

# 2022 report template

For Boards, Committees, and Commissions (BCCs)

Approved by official entity action on: July 21, 2022

Submitted by: Chris Cornelius, Chairperson

OBC Liaison: Daniel Guzman, OBC Primary

OBC Liaison: Cristina Danforth, OBC Alternate

## ONEIDA LAND CLAIMS COMMISSION

### **Purpose:**

The Oneida Land Claims Commission (OLCC) purpose is to supervise all activities involving the New York Land Claims, including post settlement; and to develop strategies, provide direction and recommendations, for litigation, negotiation and/or settlement to the Oneida Business Committee (OBC) and the Oneida General Tribal Council (GTC). The OLCC will inform and educate the membership on issues pertaining to the Oneida Nation land claims, and seek participation from the membership, and carrying out the following duties:

- (a) Report membership concerns and suggestions to the OBC.
- (b) Hold public meetings and conduct outreach to provide an opportunity for the membership to participate in recommendations for all Oneida Nation land claims and settlement efforts.
- (c) Study other Indian land claim settlements and disseminate that information to the membership and the OBC.
- (d) Manage the OLCC budget
- (e) Assist the OBC with any land claims arising out of natural resource issues/disputes as requested by the OBC.
- (f) Carry out all other duties delegated by the GTC

### **BCC Members**

Chris J Cornelius

Chair

July 31, 2024

Donald D McLester

Vice-Chair

July 31, 2022

Dakota A Webster

Secretary

July 31, 2024

Kerry G Kennedy

Commissioner

July 31, 2025

Sheila Shawanokasic  
Commissioner  
July 31, 2023

### **Substantiated Complaints (if applicable)**

Per § 105.12-4.(a) of the [Boards, Committees and Commissions law](#), annual and semi-annual reports shall contain information on the number of substantiated complaints against all members of the entity.

Per § 105.3-1.(q) a "Substantiated complaint" means a complaint or allegation in a complaint that was found to be valid by clear and convincing evidence.

NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIATED COMPLAINTS:                      Zero (0)

### **Meetings**

Held every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month, via Microsoft Teams.

5:30 PM

Emergency Meetings: 1

The OLCC held several other (unpaid) work meetings to include an (unpaid) emergency work meeting. Meetings are held virtually on Microsoft Teams. The OLCC connects by computer or phone. Some Oneida Land Claims Commissioners do not have access, means or capability to connect online, with a computer, during our regular meetings. Some Commissioners have slow, poor or have no internet service. We do not have access to our office or workspace after 4:30 pm or on weekends.

During this quarter, meetings were held at the Community Education Center, or off site at the Oneida VFW. We worked on strategies to respond to the OBC recommendation to dissolve the OLCC, conducted and shared research, and gathered and shared information from past GTC meetings, discussed events and outreach strategies, conducted research, and reviewed Loretta Metoxen's last recorded video addressing the need to continue the Oneida Land Claims and the OLCC. We also met and worked on OBC requested reports and discussed other successful Native American Indian court cases pertaining to land claims.

On June 23, 2022, the OLCC conducted community outreach at the Oneida Farmers Market from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Oneida Land Claim Commissioners met with community members one on one, answered questions, conducted surveys, gathered input, and provided additional education by handing out flyers, frequently asked questions, and books pertaining to Oneida Land Claims (as required by bylaws and GTC directives). The OLCC volunteered their time and mileage to hold this event because Tribal laws do not permit the OLCC to be reimbursed for their time or mileage for this activity, nor are we allowed to hire needed assistance.

## Contact Info

CONTACT: Oneida Land Claims Commissioners  
TITLE: Oneida Land Claims Commissioners  
PHONE NUMBER: 920-869-4430  
E-MAIL: LandClaims\_Comm@oneidanation.org  
MAIN WEBSITE: <https://oneida-nsn.gov/government/boards-committees-and-commissions/elected/#Oneida-Land-Claims-Commission>

## Status report of Three-Year Outcomes/Goals

---

### Outcome/Goal # 1

Educate the Membership and the General Tribal Council on all Oneida Land Claims pertaining to land claims here in Wisconsin and New York State.

IS THIS A LONG-TERM OR QUARTERLY GOAL? Long-term

GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

Transparency - Open communication about actions taken and decisions made ensuring access to information is clear.

HOW OUTCOME/GOAL SUPPORTS THE GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

*The outcome of this goal supports the good governance principle; it keeps the General Tribal Council and membership aware of past and present litigations pertaining to Indian Land Claims.*

Enter how the Three-year outcome/goal supports the Good Governance Principle.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The OLCC is working on Standard Operating Procedure to have a social media page in accordance with Oneida Nation laws. We are working to update the Oneida Land Claims website and working on a direct mail out to the membership. We held an outreach event at an Oneida's Farmers Market. We gave away thirty-two (32) books pertaining to Oneida Land Claims. During our outreach event the Oneida Land Claim Commissioners met one on one with several community members and gathered membership input regarding a Land Claims settlement. This goal is on-going. The OLCC also handed out flyers on frequently asked questions and a brochure on, "The Story of the Oneida Nation Land Claims".

