

At the request of the General Council, the Executive Committee created a team to identify ways in which the Tribe can be more open and transparent in its government administration and operations. The team consists of: select members of the Executive Committee and General Council; attorneys who have extensive knowledge and experience in tribal law and policy as well as federal Indian law; and the Chief Information Officer who ensures our data sovereignty is advanced, protected, and secured. One of the primary goals of the team is to increase access that tribal citizens have to government meetings and discussions in a manner that aligns with our sovereignty and Constitution.

The team already held preliminary meetings to discuss a road map and strategy on how to achieve its goals in a timely manner. In those meetings, the team identified the following considerations:

- The journey to become more transparent as a government will not be quick or easy. It is important to determine where we should start because that will determine how we will move forward.
- Increasing the transparency of the government requires a high level of expertise from professionals in various fields such as operations, technology, administration, and legal.
- Our approach should be informed and guided by the freedoms set forth in the Constitution and the laws as they exist now and in the future.
- We must ensure that our approach and methods do not compromise our culture or sovereignty.
- The team identified an immediate concern with the citizen portal: it does not have Terms and Conditions for Use. Having Terms and Conditions for Use will ensure that information from the citizen portal will be used in a legal manner and in ways that will comport with tribal sovereignty and promote engagement in our community. Thus, the team recommended that, as an initial step in the entire approach and to address an immediate concern, Terms and Conditions for Use be created and made part of the citizen portal.

Updates on the team's endeavors will be provided in future emails and team meetings.

**Please make sure your email address and physical address are accurate, and encourage the citizens you know to update their information as well.**