

FY-2025 2nd (Jan - Mar) Quarter Report

Oneida Land Claims Commission

Text in orange provides instruction; this text will not be included in the printed report.

Approved by official entity action on: April 17, 2025

Submitted by: Kerry Kennedy, Secretary

OBC Liaison: Lisa Liggins

OBC Liaison: Brandon Yellowbird-Stevens

PURPOSE

The OLCC shall inform and educate the membership on the issues pertaining to Oneida Nation land claims, seek participation of the membership, and be further responsible for carrying out the following duties:

To bring forward concerns and suggestions of the membership regarding the Nation's land claims to the Oneida Business Committee.

As part of its advisory procedures, to hold public meetings and undergo outreach to provide an opportunity for the membership to voice their concerns and suggestions regarding the Nation's land claims settlement efforts and to share those concerns/suggestions with the Oneida Business Committee.

To study other Indian land claim settlements achieved between tribal, state, and federal governments and disseminate the information to the membership and the Oneida Business Committee.

To manage the budget that the Oneida Business Committee provides to the OLCC in accordance with governing laws and policies of the Nation.

To assist the Oneida Business Committee with any land claims arising out of natural resource issues/disputes as requested by the Oneida Business Committee.

To carry out all other powers and/or duties delegated to the OLCC through any laws, policies, rules and/or resolutions of the Nation.

AUTHORITY

Created by the Business Committee as directed by the membership. The OLCC shall inform and educate the membership on the issues pertaining to Oneida Nation land claims, seek participation of the membership, and be further responsible for carrying out the following duties: (a) Bring forward concerns and suggestions of the membership regarding the Nation's land claims to the Oneida Business Committee. (b) As part of its advisory procedures, to hold public meetings and undergo outreach to provide an opportunity for the membership to voice their concerns and suggestions regarding the Nation's land claims settlement efforts and to share those concerns/suggestions with the Oneida Business Committee. (c) Study other Indian land claim settlements achieved between tribal, state, and federal governments and disseminate the information to the membership and the Oneida Business Committee. (d) Manage the budget that the Oneida Business Committee provides to the OLCC in accordance with governing laws and policies of the Nation. (e) Assist the Oneida Business Committee with any land claims arising out of natural resource issues/disputes as requested by the Oneida Business Committee. (f) Carry out all other powers and/or duties delegated to the OLCC through any laws, policies, rules and/or resolutions of the Nation.

BCC MEMBERS

Chris Cornelius
Chair
July 31, 2026

Kerry Kennedy
Secretary
July 31, 2026

Candace House
Member
July 31, 2026

Deborah Thundercloud
Vice-Chair
July 31, 2027

Michael King
Member
July 31, 2025

MEETINGS

1st and 3rd Thursday of each month.

5:00 p.m.

Norbert Hill Center 3rd floor Rm 338 or Microsoft Teams

Emergency Meetings: Zero (0)

CONTACT INFORMATION

CONTACT: Chris Cornelius
TITLE: Chair
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>

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Please provide details of what the entity has accomplished that quarter, including any special events held during the reporting period and any travel by the members and/or staff.

ACCOMPLISHMENT #1

Summary:

Chairwoman Chris Cornelius attended the Oneida elder luncheon and shared the book club flyer with community members. Five (5) "Petition and appeal of the Six Nations, Oneida, Stockbridge, etc. to the government of the United States" books were distributed for the book club event on January 15, 2024.

Impact:

Educational outreach. Keeping the community members informed and involved.

Accomplishment #2

Summary:

A successful Book Club event was held on January 15, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at the Oneida Library. There were several community members in attendance and many who shared their knowledge on the history of the Oneida Land Claims.

Impact:

Working to meet our annual #2 strategic direction: Promotion education and positive relations.

Accomplishment #3

Summary:

OLCC has been working on updating a children's activities book.

Impact: Staying engaged with the Oneida Nation community.

