



Kiowa Tribe District 7 Newsletter

August of 2024



Dear Kiowa District 7 Citizens,

As we bid farewell to the warmth and vibrancy of summer, I hope you and your loved ones have enjoyed a season filled with memorable experiences and relaxation. With the changing colors of autumn on the horizon, I am glad to share the latest updates on our legislative efforts with the Kiowa Tribe. Our Legislature is working on several key initiatives to enhance Kiowa citizens' well-being and prosperity. These efforts include strengthening our direct services, expanding educational opportunities, and preserving our rich cultural heritage. I encourage you to stay informed and involved in our ongoing legislative work. Your participation and support are crucial in shaping the future of our community. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Thoughts from an Elder

I've been keeping my ears and nose close to the ground focusing on what is approaching life. Picture the old stereotypical image of the Indian warrior putting his head to the ground and telling his warriors what he hears, who is coming, how many of them, and from what direction. Metaphorically this is how I ascertain upcoming change but I read a lot, watch closely, and hear what is not said in many cases, especially Indian affairs. As a result I sense that the chairman of our tribe will be on the next D7 podcast so get your computers ready and mark your calendar. It has been difficult to read/hear/sense movement within the encampment because things seem to have come to a halt. This silence gives me a few moments to form some questions I would like to ask of our chairman in regard to D7 engagement.

Cutting to the chase, here are some questions I would like for him to respond to for the podcast. I ask them with respect and would like for him to give us some of his personal contextual background with his responses.

-How could the tribe expand its federally funded tribal services to serve those Kiowa citizens living outside the conventional "tribal service area"?

-To what extent does he believe the current Kiowa Constitution is working for all Kiowa citizens?

-How does he feel about amending certain components of the current Kiowa Constitution? What would be his plan/strategy in advising about a Kiowa Constitutional Convention?

-What is his "plan" for Indian City?

-How could the tribe provide more and better life services to its elders living outside the tribal service area?

-To what extent does HE envision the newly formed Kiowa Education Agency practically serving Kiowa citizens?

-Does he support specific Kiowa Tribal partnerships in economic development with surrounding tribes and municipalities?

Our D7 elders need more engagement from the elected tribal leadership. We all appreciate his attention to today's situations/conditions for OTSA (out of tribal service area) Kiowa elders and want to thank him for giving all D7 tribal citizens a chance to listen to his remarks and comments. I have many other questions and would like to encourage him to try to get out to D7 communities (where feasible/viable) and engage. Like the D7 office he has access to communication technology that can reach across the country rather than trying to physically visit the many D7 Hubs (communities where there are significant numbers of Kiowa citizens). Strategic community gatherings are possible. He may not be available for any out of the country gatherings however.

Legislative Update



Latest Legislature News

Upcoming Public Hearing and Legislative Session Mark your calendars, Kiowa Tribal Citizens!

The Kiowa Legislature is hosting a Public Hearing on September 11th at 1:30 pm. This is an opportunity to voice your opinions and concerns on important matters affecting our community.

Additionally, you are invited to attend (virtually or in person) the Regular Legislative Session on September 14th at 9 am. For those who cannot attend in person, you can log in and hear the meeting via Zoom.

Key Resolutions to Be Addressed:

1. Repealing of Resolution KL-CY-2017-014 Employee Benefits Provider Selection Act of 2017.

The Legislature plans to repeal the enacted Resolution KL-CY-2017-014 due to the formation of Articles of Incorporation for Kiowa Insurance, Inc. This new corporation, created through Resolution KL-CY-2023-011, aims to offer comprehensive employee benefit plans, including health and retirement benefits for all government branches and employees.

2. Kiowa Tribe Delegate to the Inter-Tribal Buffalo Council (ITBC)

The Legislature will consider a resolution to appoint Lawrence Spottedbird, Chairman,

as a delegate to the ITBC. This council plays a crucial role in promoting the protection and preservation of bison resources, which are vital for the Tribe's future generations.

3. Kiowa Tribe Membership to the Inter-Tribal Buffalo Council (ITBC)

A resolution will be discussed to maintain the Kiowa Tribe's membership in the ITBC. This membership offers numerous benefits, such as funding for local Native American buffalo programs, training for buffalo managers, and support for economic development opportunities through buffalo utilization.

4. First Amendment to the Employee Benefits Provider Selection Act of 2024

The Legislature will also consider amending the Employee Benefits Provider Selection Act of 2024 to ensure that employees of the Tribe receive necessary benefits like health insurance, retirement plans, and dental and eye coverage.

