

# Sovereignty

Grand Ronde Tribal History



# What is Sovereignty?



- ☞ Sovereignty- the act of having independent power, political, social and economic, or being free.
- ☞ All 9 federally recognized tribes in Oregon are **sovereign nations**.
- ☞ Tribal sovereignty is not a privilege, but a right.
- ☞ So, what does that mean???

# Tribal Sovereignty



- ☞ The United States government recognizes federally recognized tribes as self governing nations.
- ☞ There is a **government-to-government** relationship between federally recognized tribes and the US government.



# Tribal Sovereignty



The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde is a **sovereign nation** meaning they have the right to-

- ❧ Form their own government
- ❧ Make and enforce laws
- ❧ Decide membership requirements
- ❧ To impose and collect taxes
- ❧ To regulate property use
- ❧ To regulate domestic relations of its members (marriage, divorce, etc.)
- ❧ And much more.

# How Does Tribal Sovereignty Affect Tribal Communities?



Tribal communities are faced with many issues including:

- ❧ Education
- ❧ Environmental protection
- ❧ Healthcare
- ❧ Safety and security (including civil and criminal jurisdiction)
- ❧ Taxation
- ❧ Economic development

# Picture This:



Australia has just been dropped in the middle of the United States. Although their land is now in the United States, they are still an independent government and still have the right to govern themselves.

☞ The best way to describe tribal sovereignty is to think of all 9 federally recognized tribes in Oregon as individual nations. They are essentially a nation within a nation.

