

2023 4th Quarter Report

Oneida Land Claims Commission-OLCC

Approved by official entity action on: October 19, 2023

Submitted by: Chris Cornelius, Chairwoman

OBC Liaison: Secretary, Lisa Liggins, OBC Primary

OBC Liaison: Vice Chairman, Brandon Stevens, 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 allow 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

Don McLester
Vice-Chair

Term July 31, 2024

Kerry Kennedy
Secretary
July 31, 2023

Michael S. King
Commissioner
July 31, 2025

Vacant

Commissioner
July 31, 2023

Administrative Assistant
(Position eliminated by
OBC to create BCC
Support Office)

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

Monthly 1st and 3rd Thursday; At OLCC Office Norbert Hill Center & Online, Blend in Person and Microsoft Teams¹.

Time: 3:00 PM

Emergency Meetings: 0

Work Meetings³ 9

Community Meetings: 1

Outreach Events: 4

¹ The OLCC connects by computer or phone. Some Land Claims Commissioners do not have access, means or capabilities to connect online with a computer during regular meetings. Some Commissioners have slow, poor, or no internet service. Commissioners are not permitted to utilize the office after 4:30 pm or on weekends.

³ Work meetings are not paid in accordance with BC approved Oneida Laws

Contact Info

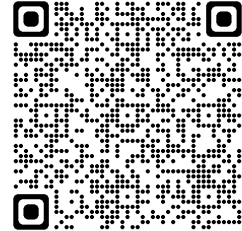
CONTACT: Kerry Kennedy

TITLE: Secretary, Oneida Land Claims Commission

PHONE NUMBER: 920-869-4430

E-MAIL: LandClaims_Comm@oneidanation.org

MAIN WEBSITE: <https://oneida-nsn.gov/government/boards-committees-andcommissions/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 Council² and membership aware of past and present litigations pertaining to Indian Land Claims.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The Commission distributed hundreds of educational books, DVDs, and documents at community outreach events including the 200-year Bicentennial event at the Radisson; an educational / listening session on September 6th at the Oneida VFW and the Oneida Farmers Markets. Some documents provided pertained to Oneida Treaties and Oneida land claims with the United States Federal Government and the states of Wisconsin and New York territories. We will continue to share information through community outreach and social media outlets. This goal is on-going.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The OLCC continues to conduct educational outreach events to our community members. The OLCC plans to hold an event at SEOTS in the fiscal year 2024. The OLCC is working to update flyers, brochures, other reading materials, and videos. The OLCC is waiting for OBC updates on the Oneida Land Claims which can be shared with this commission and our membership¹. The OLCC will continue to use social media pages to help disseminate educational materials to the membership. The OLCC is working to recreate a children's activity book, on Oneida land claims and land rights, for our younger generation. These goals are ongoing. Please note, currently OLCC is restricted from conducting interactive outreach at GTC meetings.

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 GTC directed the OLCC to gather input from the membership to ensure their input is included in any settlement action. 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 resolution to the Oneida Land Claims.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

Community outreach events took place during the week of the 200-year Bicentennial event at the Radisson; and a community educational / listening session was conducted at the Oneida VFW in September. Educational materials were distributed, presentations were made, public discussion took place, surveys and recommendations were collected.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

We are reviewing the survey's and seeking recommendations and assistance from internal and external departments/vendors. We are researching alternative methods to gather input from our membership. We will continue to gather settlement recommendations from our membership.

Outcome/Goal # 3

¹ The OLCC is unable to give the community members an update on the current status of the NY Land Claims at this time. The Commission was provided an update from the BC during executive session. The Commission is seeking clarification from the Law Office and the OBC on what can be shared with the membership. The Commission was created by the membership to provide updates to them on land claims negotiations.

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, honest, transparent dialog regarding all Oneida Land Claims.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

This goal is 50% completed at this time. We are compiling all the feedback, recommendations, and surveys which were completed during the 4th quarter. Once completed we will seek a joint meeting with the OBC to share the community's recommendations.

The Commission continues to conduct research every quarter on our Land Claims and other Tribal Land Claims. Research is discussed at our regular meetings and shared on social media when possible.

EXPECTATIONS/FUTURE PLANS REGARDING THE OUTCOME/GOAL:

The Commission will continue to compile and share community recommendations with the OBC and the membership. We will continue to work on the directives outlined by the membership, which is to provide support and assistance in resolving our land claim; by providing community input and recommendations from the community to the OBC and our designated negotiators.

OLCC will continue to research other land claims and research any information, or evidence on the Oneida Land Claims. OLCC will study recent and past outcomes from other tribal nations. OLCC is committed to gathering relevant information from other Tribal Nations, State courts cases, Federal courts cases, and other Indigenous Nations around the world regarding Land Claims. OLCC will continue to gather, compile, and report all research to our membership, the Business Committee, and the designated land claims negotiators.

Stipends

Per the Boards, Committees, and Commissions law, stipends are set via OBC resolution. BC resolution # 04-13-22-B sets the stipend amounts.

Budget Information

FY-2023 BUDGET:

\$68,360

FY-2023 EXPENDITURES AS OF END OF REPORTING

PERIOD: August 31, 2023 \$ 25,381.00

Requests

1. OLCC requests an exception to the law to hire an assistant to help with day-to-day activities, tasks, duties, and responsibilities assigned by the Commission and outlined in previous job description for the OLCC administrative assistant. The OLCC voluntarily agreed to give up their funding for their assistant to fund the BCC support office, created by the OBC. The BCC support office has only been able to fulfill the limited duties and responsibilities outlined in the previous OLCC Administrative Assistant.
2. OLCC requests partial funding returned to hire someone to fulfill the rest of the duties and responsibilities needed to complete our annual goals and obligations as directed by the GTC.
3. OLCC requests to set up a small table at future GTC meetings, to conduct surveys, gather input, and share educational material about our Land Claims
4. OLCC requests to meet quarterly with the Nation's negotiators to discuss settlement efforts that have or are taking place to provide updates to the membership as directed by the membership.
5. OLCC requests the Business Committee to review and include the memberships' recommendations in any negotiations or settlement efforts, as directed by the membership.
6. OLCC requests to be notified and included in all negotiations pertaining to all Land Claims matters, as directed by the membership on September 19, 1986.

Other

1. The OLCC requests to be notified 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. The Commission was created to work for and meet with the negotiating team during negotiations, per the 1986 Special Meeting when the OLCC was created.
2. The Commission supports the direct purchasing of all land within its original treaty territories in the New York area and the State of Wisconsin.
3. The OLCC recommends sending an annual letter to the Governor of NY and the President of the United States, along with all other lawmakers (i.e., Congressional representatives, both state and federal), the Senate on Indian Affairs, the BIA and the DOI regarding our unresolved land claims, to give notice that we still have unresolved land claims and to request meetings to discuss reparations and a just resolution to this matter.
4. OLCC requested books be purchased using FY 2023 budgeted funding in September 2023. The book purchase, totaling \$15,693.40, was delayed due to events in staffing within the Purchasing department which now results in the books having to be purchased from the OLCC FY 2024 budget.