For detailed information on these resolutions, visit the Kiowa Tribe website and check the Legislative tab. You can also access these documents in our Law Library. Make sure to join us at the Public Hearing to make your opinions count.

Please check the <https://www.kiowatribe.org/legislative> webpage for info for details on the next legislative session. There are links to join by Zoom

Update from the Kiowa Tribe Executive branch on W-9 Forms

At the beginning of the fiscal year in July, the Kiowa Finance Department began requiring W-9 forms for vendors per the IRS audit that stated it is required. However, after thorough consideration and feedback from the Attorney General, the Executive Branch has decided to clarify who needs to submit a W-9. The IRS requires vendors to submit a W-9 when those vendors receive payment for rental assistance and emergency assistance. Tribal citizens **will not** be taxed on any assistance received.

We appreciate your understanding and patience during this transition, and please know that the Kiowa Legislature has no direct services and is not included in the policy development regarding W-9s. Should you have any questions or need further clarification, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Kiowa Tribe Department of Finance.



Kiowa Tribe

P.O. Box 369 · Carnegie, Oklahoma · 73015

Phone: (580) 654-6343 · Fax: (580) 654-8412

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

TO: All Program Directors
FROM: Chairman Lawrence SpottedBird
DATE: August 30, 2024
RE: Tribal Citizen Tax Forms

After consultation and submission to the AG for an interpretation opinion of the subject of taxability of payments to tribal member and requirement for W-9s prior to payments. We have determined that the IRS does not consider payments.

To qualify under the general welfare exclusion the payments must:

Have been made pursuant to a governmental program;

Be for the promotion of general welfare and based upon need; and

1. Not represent compensation for service.
2. If proceeds are being paid to a tribal member, their spouse or dependent based on an application requiring need, the IRS does not consider this gross income and there will be no need for a tax form to be submitted prior to payment. This also applies to reimbursements for attending cultural events, disaster relief payments or bereavement payments. This does not apply to per capital payments, payments for services or those matters considered lavish or extravagant.
3. Please feel free to communicate this with any Kiowa citizen who needs clarification.
4. A copy of the opinion is available on request.

District 7 Podcast

Episode 7 coming soon on Spotify and Youtube

This month we have Kiowa Chairman, Lawrence SpottedBird

District 7 now has a podcast on Spotify and YouTube. Episode 7 is coming soon. Links can be found on our Linktree, <https://linktr.ee/kiowaD7>

Vacancy



The Kiowa Casino Operations Authority
(KCOA)

is

looking for a Board Commissioner.

Requirements:

Bachelors' Degree in Business Administration or Two-Year (2) Degree and a minimum five (5) years of Gaming Experience.

Must be an Enrolled Kiowa Tribal Member as least thirty (30) years of age.

Instructions:

Submit a Letter of Intent with resumes to Chairman Lawrence Spottedbird

P.O. Box 369

Carnegie, OK 73015

lspottedbird@kiowatribe.org

Upcoming Events

Upcoming event in Norman. Please note that this is not a District 7 event, we are just sharing information

There is a Kiowa Hymn Singing that will take place on Tuesday, September 3 from 6-9 p.m. at Catlett School of Music, Room 109. The room is on the first floor (same floor as you walk in the building) and is wheelchair accessible.

They will have a feed starting at 6, and then go into Kiowa hymn singing led by the Rainy Mountain Kiowa Indian Baptist Church congregation. This event is open to anyone, faculty, students, folks in the Norman area. Please share this with

Kiowas who are in Norman or in the surrounding areas.

You can park at the Elm Street Garage (second floor or above) or the Faculty Lot (A5), both of which are within a block of Catlett. Parking Services will not ticket after 5:30 p.m.

For more information contact Max Yamane at yamanemh@ou.edu

Kiowa District 7 Language Class

SEPTEMBER 23RD

IN PERSON ACTIVITY BEGINS

@ 7:00PM

VIRTUAL CLASS BEGINS

@ 8:00 PM

POTLUCK! PLEASE BRING AN ITEM TO SHARE!

SPEAKERS

DELORES HARRAGARRA
VELMA EISENBERGER
MARTHA POOLAW

**Location : Kiowa District 7 Office
123 24th Ave NW
Norman, Oklahoma 73069**

ZOOM OPTION

Meeting ID: 876 3205 2759
Password: kiowa

FOR ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CLASS CONTENT PLEASE
CONTACT KRICKET CONNYWERDY AT RHOADSCONNYWERDY@GMAIL.COM



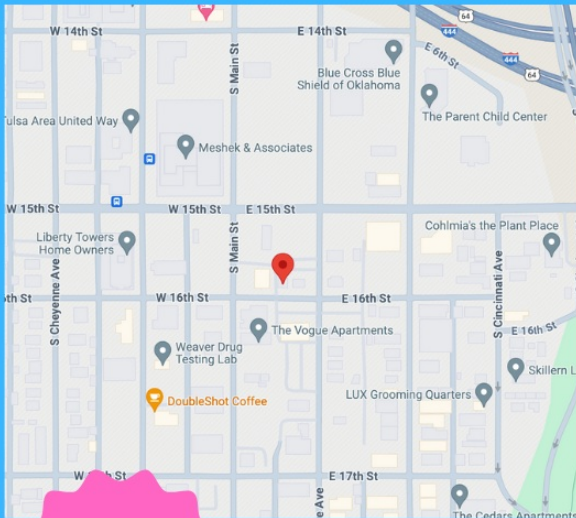
Tulsa Beginning Kiowa Language Class

September 30th 6-7:30 pm



**CLASS INSTRUCTOR
WARREN QUETON**

**IN PERSON:
15 E 16TH ST TULSA, OK 74119**



**PARKING
ON SITE**

**EMAIL: DISTRICT7LEGISLATURE@KIOWATRIBE.ORG
PHONE: 539-525-0437**

ZOOM INFO:

[HTTPS://LINKTR.EE/KIOWAD7](https://linktr.ee/kiowad7)



**HÁUNDÉÓN:DE ÈM BÒÑ
HAWN-DAY OHÑ-DAY AYM BOHÑ**

(HOW WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU)

NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY

BINGO NIGHT



SEPTEMBER 17TH
6P-8P

HOSTED BY
WARREN QUETON



Meal Catered By:
Autumn Star Catering



Center For Public Secrets
573 S Peoria Ave Tulsa, Ok



Citizen Spotlight - Edwin Aunko

Edwin recently placed 3rd and 2nd place in the Huntinghorse Tsatoke First Annual Art Show



Edwin Aunko is photographed 2nd from the right in the buffalo shirt



3rd place contemporary



2nd place original

Edwin Aunko is Kiowa on his Fathers side and lives in Owasso, OK and is son of Timothy and Norma Aunko of Tulsa, OK.

Ed has been doing his "doodling" for years and decided to enter when saw posting for this contest.

Family knew he had this hidden talent and had a great chance if he entered Proud of this accomplishment and I am still "doodling"

A'ho

Kiowa Tribe Housing Survey

Kiowa Tribal Member Survey

The Kiowa Tribe Housing Authority (KTHA) is conducting a study of housing needs in Kiowa Tribal members. The purpose of this survey is to learn more about housing assistance currently provided through the KTHA and where additional assistance is needed. We would like you to complete this questionnaire. Some of the questions will ask you about the condition of your housing and how satisfied you are with your current housing situation. The answers we receive from you and others completing this survey will be reported only as a group, used only for research purposes and to assist in planning for future activities.

Your participation in this study is voluntary, which means you do not have to answer these questions. However, we want you to know that your opinions are very important to improving housing programs. If you complete this questionnaire, you will help us to learn more about housing needs.

The questionnaire takes about 10 minutes to complete. Information you provide will remain anonymous. Your answers will not be linked with your name or anything that could identify you

Kiowa Housing has a survey available for all citizens to submit. They want to understand your needs better. This can be submitted anonymously.

Link to survey can be found on our linktree, <https://linktr.ee/kiowaD7>

YouTube Channel

District 7 has a YouTube channel. We aim to record and upload our webinars and different events so everyone can stay involved

This month we have uploaded:

- August Webinar with Kiowa Housing Director, Luke Toyebo
- Tulsa Language class

To access these videos, please visit our linktree, <https://linktr.ee/kiowaD7>

D7 Links



@kiowaD7

Kiowa Tribe District 7

district7legislature@kiowatribe.org

Website



Sign Up for Our Newsletter



Schedule a Meeting with Legislator Warren Queton

YouTube Videos

September Zoom Meeting (PIN 381420)

Please bookmark and save <https://linktr.ee/kiowaD7> this page will be updated with easy-to-navigate links.

Kiowa District 7 Legislative Office | 123 24th AVE NW | Norman, OK 73069 US

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