



2021 Government-to-Government Report



December 2021

Online version available at <https://sos.oregon.gov/pages/tribal-relations.aspx>

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SHEMIA FAGAN

SECRETARY OF STATE

CHERYL MYERS

DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE

TRIBAL LIAISON



State of Oregon
900 Court Street NE #136
Salem, Oregon 97301
503-986-1500

<http://sos.oregon.gov>

December 15, 2021

Patrick Flanagan, Executive Director
Legislative Commission on Indian Services
900 Court Street NE, Room 167
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Patrick:

The Oregon Secretary of State's Office is pleased to share our 2021 Government to Government (G2G) Annual Report detailing this year's activities. As one of three constitutional offices established at statehood, this office has a lengthy history of voluntary compliance with the Governor's executive order for annual report submissions, appointing a tribal liaison, participation in G2G clusters and additional relevant activities.

When I took office in January 2021, I set out with our mission to build trust between Oregonians and their state government so that Oregonians can trust the services and public servants who can make a difference in their everyday lives. This mission comes with a strong commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion embedded into the work of the agency. My commitment extends to honoring the sovereignty of the nine federally-recognized tribes in Oregon. We are prioritizing agency engagement and have elevated our tribal liaison role to the Deputy Secretary of State.

This past year has presented many challenges. We are still navigating the aftermath of unprecedented wildfires. We are working through the continuing financial issues, health impacts and disruption of the pandemic. Through it all we remain focused on intentionally deepening and elevating our diversity, equity and inclusion efforts within the agency and seek opportunities to engage at every possible turn with our tribal partners.

If questions arise or follow-up is desired, please direct them to our tribal liaison, Deputy Cheryl Myers at 971.720.3133 | cheryl.L.myers@sos.oregon.gov

With sincere respect,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Fagan".

Shemia Fagan
Oregon Secretary of State

The Secretary of State agency has four public-serving divisions: Archives, Audits, Corporation and Elections. In addition, the agency has three internal administrative-serving divisions: Business Services, Human Resources, and Information Systems. The Secretary has an executive team providing direct support to her administration and the overall agency.

MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

Mission

Building trust between Oregonians and their state government so Oregonians can trust the public services and the public servants who can make a difference in their everyday lives.

Vision

We envision an Oregon without barriers where everyone has equitable access to our democracy, available tools to achieve economic success, our state resources are efficiently used and accountable to the public, and where we honestly acknowledge our state's history. We lead with our values and believe every voice should be heard.

Values

- *Access for all*
We seek to identify and actively eliminate barriers
- *Authenticity*
We are honest and true with ourselves and others
- *Clarity*
We share stories, using plain language to increase understanding and impact
- *Respect*
We strive to understand all viewpoints

TRIBAL RELATIONS

In accordance with [ORS 182.164](#), the Secretary of State has developed and implemented an agency policy on relationships and cooperation with tribes.

The agency's approach is rooted in our core values. We work to develop and nurture strong working relationships with each federally-recognized tribe in Oregon. Our goal is to ensure all agency impacts to tribes and their members are positive, and to swiftly and transparently engage regarding potential negative impacts.

Strategy

The Oregon Secretary of State's tribal liaison is tasked with identifying changes and initiatives in the agency which may impact tribes and/or tribal members, engaging appropriately with tribes to ensure impacts are positive in nature. The tribal liaison reports to and advises the Secretary on such programs, recommends action when appropriate, and works to promote positive communications and relations between the agency and the tribes.

Identified areas with potential tribal impact thus far include:

Audits – performance and financial audits, Misuse of State Government Resources hotline.

Archives – permanent collection, records retention responsibilities and expertise, the Oregon Blue Book, connections to other organizations who retain objects or documents of interest.



Corporation – business registry for tribal-owned or chartered entities, Office of Small Business Assistance.

Elections – tribal members’ ability to register to vote and participate in non-tribal elections.

GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT (G2G) ACTIVITIES

Executive Office

- **Secretary of State Shemia Fagan** is a working mom and a proud lifelong Oregonian who grew up in and out of poverty in Dufur and The Dalles. After working through college and law school, she became a civil rights attorney, but also felt a call to public service beginning as an elected school board member and later as an Oregon State Representative and Senator. Inaugurated at the beginning of 2021, she brings strong core values to her role as Oregon’s 28th Secretary of State. Secretary Fagan was pleased to be introduced at the LCIS Spring meeting and has appreciated additional engagement at tribal council meetings, and recently moderating a panel on consultation at the annual Tribal/State Government convening. Upon notification from six of the tribes regarding the Oregon Racing Commission, and discussion with her Audit director, she was pleased to support the undertaking of a performance audit.
- **Deputy Secretary of State/Tribal Liaison** Deputy Cheryl Myers, is honored to serve as the agency’s tribal liaison as part of elevating the importance of partnership and respect with tribes. She has engaged with the nine federally-recognized tribes for over a decade in her various state agency roles. Her professional background includes public policy, organizational leadership, economic development, public education/youth advocacy, and a history of assisting organizations to construct equitable cultures and embed collaborative practices. Her prior state service includes: Director of Economic & Business Equity in the Governor’s Office, Chief of Staff for the Higher Education Commission and Operations & Engagement Director for Educator Advancement in the Chief Education Office. Her longstanding private sector business ownership lends insight into the varying aspects of unique business needs. A lifetime Oregonian, she is deeply committed to community, with service on local and national boards. The agency participates in two LCIS G2G cluster groups and voluntarily complies with provisions of [Executive Order 17-12](#). As the tribal liaison, she initiates and solidifies ongoing relationships with key tribal contacts and is appreciative of the warm reception received in these efforts.
 - ✓ The State Archivist, Stephanie Clark, serves alongside the tribal liaison on the Cultural Resources G2G cluster.
 - ✓ Similarly the Corporation Division Director, Eloisa Miller, serves alongside the tribal liaison on the Economic Development & Community Services G2G cluster.

Senior Policy Advisor/Strategic Projects Director Molly Woon presented at the LCIS Fall meeting to share Secretary Fagan’s new role as the Oregon Sustainability Board (OSB) Chair. The OSB holds a wide-ranging mission, including approval of each Oregon agency’s sustainability plans and advising on best practices to protect resources for future generations. As the new chair, Secretary Fagan, along with strong board support, is highly interested in identifying a voice from Oregon’s tribes to join the OSB.

Redistricting

Every ten years following the census, redistricting occurs across the nation, in Oregon with constitutional responsibilities for the Secretary of State if the Legislative Assembly is unable to pass maps by the deadline (*this year September 27, 2021*). If the responsibility of drawing state legislative lines fell to Secretary Fagan, she was fully prepared, including establishing a People’s Commission, an advisory group of Oregonians from all backgrounds and experiences to provide input. Consistent with core values, her office highly prioritized

community outreach and engagement, especially those who historically have been excluded from participation. Through intentional outreach and relationship building, Secretary Fagan was invited to a panel for the “Tribal Nations Draw the Line” virtual event last June. It was organized by We Draw Oregon, a statewide non-partisan campaign focused on education around redistricting for Black, Indigenous, and communities of color. With nearly 100 attendees, the event focused on the importance of the Native community’s participation in redistricting and how Oregon’s nine federally-recognized tribes and other indigenous community members could be more involved. Secretary Fagan’s panel objectives included continued relationship building with Oregon’s tribes and indigenous communities regarding redistricting through listening and learning, explaining the office’s role in the redistricting process should it become her responsibility, and highlighting community engagement priorities. The event allowed a discussion regarding the People’s Commission and sparked community member interest. Esteemed panel guest included Councilor Willa Powless of The Klamath Tribe and Representative Wlnsvey Campos. Additional speakers: Brent Florendo, Native American storyteller and dancer from the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs; Theresa Sheldon; DNC Native American Political Director, former Board Director National Congress of American Indians; Tulalip Tribe; Rep. Tawna Sanchez; Se-ah-dom Edmo, Shoshone-Bannock, Nez Perce, and Yakama, MRG Foundation