A children's activity book has a positive impact on different aspects of a child's life. Learning about Oneida Nation, Oneida Land, and Oneida History. It can also encourage children with being creative. This activity book will encourage empathy, promoting inclusivity, and encouraging self-discovery.

GOALS

Please provide details of the entity's long-term goals, the entity's goals for the next quarter, and projected quarterly activities.

Long-term Goal #1

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

Continue to provide the community with education handouts, get the community input via surveys, and have information booths at community events.

Update on Goal:

Educational outreach. Keeping the community members informed and involved.

Long-term Goal #2

Oneida Land Claims Commission will continue to work on the directives outlines by the membership in 1986, which is to provide support and assistance in resolving our land claim; by providing community input and recommendations from community meetings.

The goal supports the good governance principle of accountability by informing the Business Committee and the General Tribal Council of the membership's recommendations, needs, and wants.

Update on Goal:

[Click here to enter your update on Goal – less than 200 words](#)

Quarterly Goal #1

Gather input from the Oneida membership regarding Oneida Land Claims.

This supports the Nation's vision by including the membership in the decision-making process and it also supports the Nation's mission statement to, "To strengthen and protect our people, reclaim our land and enhance the environment by exercising our sovereignty."

Update on Goal:

iPad will be used to improve the community survey process at outreach events.

Quarterly Goal #2

Compile and forward membership recommendations, Land Claims research, and the Commissions' recommendations to the Oneida Business Committee on behalf of the membership, as directed by the membership

This supports the Nation's vision by including the membership in the decision-making process and it also supports the Nation's mission statement to, "To strengthen and protect our people, reclaim our land and enhance the environment by exercising our sovereignty."

Update on Goal:

The Commission requested to meet with the newly elected Oneida Business Committee; and requested annual standing meeting to meet with them to discuss the Oneida land Claims and share the memberships' recommendations, along with the Commission's recommendations.

STIPENDS

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

	Total dollar amount paid	Number of stipend type		
		Regular Mtg	Emergency Mtg	Hearings/Other
January 2025	\$800	2	0	0
February 2025	\$800	2	0	0
March 2025	\$800	2	0	0

BUDGET

FY-2025 BUDGET: \$110,850

FY-2025 EXPENDITURES AS OF END OF REPORTING PERIOD: \$54,920

List how your BCC is utilizing your budget and projected budgetary uses for the next quarter.

Continue to expand outreach events, to include SEOTS and other Oneida communities; and seek input from other Tribal Nations.

REQUESTS

List any requests to the Oneida Business Committee, use the space below.

We request the OBC to make the unresolved New York Land Claims a priority; and to immediately resume talks with our brothers and sisters of the Thames. We recommend land title searches be completed on all allotted lands, and to cloud land titles on all land determined to have been illegally taken or not returned by the government. We are requesting a part time administrative assistant to help with all day-to-day activities, projects, and all other job duties, responsibilities, and tasks listed on the previous OLCC Executive Assistant job description that the BCC office cannot do or complete in a timely manner. Quarterly updates from the Nation's negotiators regarding all settlement efforts is requested. We request the Business Committee and Land Claims negotiators to review and include our Land Claims recommendations, along with the memberships' recommendations in any land negotiations or settlement efforts.

OTHER

List any other information deemed appropriate by the entity, as well as any other information required by a law or policy of the Nation.

Land Claims Recommendations: As a way, to reclaim our land, we support: 1) the direct purchasing of all land within our original treaty territories in New York and Wisconsin, 2) Sending annual letters to the governor of New York, the president of the United States, the Senate on Indian Affairs, the BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs), the DOI (Department of Interior), and all other lawmakers (i.e. Congressional representatives, both state and federal), regarding our unresolved land claims; in order to lobby the United States that they have a "moral and legal responsibility to provide the Oneidas an alternative remedy and to give notice we still have unresolved land claims and to request meetings to discuss reparations, an alternative legislative remedy, and a just resolution to the unjust court ruling of laches.