

The Museum At Warm Springs 2189 Hwy 26, P.O. Box 909 Warm Springs, OR 97761

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OCTOBER TREATY CONFERENCE WILL CELEBRATE THE MUSEUM AT WARM SPRINGS' 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Original Treaty from the National Archives to be on exhibit

(WARM SPRINGS, Ore., Sept. 25, 2018) – "People of the River, People of the Salmon: Then, Now and Tomorrow" ("Wana Thlama-Nusuxmí Tanánma: E-Wah'-Cha'-Nye"), a Treaty Conference in celebration of The Museum at Warm Springs' 25th anniversary, will take place Thursday, Oct. 25 through Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018.

The Treaty Conference will be hosted by The Museum at Warm Springs (Highway 26 in Warm Springs). It will focus on the 1855 Treaty and the establishment of The Museum in 1993 as important actions of inherent sovereignty. The three-day event will conclude with an honoring of "Living Treasures," Warm Springs tribal citizens whose knowledge and commitment to perpetuating the cultural and heritage leave a legacy for future generations.

The "Middle Oregon Treaty of 1855 Display" will be on view Oct. 2–Nov. 3, 2018 at The Museum. The exhibit will include six pages of the original Middle Oregon Treaty of 1855 that established the Warm Springs Reservation. The Treaty pages, which will be on loan from the National Archives, were selected by Museum Archivist and Warm Springs Tribal Member Evaline Patt. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the Treaty Conference.

"On March 14, 1993, The Museum at Warm Springs opened its doors as a living repository and center to perpetuate the culture and heritage of The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs," said Museum Board of Directors President Douglas Goe. "The Treaty Conference is an important Museum 25th anniversary event that will educate the public about tribal history, culture and heritage, and the Treaty that established the Warm Springs Reservation."

Conference speakers and distinguished invited guests will include: Warm Springs tribal leaders; tribal leaders and dignitaries representing the Native nations of the Columbia River and Pacific Northwest; Oregon local and state government officials; U.S. congressional members of the Oregon delegation; and prominent Native American attorneys, scholars, educators and cultural leaders.

The Treaty Conference will focus on the education of Warm Springs tribal children and citizens as it pertains to their inheritance of Treaty right and responsibilities; a history of treaties and of Oregon tribes; informative panels for administrators of Oregon's county and state governments and federal administrators of the Pacific Northwest region; assist Oregon teachers and educators to understand treaties and the history of Oregon's tribes for the mandate of teaching American Indian history in schools; provide essential education for current and future Oregon citizens regarding tribal sovereignty

and co-management of Natural Resources; and provide insight to cultural constant — natural laws of the Creator — of Oregon tribes and the economic benefits of tribal sovereignty and governance.

"Treaties are at the heart of indigenous governance, law and policy in the United States, so it is appropriate for this historic gathering at The Museum at Warm Springs to focus on those foundational documents made by our ancestors, often at great cost — including sacrifice on the field of battle — as expressions of the inherent sovereignty of each Indian Nation," said Walter Echo-Hawk Sr. (Pawnee), Esq., who will be a main speaker at the Treaty Conference. "These solemn agreements among nations are foundational political charters, because they brought Indian Nations into the Republic as sovereign governments under the protection of the United States.

"As the 'supreme law of the land' right down to the present day, the words in treaties define the political relationship between Indigenous nations and the United States, and set forth an inalienable and indefeasible body of rights, relationships, and responsibilities to guide that government-to-government relationship," said Echo-Hawk. "As the Supreme Court has stated, when referring to these treaties, 'Great Nations, like great men, must keep their word' — what could be a more important topic than treaties to guide our discussions today?"

The Treaty Conference is open to the general public and, especially, to those interested in tribal affairs. Registration is required. The Conference is free to Warm Springs tribal citizens but will be capped at 100 attendees with registration first come, first served. Total Conference attendance will be capped at 300 with registration first come, first served. The registration fee for all three days of the conference is \$350 for non-tribal citizens (attendees). The registration fee includes meals. Lodging is not included in the fee. Information about local hotel accommodations is available upon request. To register online, visit http://treatyconference.com or contact Deb Stacona, Development Officer, The Museum at Warm Springs (541) 553-3331, ext. 405; dstacona@museumatwarmsprings.org.

The Treaty Conference is organized by The Museum at Warm Springs and The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon. The Treaty Conference, Treaty exhibit and associated programs are sponsored by Meyer Memorial Trust, Collins Foundation, the Oregon Community Foundation, the PGE Foundation, PGE Corporation, Samuel Johnson Foundation, Oregon Humanities, Siletz Tribal Charitable Fund, Roundhouse Foundation, among others. Co-Sponsors are the Oregon Historical Society, High Desert Museum, Confluence Project, Tananáwit, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP and Karnopp Petersen LLP.

About the National Archives

The National Archives is an independent federal agency that serves American democracy by safeguarding and preserving the records of our Government, so people can discover, use, and learn from this documentary heritage. The National Archives ensures continuing access to the essential documentation of the rights of American citizens and the actions of their government. From the Declaration of Independence to accounts of ordinary Americans, the holdings of the National Archives directly touch the lives of millions of people. Our holdings include vast resources on Native Americans from as early as 1774 through the mid 1990s, including hundreds of original treaties between the U.S. and Native American tribal nations, and records from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. We not only hold these records, we provide access to them. More information about this extensive collection online.

The National Archives also provides <u>free interactive webinars</u> for educators featuring primary sources, as part of our Native American professional development series. Upcoming seminars include: Citizen

Archivists in the Classroom Using the New "Native Communities" Program and DocsTeach, Native American Stories about the Lewis and Clark Expedition, The Making of American Indian Treaties, Teaching the Indian Removal Act of 1830, and, Penpals from the Past: American Indian Schools in the United States. More information and registration for these free programs online.

For more information and updates, visit http://museumatwarmsprings.org/treaty-conference/ or http://treatyconference.com/.

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