Deputy Myers/tribal liaison and Redistricting Administrator Kathy Wai connected with LCIS Executive Services Director Patrick Flanagan prior to the People’s Commission announcement, to further reinforce tribal member inclusion. Patrick and his office promoted the materials, application and encouraged participation. In addition, Kathy Wai provided People’s Commission outreach to organizations serving Native communities such as the Oregon Native Chamber, Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA), National Indian Child Welfare Association, and the We Draw Oregon coalition.

Audits Division

The tribal liaison convened a meet/greet with the Audit Director Kip Memmott and interim LCIS Executive Director Danny Santos, followed by an introduction to the permanent LCIS Executive Director Patrick Flanagan. The division director and Tribal Liaison met with six of Oregon federally-recognized tribal chairs and leadership to discuss engagement opportunities and insight on tribal interest in their audit work. The division has spotlighted the innovative work of tribes around foster care and family support. They solicited tribal opinions about using the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training services and received valuable insight from two tribes for the Wildfire Response Advisory Report. The division will share the upcoming Secretary of State’s 2022-23 Audit Plan with tribal chairs again next February and will continue to foster collaboration and tribal engagement on audits of interest, including the current Oregon Racing Commission audit.

Corporation Division

As Tribal communities and state government transitioned into 2021, it didn’t take long to realize the year would present similar challenges as those endured in 2020. We quickly learned together how to continue working and collaborating in these unprecedented times.

This year brought leadership change to the Corporation Division; Eloisa Miller became the Division Director in late February. She previously served in the Governor’s Office as the Economic & Business Equity Manager advising on and implementing equitable statewide contracting policies and practices. Her work included expanding access and opportunities for small businesses, with a strong focus on breaking down certified firm barriers. Eloisa’s professional background includes policymaking, leading statewide initiatives, local and



rural community engagement, economic development, and advocacy for Oregon businesses. Director Miller has been involved in the Economic Development & Community Services Tribal Cluster since 2016 and engaged in community events such as the 1st Annual Warm Springs Small Business Summit in 2019, Governor's Marketplace in Warm Springs in October 2019, in collaboration with the Warm Springs Community Action Team. She served on the Governor's Racial Justice Council, co-chairing the Economic Opportunity Committee, and the Governor's Minority Contractors Taskforce. Other statewide engagement included collaborating with the Coquille Indian Tribe to host statewide events at the Mill Casino in Coos County from 2017 through 2019. She brings a strong commitment to ensuring the Corporation Division is engaged with tribal leaders and their communities to understand barriers and seek solutions.

Corporation Division continues to work closely with tribes and tribal entrepreneurs on entity registrations and ensuring information is easily accessible on the website, by telephone or through other avenues.

Moving into 2022, the Corporation Division will continue engagement through the Economic Development & Community Services Tribal Cluster to learn more about how the division can be more helpful to tribal-owned businesses or those seeking to start a business.

Elections Division

The Elections Division also saw leadership changes this year with the selection of Deborah Scroggin as director. The division continually works to eliminate barriers to tribal members' voter registration or tribal member voting in non-tribal Oregon elections. In collaboration with the tribal liaison, the division will focus on strengthening tribal relationships in advance of the 2022 statewide elections and in accordance with [ORS 250.125](#) regarding voters' pamphlet engagement.

Archives Division & Tribal Cultural Items

In addition to serving on the Oregon Tribal Cultural Items task force, State Archivist and division director Stephanie Clark serves alongside the agency tribal liaison on the G2G Culture Cluster. She also engaged with the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians regarding their internship program and potential paid intern opportunities at Archives.

