

# FY-2026 1st (Oct - Dec) Quarter Report

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*Text in **orange** provides instruction in accordance with the Boards, Committees, and Commissions law section 105.12-3. Quarterly Reports to the Oneida Business Committee.*

*Provide the name of the entity, the member submitting the report, and the Oneida Business Committee liaison.*

## Oneida Land Claims Commission

Approved by official entity action on: January 28, 2026

Submitted by: Kerry Kennedy, Secretary

OBC Liaison: Lisa Liggins

OBC Liaison: [Click here to enter OBC Liaison](#)

### **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 carry 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

### **AUTHORITY**

Created by the Business Committee as directed by the membership

## **BCC MEMBERS**

*Provide a list of the members and their titles, term expiration dates and contact information.*

Chris Cornelius  
Chair  
July 31, 2027

Deborah Thundercloud  
Vice-Chair  
July 31, 2027

Kerry Kennedy  
Secretary  
July 31, 2026

Donald McLester  
Member  
July 31, 2028

Candace Jourdan  
Member  
July 31, 2026

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

*Provide contact information for the entity.*

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>

## **MEETINGS**

*List when and how often the entity is holding meetings and whether any emergency meetings have been held. If an emergency meeting was held, indicate the basis of the emergency meeting for each meeting.*

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month.

5:00 p.m.

Norbert Hill Center 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Rm 338 or Microsoft Teams

Emergency Meetings: Zero (0)

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

*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:

We held seven community educational outreach events regarding Oneida land claims. Books and educational materials were disseminated to the community through outreach events, printed materials, social media, and direct mailing.

Impact:

Educational outreach meets annual and quarterly goals as directed by the membership when the OLCC was created in 1986. This keeps our community members informed and involved in the Oneida land claims process as directed.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENT #2**

Summary:

Conducted research on other tribal land claims

Impact:

This meets annual and quarterly goals as directed by our membership. Researching and reviewing other Tribal Nation Land Claims provides an opportunity to consider alternative strategies and perspective to consider when we readdress our Land Claims Case.

### **ACCOMPLISHMENT #3**

Summary:

Ordered youth books to review in order to provide educational material for our youth

Impact:

Educational outreach meets annual and quarterly goals as directed by our membership; and keeps our community members informed and involved.

## **GOALS**

*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**

Continue to keep the Oneida community members informed on the history of our Land Claims: Disseminate educational materials at public events, utilize the Facebook page, the official website, and seek other social media sources to share information; Continue to hold community meetings, and monthly book club events; Continue to work on a new children's activity book; Continue to purchase and distribute educational books and materials to our

community members, to include materials for our youth and young adult members.

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

Update on Goal: We conducted 7 community educational outreach events, provided our membership with free educational books, handouts, and flyers regarding the history of the Oneida Land Claims. Educational material has been distributed at the BCC office at the Norbert Hill Center, and community outreach events. Educational information was disseminated on our social media page. Flyers and handouts were shared with the members containing QR codes and links to YouTube videos providing an overview of the Oneida Land Claims.

### **LONG-TERM GOAL #2**

Oneida Land Claims Commission will gather and compile land claims input/recommendations/suggestions from our membership.

This 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: The Commission collected recommendations and feedback from community members at outreach events conducted during the 1st Quarter. Recommendations are submitted to the OBC, including our BC liaison, and legal counsel, on our reports submitted quarterly, semi-annually, and annually.

### **QUARTERLY GOAL #1**

Conduct, compile, and disseminate research of other tribal nations' land claims strategies and cases to our membership and the OBC; make recommendations and consider other strategies regarding our land claims.

This goal meets our strategic plan to meet the goals and objectives outlined by membership when the Oneida land claims commission was created.

Update on goal: the commission conducted research and shared research information about other tribal nation land claims at OLCC regular standing meetings. "research" is a standing item on our agenda.

**QUARTERLY GOAL #2**

Create a youth or children's activity book.

This goal meets our strategic plan to meet the goals and objectives outlined by the membership when the Oneida land claims commission was created

Update on goal:

Activities for the active book was discussed; and a draft word search was created for the activity book.

**BUDGET**

*Provide the amount of the entities budget and the status of the budget at that quarter.*

FY-2026 BUDGET: \$110, 850

FY-2026 EXPENDITURES AS OF END OF REPORTING PERIOD: \$3,536

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

Enter budget utilization and projection information.

**Stipends**

*List the amount of each stipend a member may be eligible to receive.*

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
October 2025	\$900	2	0	0
November 2025	\$800	2	0	0
December 2025	\$700	2	0	0

## **REQUESTS**

*List details of any requests to the Oneida Business Committee.*

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 just resolution to the unjust court ruling of laches