Enter the BCC's accomplishments related to the Three-year outcome/goal.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The OLCC plans to conduct an educational series for the community on past and proposed land claims activity; plus submit a report of all community input and recommendations from information gathered from the previous Land Claims Commission, prior to the Covid organizational shut down. The membership will also be provided with OLCC recommendations regarding Oneida Land Claims.

Enter what the membership can expect in the future from the BCC related to the Three-year outcome/goal.

---

## Outcome/Goal # 2

Gather input from the Oneida membership regarding Oneida land claims

IS THIS A LONG-TERM OR QUARTERLY GOAL? Long-term

GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

Responsiveness - Availability to the public and timeous reaction to the needs and opinions of the public

HOW OUTCOME/GOAL SUPPORTS THE GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

The OLCC has a duty and goal to gather input from the membership. This supports the good governance principle of responsiveness by including the membership, gathering their feedback, input, and recommendations for the Nation to move forward (with a land claim, through the courts, congress, or other alternative means).

Enter how the Three-year outcome/goal supports the Good Governance Principle.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The OLCC held an outreach event at the Farmers Market on 06-23-2022. Attendees were asked questions related to the Oneida Land Claims. Commissioners spoke to Oneida Community members one on one, provided updates on the Oneida Land Claims in New York, provided information and education about our claim. The Oneida Land Claims Commissioners conducted a survey regarding the importance of understanding the history and role of the GTC, the membership, and the OLCC.

Enter the BCC's accomplishments related to the Three-year outcome/goal.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The OLCC plans to do more surveys and outreach on social media and paper form to gather Membership input regarding Land Claims. This will include settlement recommendations from the membership for a potential congressional fix or other alternative fix.

Enter what the membership can expect in the future from the BCC related to the Three-year outcome/goal.

---

### Outcome/Goal # 3

Compile and forward all community recommendations, and research on Oneida Land Claims to the OBC and GTC.

IS THIS A LONG-TERM OR QUARTERLY GOAL? Long-term

GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

Accountability - The acknowledgement and assumption of responsibility for decisions and actions as well as the applicable rules of law

HOW OUTCOME/GOAL SUPPORTS THE GOOD GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLE:

This goal supports the good governance principle of accountability by informing the OBC and GTC of the membership's recommendations, needs, and wants. Reporting this information, on behalf of our membership, provides them with an opportunity to share open and honest, transparent dialog regarding all Oneida Land Claims.

Enter how the Three-year outcome/goal supports the Good Governance Principle.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The OLCC is in the process of locating and compiling community recommendations from all surveys which were conducted prior to the pandemic. The OLCC office was closed in accordance with Oneida Laws. During closure, the OLCC office was relocated from the basement of Norbert Hill Center up to the vacant 3rd floor wing of the Norbert Hill Center. Our working papers, files, and documents were comingled and placed in unlabeled / mislabeled boxes. Records and files were removed from numerous filing cabinets. We are still in the process of locating, organizing, and refiling our records, files, and documents. We have limited access to our office, and we do not have an administrator to assist us with this and many other day-to-day projects. Some of our Oneida Land Claim Commissioners work full-time and cannot work or visit our office Monday - Friday, before 4:30pm.

Enter the BCC's accomplishments related to the Three-year outcome/goal.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The OLCC hopes to uncover new information/evidence of new Land Claims here in Wisconsin and New York State. The OLCC plans to study recent outcomes from other tribal nations to see if any of our situations may apply. The OLCC is committed to gathering relevant information from other tribal nations, State courts cases, Federal courts cases, and from Indigenous nations around the world pertaining to Land Claims. The OLCC is working to compile and report community input and recommendations from the previous OLCC member records prior to the Covid shut down. The OLCC will continue to work on gathering more input from the community and complete an annual report with this data.

Enter what the membership can expect in the future from the BCC related to the Three-year outcome/goal.

## Stipends

*Per the Boards, Committees, and Commissions law, stipends are set via OBC resolution. BC resolution # 08-12-20-C sets the stipend amounts.*

## Budget Information

FY-2022 BUDGET: \$43,360.00

FY-2022 EXPENDITURES AS OF END OF REPORTING  
PERIOD: JUNE 30, 2022 \$5,162.00

Enter budget utilization information, if needed.

## Requests

Respectfully the OLCC requests the OBC permanently table their recommendation to dissolve the OLCC from any upcoming GTC meeting. Any discussion or recommendation by the OBC should be tabled until there is a resolve to any previous or future Land Claim, whether from the U.S. Court System, the World Court System, a Congressional fix, or other alternative means. The OLCC is an elected body, by the membership, dedicated to work on Land Claims matters; to advocate on behalf of the membership and work with the Nation and the Business Committee on any unresolved Land Claim.

Enter request(s), if needed.

## Other

The OLCC respectfully requests to be notified by the OBC Secretary or Chairman when there is any discussion or work on or about any, and all Oneida Land Claims, to include discussion or work on or for a Congressional Fix or any other alternative fix.