Tribal Cultural Items Review

In November 2017, Governor Kate Brown issued Executive Order 17-12, which established the Task Force on Oregon Tribal Cultural Items. The purpose of the task force was to recommend a process for soliciting information from government entities in Oregon regarding items in their possession with potential tribal cultural value to Oregon's nine federally-recognized tribes. At an August 2019 Task Force meeting the State Archivist was informed tribal governments were unaware of the types of records regularly being destroyed by Oregon state agencies. The State Archivist placed a one-year hold on the destruction of most agency records stored at the Oregon State Records Center to create space for tribal representatives to review records retention schedules and engage with each agency regarding their recordkeeping practices. There were discussions about creating a checklist for state agency records officers to assess public records with tribal cultural value, but that effort was abandoned as it was determined tribal cultural value varies widely for and the work was more appropriate for tribal member assessments.

Throughout 2020, each agency prepared a full inventory of any records or other objects with potential tribal cultural value, which prompted a great deal of information sharing. During 2021, the Oregon State Archives established a process requiring agency records officers to solicit a signature from their agency's tribal liaison

before records will be authorized for destruction at the Oregon State Records Center. This set off a chain of events, prompting several agencies to identify an agency tribal liaison. The Oregon State Archives drafted a guidance document to assist state agencies' list preparation for distribution to each tribe for review before records were destroyed from the State Records Center. The guidance document was circulated to each tribe, LCIS, the Governor's Office, and the G2G Culture Cluster for feedback. The new process was rolled out in September 2021.

Archival Records Access

With extreme attention to pandemic safety protocols, the Reference Unit at the Oregon State Archives hosted a small group of in-person researchers from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde's Cultural Resources department. The division offered research assistance and facilitated self-service scanning, enabling greater control for their team over how their records were captured and ensured immediate access. The team plans to return to conduct further research at a future date.

Geography-dictated remote access to records was a more effective option to meet a request from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indians Reservation (CTUIR). Tribal Archaeologist Nathan May requested access to Oregon's Department of Military records in support of a National Park Service Preservation Planning Grant awarded to CTUIR. The Oregon State Archives waived the fee associated with digitizing records. To date, 3,360 archival record PDFs have been delivered at a savings of \$2,544 with 40 hours of in-kind staff time. CTUIR engagement continues with the goal of providing access to all relevant records. The digitized Military Department records will be added to the State Archives' online portal, ORMS, where they will be available to any interested researcher. Click [here](#) to read more about CTUIR's grant "Preserving Mile's Fight of the 1878 Bannock War."

CONTACT INFORMATION

Secretary of State key contacts include:

Cheryl Myers - Deputy Secretary of State, Tribal Liaison

cheryl.L.myers@sos.oregon.gov | 971.720.3133

Stephanie Clark - State Archivist, Cultural Resource Cluster Co-liaison

stephanie.clark@sos.oregon.gov | 503.378.8161

Eloisa Miller – Corporation Director, Economic Development & Community Services Cluster Co-liaison

Eloisa.miller@sos.oregon.gov | 503.378.8161

TRIBAL RELATIONS ACTIVITIES – Appendix A

Date	Meeting	Attendees
1.4.2021	LCIS Interim ED meet/greet	Deputy Secretary, Danny Santos,
1.13.2021	Archives research/NARA Seattle Facility Closure	State Archivist
1.22.2021	Cultural Resources Task Force Debrief	Tribal Liaison, State Archivist, Deputy Secretary
2.8.2021	LCIS Interim ED meet/greet	Danny Santos, Deputy/Tribal Liaison, State Archivist
2.9.2021	G2G Cluster - Cultural Resources	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, State Archivist
2.17.2021	LCIS meeting	Deputy/Tribal Liaison
2.19.2021	G2G Cluster - Economic Development & Community Services	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, Corporation Director
3.19.2021	G2G Cluster - Economic Development & Community Services	Deputy/Tribal Liaison
4.6.2021	G2G Cluster - Cultural Resources + Natural Resources	Secretary Fagan, Deputy Secretary/Tribal Liaison
4.22.2021	State records sign-off process	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, State Archivist, Danny Santos, Governor's Office
4.29.2021	Oregon Heritage Summit	State Archivist
5.5.2021	CTUIR board of trustees	Secretary Fagan, Deputy Secretary/Tribal Liaison
5.13.2021	NW Archivist Conference/Acclimating to Crisis:Tribal Archives pivoting amid COVID	State Archivist
5.13.2021	NW Archivist Conference/Seattle NARA closure	State Archivist
5.19.2021	LCIS Spring Celebration - SoS introduction	Secretary Fagan, Deputy Secretary/Tribal Liaison
6.3.2021	Archives/Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR)	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, State Archivist, CTUIR Interim Executive Director
6.7.2021	Tribal Nations - We Draw the Line	Secretary Fagan; Deputy/Tribal Liaison, Chief of Staff, Redistricting Administrator
6.8.2021	G2G Cluster - Cultural Resources	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, State Archivist
6.17.2021	Tribal review process with Department of Agriculture	State Archivist
6.17.2021	Audit Division meet/greet, Coquille Indian Tribe	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, SoS Audit Division Director; Cow Creek Chair Meade and Executive Director Mark Johnson
6.21.2021	Review Tribal Cultural items process	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, State Archivist, LCIS Interim Director, LCIS Executive Director, DEI Director, General Counsel
7.1.2021	Audit Division meet/greet, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, SoS Audit Division Director; CTUIR Chair Brigham and Executive Director
7.1.2021	Audit Division meet/greet, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, SoS Audit Director; Cow Creek Chair and CEO, HR Director, Risk Manager, CFO
7.1.2021	Meet/greet new Legislative Commission on Indian Services Executive Director	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, LCIS Executive Director
7.12.2021	Audit Division meet/greet, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, SoS Audit Division Director; Chair Kennedy and Tribal Council Chief of Staff
7.21.2021	Audit Division meet/greet, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, SoS Audit Division Director; Chair Pigsley and Acting General Manager
7.23.2021	G2G Cluster - Economic Development & Community Services	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, Corporation Director
8.6.2021	Confederated Tribes of Siletz Intern Program	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, State Archivist, Clark, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Assistant General Manager
8.10.2021	G2G Culture	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, State Archivist
8.10.2021	Nixyaawii Community Financial Services	Secretary of State, Deputy/Tribal Liaison, Nixyaawii Community Financial Services Executive Director, CTUIR Chair, tribal and community members
9.17.2021	G2G Cluster - Economic Development & Community Services	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, Corporation Director
9.17.2021	Pendleton Round-up	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, CTUIR Legislative Affairs Manager
9.23.2021	COSA Connection with American Indian Nations Liaison-Wisconsin Historical Society	State Archivist
10.5.2021	Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians meet/greet	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, CTCLUSI Tribal Council Vice-chair
10.6.2021	LCIS Fall Meeting-Sustainability Board	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, Senior Advisor & Strategic Projects Director
10.12.2021	G2G Cluster - Cultural Resources	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, State Archivist
10.22.2021	G2G Cluster - Economic Development & Community Services	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, Corporation Director
November	Native American Heritage Month	SoS social media highlighted each Oregon federally-recognized tribe throughout the month
11.16.2021	LCIS Executive Director meeting	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, Legislative Commission on Indian Services Executive Director
12.1.2021	Annual Tribal/Government Summit	Secretary of State (<i>consultation panel moderator</i>), Deputy/Tribal Liaison, agency directors
12.2.2021	Annual Tribal/Government Summit	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, agency directors
12.7.2021	G2G Cluster - Cultural Resources	Deputy/Tribal Liaison, State Archivist