DEAR NEZ PERCE TRIBAL MEMBERS,

THIS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER IS MAILED FREE OF CHARGE TO THE NEZ PERCE TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP.
Welcome to the Nez Perce Tribe Quarterly Newsletter. Nez Perce news has transitioned solely to an online outlet titled Nez Perce Tribal News. We are accessible on all major media platforms.

This type of media coverage will allow for quicker timely news, the ability to cover more content and for other media options such as videos and livestreaming. With this transition, we will also start producing a quarterly hardcopy newsletter that will be mailed to all enrolled tribal members 18 and older at no cost. Majority of the tribal membership will have the opportunity to stay up to date with important announcements, news, activities and events in the most effective manner.

The Nez Perce Tribe Communications Department will be collaborating closely with tribal entities, departments and programs to ensure the most accurate and timely information is being produced. In the event we cannot post flyers at local community buildings and tribally owned businesses; we strongly encourage friends and family members to reciprocate important information to those who do not have social media. We are excited and look forward to starting this next phase as a major media outlet for all Tribal Nations to follow and refer to.

Disclaimer: The Nez Perce Tribe (@NPT1855) and Nez Perce Tribal News social media pages are managed by the Nez Perce Tribal Communications Department. Our social platforms are for the purpose of (1) disseminating information and (2) generating original content to increase engagement.

Disseminating Information: We are responsible for sharing information on behalf of our Nez Perce Tribal Departments, Programs, and Organizations. We also assist in promoting Nimiipuu-owned businesses and local community events as requested. We are NOT responsible for responding to inquiries regarding the information shared. All inquiries should be directed toward the contact information provided on the flyers and in the original posts.

Original Content: We produce news stories, press releases, and other original creative content. This content can be shared from our social platforms, but not copied without attribution to the original content.

We certainly welcome and encourage open discussion on our NPT1855 and Nez Perce Tribal News social media sites – including but not limited to our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram – however, we do make reasonable efforts to monitor participation to ensure that comments follow the guidelines.

When contributing, do not post any material that contains: hate speech, profanity, obscenity, or vulgarity (our FB profanity settings will automatically hide comments), comments that could be considered prejudicial, racist or inflammatory, nudity or offensive imagery (including, but not limited to, in profile pictures) defamation to a person or people, name calling and/or personal attacks, comments whose main purpose is commercial in nature and/or to sell a product, comments that infringe on copyright or another person’s intellectual property, spam comments from individuals or groups, such as the same comment posted repeatedly on a profile personal information about you or another individual (including identifying information, email addresses, phone numbers or private addresses), promotion of a product, business, company or organization. By commenting on any of our social platforms you have agreed to adhere to the above comment policy.

We retain the right to remove any content that does not comply with these guidelines. Repeated violations may cause the user to be blocked from our social platforms. We thank you for following and engaging with @NPT1855 and Nez Perce Tribal News on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. For comments or questions regarding this disclaimer, please contact: communications@nezperce.org.

View the online Nez Perce Tribe Weekly Newsletter at https://nptweekly.org/
Like and Follow us on Social Media:
@NPT1855  |  @NezPerceNews

To submit information into the next quarterly newsletter or request media coverage, please contact Chantal Ellenwood at 208-621-4807, ChantalE@nezperce.org

Nez Perce Tribe Communications Manager Rachel Wilson rachelw@nezperce.org, 208-621-4772.
Rachel (Chedda) Wilson is the Nez Perce Tribe Communications Manager. She specializes in media relations, press releases, event and meeting coordination, and liaison to the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (NPTEC), executives and managers. Her goal is to modernize the Communications Department while helping other departments expand, modernize and assist them in becoming self-sufficient. She plans to grow the Communications Department in news, social media, interviews, and to hire more people to do these and other jobs. Rachel will demonstrate how other departments can utilize online sources to target specific audiences that they may want and need.

Contact Rachel Wilson
Phone: 208-621-4772
Email: RachelW@nezperce.org

Chantal Ellenwood is the Nez Perce Tribe Communications Creative News Coordinator. Her duties include creating, writing, covering, and publishing content that is relevant to the Nez Perce people. Chantal will be present at events and happenings to ensure Nez Perce media is represented and our Tribal members are being highlighted. Her goal is to build the Nez Perce media into a well-known source by adding more employees and covering more stories.

Contact Chantal Ellenwood
Phone: (208) 621-4807
Email: ChantalE@nezperce.org
Facebook: Facebook.com/NezPerceNews

Farren Penney-Wilkeson is the Nez Perce Tribe Communications Digital Media Specialist. She manages the Nez Perce Tribe's website and online newsletter website. She creates content for the Nez Perce Tribe's social media accounts and assists with all internal and external communication for the Nez Perce Tribe. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Communications & Marketing and has over 10 years of working in tourism, marketing, graphic design, and public relations.

Contact Farren Penney-Wilkerson
Phone: 208-621-4805
Email: FarrenP@nezperce.org

Vega Greene is the Nez Perce Tribe Communications Office Specialist II. She manages the Communication Department's organization and support. Vega manages the Communication Department's organization and support. Vega manages the Communications email and following up to ensure all emails are complete and responded to in a timely manner. She is the first person who answers the phones and can direct calls further. She takes messages and manages the team's schedules. Vega also adds events, activities and various items to the newsletter calendar and communicates with vendors/departments as needed for numerous projects and events.

Contact Vega Greene
Phone: 208-621-4808
Email: VegaG@nezperce.org
Nez Perce Tribe

The Tribe is consistently one of the top employers in the region, employing people at various locations on and off-reservation. The Tribe has satellite offices in Joseph, Oregon; McCall, Idaho; Kamiah, Idaho; Orofino, Idaho, and Sweetwater, Idaho. Tribal departments include: Housing; Nimiipuu Health Clinics; a fisheries program; many natural resources programs; social services; education; and economic development.

The Tribe adopted a Constitution in 1961, and now operates as a representative form of government. The growing Tribe is governed by the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (NPTEC), a nine-member body composed of at-large elected members of the Tribe. The NPTEC is charged with protecting and preserving treaty rights and tribal sovereignty, preserving Nez Perce culture, protecting the health and welfare of tribal members, environmental protection, and other normal day-to-day duties and responsibilities of a sovereign government.

The original homeland of the Nez Perce Tribe covered a vast area in what is now northcentral Idaho, southeastern Washington, and northeastern Oregon. Nez Perce aboriginal territory, as determined by the Indian Claims Commission in 1967, encompassed more than 13 million acres. Through the treaty-making process, that aboriginal land base was incrementally reduced to approximately 750,000 acres today, all located in northcentral Idaho. Tribal leaders, throughout the treaty-making process, ensured that off-reservation treaty rights, such as the right to hunt, gather and graze on open and unclaimed lands; and the right to fish at all usual and accustomed fishing places, were reserved as rights they had always possessed.

In the mid-1800’s, the population of the Tribe was estimated to be about 6,000. The Nez Perce Tribe is, and always has been, a sovereign government. The traditional organization of the Tribe consisted of villages, bands, composite bands and the Tribe itself. Villages were often comprised of extended family groupings. Bands were often identified with different river drainages and consisted of the villages situated along that particular drainage. Leadership was specialized by function, and included leaders for activities such as warfare, hunting, conflict resolution, healing, and so on. Councils existed at all levels of political organization and exercised a dominant influence over the actions of individual leaders.

As part of preserving the Nez Perce culture, the Tribe teaches Nez Perce language classes. Over the years, the Tribe has taken the lead for both gray wolf and coho salmon reintroduction. As a recognized co-manager of the natural resources in and around its ceded territory, the Tribe works hard to ensure that treaty resources are managed and preserved for generations to come.
Whitebird Battlefield, June 17, 1877

The events leading up to the battle of White Bird began in the Spring of 1877 when the Nimiipuu were given orders by General Oliver O. Howard for any tribal members living outside the boundaries of the 1863 treaty to relocate. They were given 30 days notice.

On June 15, Cpt. David Perry led 106 cavalry men, along with 11 civilian volunteers to the site. This was following a notice that settlers along the Salmon River had been killed. Upon the cavalry's arrival on June 17, they found close to 70 Nimiipuu warriors, who sent a peace party consisting of six men. However, upon their approach to the cavalry, Arthur Chapman, a volunteer civilian, opened fire. Nimiipuu warriors responded and the battle of White Bird commenced. Cpt. Perry ultimately retreated after 34 casualties, and what was left of the cavalry returned to the area known today as, Grangeville. The Nimiipuu suffered some wounds, but no lives were lost.

This is known as the first battle of the Nez Perce Flight of 1877. Following this event, the band fled to find safety. Ultimately traveling on a 126-day journey, covering over 1,100 miles of land and four states.

Big Hole Battlefield, August 9, 1877

The Battle of Big Hole occurred in present day, Western Montana. The Nimiipuu that were being pursued by the U.S. Army were crossing the Bitterroot Valley, making their way to Canada.

In the early morning, shortly after the band had setup camp to rest, the U.S. troops attacked. Soldiers shot rifles and set fire to tipis, all without regard to the many unarmed women and children. The battle proceeded throughout the day and into the night. Many were wounded and killed during this battle. Recorded were approximately 90 casualties for the Nimiipuu consisting of men, women and children; and 31 casualties for the U.S. troops.

Bears Paw Battlefield, October 5, 1877

Just forty miles short of the Canadian border, the five-day battle of Bears Paw commenced. It was morning when the cavalry discovered the Nimiipuu camp, they first approached from the South making contact with the Nimiipuu defense line.

The first night of the battle, five inches of snow covered the ground and it was unusually cold. This continued until October 5th when Chief Joseph retired his rifle and offered it to Colonel Miles. It is here where Chief Joseph recited his famous speech. Of the 25 Nimiipuu killed during this war, all but three met their death the first day of the battle.
**Joseph McConville, Prevention Outreach Specialist**

Joseph McConville was born and raised in Lapwai, Idaho in 1986. He attended Lapwai Elementary and Wapato Elementary in Wapato Washington for 2 years. Joseph graduated from Lapwai High School in 2004. In 2008, Joseph attended Trinity Bible College in Ellendale, North Dakota. From there, he finished his courses in 2012 and graduated in the spring of 2013. During his time in North Dakota, Joseph met and eventually married his wife Erica and will be celebrating 11 years of marriage in May 2023. Joseph and Erica moved back to the Lapwai Valley in 2018. Joseph has worked for various positions and took on various roles for the Nez Perce Tribal Enterprise beginning with the Camas Express, Nez Perce Express and finished working with the Clearwater River Casino Gift Shop. “Why do I want to work with the Students for Success Program? Growing up in Lapwai and not having the best upbringing, I was involved in the program from an early age. I had spent several summers doing some of the programs that were offered back in the day and was positively affected by them. Throughout my years I have had a calling, of sorts, to want to help out the outcast or the unseen people in our society. I had spent several years working with a youth centered ministry and, in this time, I would try and help not just the youth we would reach out to but those who I would travel with as well. Working with the Students For Success program specifically is part of my wanting to give back to a program what it had given me all those years ago,” said Joseph.

**Cece George, Prevention Outreach Specialist**

Cece George is the Prevention Outreach Specialist for the Students for Success Program. She coordinates prevention activities that address topics such as alcohol, tobacco, drugs, violence, and other related health issues. Cece also coordinates enrichment activities that relate to culture, recreation, and youth leadership. Her hobbies outside of work include going to the gym, dancing at powwows, and reading. She loves listening to music and spending time with her family as well. Cece’s favorite part about her job is “working with the youth in our communities, getting to know the kids and seeing the different personalities each kid has, they are the best and I can confidently say we have some amazing future Nimipuu leaders,” she said.
Meet Rika Powaukee, Program Coordinator for Students for Success and business owner of consulting company Innovative LLC. Rika is the granddaughter of Richard and Katherine Powaukee. She is a Nez Perce Tribal member who grew up in Lapwai Idaho, on the Nez Perce Indian Reservation. Rika enjoys preserving the cultural heritage for future generations to utilize and prosper. Her past experiences led her to create the KTQ Recovery Program which is short for ka timina quietmsa and interprets in nimiipuutimpt “to tell the truth from the heart” as a subsidiary of Innovative LLC.

In 2018 she donated 500 hours of recovery coach volunteer training at Nimiipuu Mental and Behavioral Health, a former volunteer at First Step for Life in Lewiston that provided goal setting solutions and/or resources to those in traumatic situations such as domestic violence, incarceration, homelessness, addiction, institutionalization, obesity and/or after care programs. She is a clergy at the Nez Perce County Jail and is active in Warrior Down (White Bison).

Rika is also the founding Director of Coach Agler’s Annual Holiday Hoops Basketball Clinic. They have received sponsorship and donations from Nez Perce Executive Director Offices, Clearwater River Casino, Nike N7 Division, Adidas, Optum Medical, First Step for Life, Nimiipuu Health/Diabetic Program, Lapwai High School’s Booster Club and the WNBA’s Dallas Wings. This free clinic helps children 2nd-8th grade focus their goals while becoming active leaders in their families, school and community while improving their individual basketball skills. “I really love the community that I grew up in and there were people who helped me out when I was a kid, so this is paying forward what the many have already done for us” she said.

She has received an offer at the politically influential business advocacy group Valley Industry Commerce Association, the position of Executive Assistant to the President began my passion for political influence. From there the Assistant to the Director and Office Manager of Governor Schwarzenegger was offered in Los Angeles, representing our Native American community. This involved managing the daily operations inside the Governor’s office were the staff of assistants, Deputy Directors, Communication Directors, Public Relations, and First Lady personnel. The Native American community outreach wasn’t a part of the job but after strongly advocating the importance of government to community development relationships, they also saw the importance of nurturing the state to Tribal government relations, and to this day California still recognizes Native American History Month which initiated in 2007.

As the Executive Assistant to Samir Mahallawy stationed in Kuwait City Kuwait, the opportunity presented itself to work with international dignitaries and consulting on various economic and political relations. As the former consulting International Executive Vice President/Government Affairs Director to Global Broadcast Network from 2010 to 2018, they needed a Native American content creator and government affairs consultant for the only African American privately-owned television company bringing American Urban Lifestyle Entertainment. GBN was a member of the NAACP and Black American Political Association of California until the company dissolved in 2018. Rika is a former founding member of President Obama’s Organizing for Action from 2008 to 2016. She also led the Western Native Voice Idaho division as the Community Development Director for 2020-2021 where we made some amazing strides working with Get Out The Vote.

Rika is currently a member of the Schwarzenegger Institute at USC and attends meetings regularly. A native American consulting Producer was needed for the movie “Crying Ground”, a suspense thriller about a young native American boy who saves his people from horrific demise. “The script was so exciting I hopped on that project immediately!” said Rika.

“I’m looking forward to serving our youth at any capacity through the Native Connections grant. Thank you for taking the time to read this, yokalote.”
Join our newest community resource!

We invite you to register for the most up-to-date tribal information through our website’s new tribal member dashboard. Through this portal, you will gain rapid access to important communications and resources available only to Nez Perce tribal members.

Sign Up!

To join this newest community resource, please complete the form online.

We will be processing forms and verifying membership every Friday, and will reach out if we have any questions for you.

Registration Form

Web: https://nezperce.org/tribal-member-registration/
Nez Perce Tribe Communications Department

OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, Feb 14 11a - 2p

Learn about the different avenues of accessing Tribal news & how we can help you promote your department, business, or organization.

Location: 357 Agency Road / Lapwai, ID
Contact: Communications@nezperce.org
The ‘inít Home, also referred to as the Teen Shelter, is quickly in route to being fully staffed and operated. The home is designed to assist adolescent teens, from the ages of 14 years old through 18 years old, who are enrolled or eligible for enrollment in a federally recognized tribe or who is a first descendant of a federally recognized tribe. It is a requirement for the adolescent and/or family to be engaged in the Nez Perce Tribe Indian Child Welfare Program.

This program is focused on assisting in providing multiple wrap-around services such as, but not limited to, mental health treatment, chemical dependency treatment, family counseling, financial literacy education, food and nutrition education, cultural learnings, life skills classes and special medical needs assistance for the adolescent to become a contributing member of the community.

The Teen Shelter is not intended solely or primarily to be used as a housing program. Participation of clients with the Child Welfare/Social Services programs and those agencies who work within this scope are essential to the success of each individual.

All teens 14-18 are allowed to come and hangout, to come eat free dinner every single day! Be on the lookout for free activities including, trainings, game nights and workshops coming up. Every day we will be providing free meals, snacks and drinks for all teens ages 14-18!

Please contact JoAndra Wilson, ‘inít Home Coordinator, for questions or more information at work (208) 843-7302 extension 4709, cell (208) 791- 2653, or by email at JoandraW@nezperce.org.

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**Radon Awareness & Poster Contest**

**Poster Contest!**

Radon Awareness

- Ages 9-14 are eligible
- Raise Awareness
- Win Prizes

What is radon? Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that can build up in our homes. The Northwest Radon Poster Contest serves to raise awareness of the harmful effects of radon and to promote the testing and reduction of radon gas.

Submission Deadline: **March 10, 2023**

General Council

The General Council includes all enrolled Nez Perce citizens over age 18. It meets twice a year to review reports from the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee.

Nez Perce Tribe 2023 Spring General Council

Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee Candidates:

The following is a list of Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee Candidates. These are NOT certified candidates. Certification will be completed and posted by March 01, 2023

Seat 1
*Rachel Edwards

Seat 2
*Quintin Ellenwood
Ferris Paisano III
Otta Belle Moody

Seat 3
*Tonia Garcia
Ashton Picard
Chantel Greene
Marie Baheza

*denotes the incumbent

For more information, please contact
General Council Election Judges electionjudges@nezperce.org.

Election judges are:
Melissa Guzman – (208) 621-3828, melissag@nezperce.org
Loretta Spaulding – (208) 621-3823, lorettas@nezperce.org
Carla Timentwa – carlat@nezperce.org

Stay up to date on the latest General Council information by visiting our website: https://nezperce.org/government/general-council/
Alexis Herrera  
Certified Lash Technician  
Check out her page  
Lashes by lex  
to see her work or message her  
to book an appointment today!

Red’s Salon Barbershop  
Open: Tuesday - Saturday  
12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Red and Shanna offer nails,  
pedicures, eyelashes, color, perms,  
and haircuts for men, women,  
children, and seniors.  
Visit them on Main Street  
in Lapwai or call today to make  
an appointment 208-717-7411.

Lydia Skahan-McCloud  
Lydia works with  
multicultural hair types  
and loves creating dimensional  
color services through balayage or  
foiliage. She’s also excited to  
offer braiding services such as  
cornrows and box braids.  
You can stop in and see Lydia at  
Excape Salon Tanning & Boutique  
in Lewiston.

To book an appointment with Lyd-  
ia, visit: https://www.vagaro.com/  
escapesalon45/staff

Sasheena Williams  
Certified Lash Technician  
Sasheena completed her training  
in classic, volume, mega volume  
+ decals. Message her today for  
pricing and availability!

Help Us Recognize & Celebrate  
Nimiipuu Stylists  
Submit Content to Nez Perce Tribe  
Communications at  
Communications@nezperce.org