Attachment

LG:110.2071

Candidate Questionnaire.doc
36 KB

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Coquille Candidate Questionnaire

From : Kay Collins <kaycollins@coquilletribe.org>
Subject : Coquille Candidate Questionnaire
To : Kay Collins <kaycollins@coquilletribe.org>, Tara Bowen <tribalcouncil@coquilletribe.org>
Reply To : Kay Collins <kaycollins@coquilletribe.org>

Fri, Mar 16, 2012 01:22 PM

 1 attachment

Coquille Indian Tribe
Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name: _____

1. How do you view the role of Indian tribes within the State of Oregon and specifically within your district? (Please fill in answers here.)
2. Please describe your history working on issues of interest to Native Americans and Indian tribes.
3. If forced to make budget cuts, what programs would you try to protect? (How do we express our interest?)
4. For many years, Coos County and the Coquille Indian Tribe have worked to develop a cooperative approach (see www.wagonroad.org) to the management of the federal Coos Bay Wagon Road lands. Our proposal would generate and sustain thousands of jobs and make Coos County self-sufficient from federal timber "safety net" payments. Do you support enactment of this proposal by the U.S. Congress? Please explain the reasons for your answer.
5. What specific changes in law would you propose to improve relations and encourage partnerships between Indian tribes and the State?
6. What is your position on Indian Gaming and its future in Oregon? Do you support the right of Oregon's Tribe to offer gaming?
7. What changes, if any, would you make to the Federal Endangered Species Act to make it more effective in recovering species and minimizing its impact to rural economies?
8. Oregon offers excise tax exemptions for limited quantities of items (fuel, tobacco products, alcohol) purchased in other states. What is your position on extending these exemptions to Oregon Indian tribes?
9. Western Oregon tribes were terminated in the 1950's and lost their land base. To this day, these tribes struggle to regain a fraction of their traditional territory and place it in trust with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. This process is laborious and the backlog of trust applications is significant. Trust land is exempt from Oregon property taxes. Would you support changes in law to improve the process for Oregon tribes to have lands placed into trust? Why or why not?

10. The Chemawa Indian School near Salem is the longest continuously operating Indian boarding school in the nation. Eight Oregon tribes, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, the Chemawa School Board and the National Congress of American Indians support transferring the Chemawa Indian School to all nine Oregon tribes. What is your position on this proposal?
11. What is your position on the proposed for-profit taxpaying casino described in Initiative Petitions 36, 37 and 38.
12. Tribal "trust" land is owned by the United States as trustee for the benefit of an individual Indian or an Indian tribe. Federal statute and case law make clear that Tribal trust lands are exempt from state and local taxation. Do you support this law?
13. What laws would you support to encourage consultation and cooperation between local governments and Native American tribes? They may need some explanation tied to this question or ideas? Are there problem areas?
14. What is your position on making the Oregon Reservation Enterprise Zone program a permanent law?
15. The Coquille Indian Tribe operates a highly successful and nationally-recognized head start program. Are you a supporter of Early Childhood, Head Start & Early Head Start services for low income families?
16. In 2013 Congress proposed an 8.5 % cut across the board for all federal programs; however there is a proposal in that bill to hold Head Start and Early Head Start harmless. Do you support this legislation that would hold Head Start and Early Head Start harmless?
17. The elderly and children make up the most vulnerable population of Oregonians, yet there is discussion of cutting funding to DHS, the agency that serves this population. Do you believe that funding for these groups and this agency should be preserved? If so, how would you do so? If not, what would you do to ensure the safety of elders and children?

Additional Comments: