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## Quality of Life (QOL) Committee FY-2021 4th Quarter Report (July - September)

### **PURPOSE**

The Quality of Life Committee is standing committee of the Oneida Business Committee that will have oversight of health, wellness, and social issues of the following areas of the Nation: Language, Culture, Health, Environmental Issues, Housing and Food Security and Sovereignty.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Councilwoman Marie Summers, Quality of Life Committee Chair  
Councilman Daniel Guzman-King, Quality of Life Committee Vice Chair  
Vice-Chairman Brandon Stevens, Quality of Life Committee Member  
Chairman Tehassi Hill, Quality of Life Committee Member

Other partners include: General Manager, Oneida Police Department, Division Directors, other senior leaders, and their staff.

### **MEETINGS**

Quality of Life Committee meetings were held on the third Thursday of every month starting at 9:00 a.m. Meetings in the 4th quarter were held in July, August, and September.

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## *ACTIVITIES SUMMARY*

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### **1. Environmental Issues**

The Proclamation of the Right of Nature resolution has been finalized and will be submitted to the Oneida Business Committee for approval. This resolution coincides with the Food Security resolution and strategic plan that will also be forwarded to the Oneida Business Committee

### **2. Food Security**

The Food Sovereignty Team is working on finalizing the Food Sovereignty and Food Sovereignty resolution and Food Sovereignty strategic plan to submit to the Oneida Business Committee for approval.

### **3. Tribal Action Plan (TAP)**

TAP has been working on the issue about Sharps being found throughout the community. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with OBH and Vivent Health for a needle exchange program has been signed. A meeting is being set up for logistics and training.

TAP is collaborating with the Native Justice Coalition to do a virtual presentation for the community on Harm Reduction. The Partnership agreement has been sent up to the Law Office for review.

Community events scheduled were placed on hold due to the Public Health Emergency.

TAP is continuously working on applying for grants, planning community smudges, and community outreach.

### **4. Recreation Integration**

Working with DPW to plan for a safe reopening of recreation depending on the Public Health Emergency. They are having a difficult time hiring for the Recreation Specialist position due to the pay grade.

### **5. Detox Center Request**

A needs assessment study was conducted by Behavioral Health in an effort to learn how to best support the Oneida community in our efforts to address specific opioid, substance, and alcohol use and disorders.

A presentation was provided that summarized the data and analysis from the survey, which covered multiple themes (e.g., drug and alcohol use and misuse, demographics, treatment, traditional medicine, and more) and demographic measures.

The results will be used to inform current services and programs, and to pave the way for the development of education, prevention, and treatment strategies for the Oneida community to implement in the near future.

### **6. Zero Suicide**

No updates during this quarter

### **7. Cultural Heritage**

Oneida Cultural Heritage Strategic Plan was provided to the Business Committee as information on June 23, 2021. An SOP has been created to provide direction on the job description requirements, pay grade and hiring for Traditional Healer, Archivist, Advisor,

and Clan Manager positions. There was some concern with the wage equivalent decisions which have been reduced. The SOP needs to be approved by the BC, per HRD. This will be on the BC agenda for August 25th. Upon approval, the Traditional Healer position can be posted. The Clan Manager positions cannot be created or filled until the budget is approved for FY-2022.

Historical Archivist position is now under the Museum. There is a need for a Museum Registrar. Director is working with HRD to create the Registrar position. The Language Archivist position is filled. Area Manager LTE has been hired with a contract that ends 12/31/21.

Next steps include: 1. Post the Traditional Healer position by end FY-2021. 2. Create the Clan Manager positions and post. 3. Reorganize the departments and positions that will report to a specific Clan Manager.

### **8. Wellness Council**

Due to a position transition and the attention of this area directed to COVID-19, the Wellness Council has been put on hold.

### **REQUESTED ACTION:**

Motion to accept the Quality of Life Committee FY-2021 4th Quarter Report.