



Kiowa Tribe District 7 Newsletter

February/March of 2026



Dear Kiowa Citizens,

As the first thunder rolls across the plains, we are reminded of its deep significance to the Kiowa People. This sacred sound marks a time of change, renewal, and healing—a powerful reminder that brighter days are ahead. This month, our tribe has experienced a pivotal moment in our government. On March 2, 2026, the Kiowa Tribe Legislature held a formal impeachment hearing for Chairman Lawrence SpottedBird. After careful deliberation, the Legislature voted unanimously to remove him from office, citing seven constitutional violations. This decision underscores our commitment to upholding the integrity of our tribal government and protecting the values of our nation.

Following this decision, Vice Chairman David Sullivan was sworn in as the new Chairman of the Kiowa Tribe. Chairman Sullivan has expressed his dedication to serving our people with transparency, collaboration, and a focus on unity. We look forward to his leadership as we navigate this time of transition together.

As we embrace the season of change, let us also embrace the opportunities it brings. The first thunder reminds us that healing is on the way, and together, we can continue to strengthen our community and honor the legacy of our ancestors. Thank you for your continued support and engagement. We are here to serve you, and we encourage you to stay connected as we move forward



THOUGHTS FROM AN ELDER

WHATHDA?

I couldn't believe it when I read the tribal chairman was being challenged by allegations with possible impeachment proceedings. Whatda? (*Pardon my Indian tribal Ebonics.*) Now his impeachment has become a reality, with the Kiowa legislators unanimously voting to impeach him. Seems like there are state, community, tribal, and national situational allegations of political corruption and criminal activity within the conventional institutions more than in previous decades. I wonder if the tribe is ready to deal with the removal of the chairman. Those Kiowa who are close to him probably don't have much to say, hah? I guess they are willing to "let him go," considering he didn't put up much of a defense. If he did what he was accused of, he must be held accountable.

Sad to say, all this activity comes at a time when we are on the verge of a Self-Governance position, and we must deal with accusations of mismanagement, fraud, embezzlement, etc., within our executive division. It makes me wonder if we were/are really ready for self-governance administration status. Personally, I believe we need to let our younger people take the leadership roles, with our baby boomers providing some guidance and support, practically and spiritually. We need to examine our overall government structure, policies, practices, etc., and work toward rebuilding our nation. Like my old egocentric friend used to say at the pow wows, "Why is everybody out of step except me? We are struggling to keep up with changes in business, education, health, housing, technology, and other relevant life circumstances for our people, but sometimes refuse to admit it. It is time for us to make room for our younger leaders and retire the former, especially in the tribal service region of the tribe. We need to do some research on our current situations/conditions/circumstances and build for the future, or suffer the consequences of depending on trust responsibilities and relations with the federal government and the dissolution of our sovereignty. What about a stronger relationship with the "state government" and the new administration to be expected? Considering that the tribes contributed billions of dollars to the state, one might think the state would be willing and anxious to strengthen relations with the tribes. The state is probably too concerned about the federal government's attitude toward tribal governments and not willing to risk their own federal dollars; likewise, with tribes being concerned with their pending tribal dollars? We need to amend our constitution under the guidance of experienced professionals and in tune with today's dynamics and strategies. It seems like we have been stuck in the mud with government/governance practices, and our standards have become stagnant and status quo with outdated leadership.

For our legislators, the tribe needs stronger support and engagement from its citizens. I often stated that the tribal government is only effective with the participation of its tribal citizens. Several times I attempted to suggest and justify the establishment of citizen boards, commissions, committees, and think tanks, with and for the tribal government thrust only to be ignored with an attitude that doesn't work anymore. I strongly disagree with this attitude from within our tribal infrastructure and will continue to encourage tribal government to use its tribal citizens as not only sources but more so as resources (human capital). More often, the tribe has proven itself to be less effective in meaningful production focus for serving the tribal people, not to be negative or divisive. Use them (tribal human resources) or lose them! Why not identify and establish a tribal community commission for the purpose of addressing the concept of revising/amending the tribal constitution? Membership on this commission could be comprised of district community representatives, professional Kiowa tribal members, young and elderly, etc. The work would have to be spread over at least three years, leading to a final report of conclusions and recommendations for resolution development by the legislative body. Too much to consider? We need to do something about the Kiowa Constitution other than try to follow it when it is out of date for the situations and conditions of our people.

WE CAN HELP!



District 7 Update: Kiowa Tribe Leadership Transition

On March 2, 2026, the Kiowa Tribe Legislature held a formal impeachment hearing for Chairman Lawrence SpottedBird in Lawton. We want to ensure all District 7 citizens have clear and accurate information about this significant change in our tribal government.

The hearing addressed a formal order of impeachment that listed seven specific violations of the Kiowa Tribe Constitution. These charges included Failure to safeguard financial assets, nepotism, and the misuse of tribal funds. After a thorough review and a long discussion, the Legislature voted unanimously to remove SpottedBird from the office of Chairman. As a result of this ruling, he cannot hold tribal office for the next four years.

Following the final decision, SpottedBird stated his respect for the Legislature's vote and pledged his support during the transition.

This moment represents a serious step for our tribal government. Legislature Speaker Michael Primus II noted that the vote fulfilled one of the Legislature's most solemn constitutional responsibilities. This action demonstrates a strong commitment to institutional integrity. It also proves the ongoing strength and protection of our nation's constitutional order.

Immediately following the hearing, Vice Chairman David Sullivan took the oath of office to become the new Chairman of the Kiowa Tribe. Chairman Sullivan expressed his deep focus on the people of our tribe. He shared his readiness to step forward and lead. He also committed to making decisions collaboratively by meeting with all branches of government and listening to constituents like you. We will keep you informed as Chairman Sullivan transitions into his new role and begins working on behalf of District 7 and the entire Kiowa Tribe. For more information on the impeachment hearing, you may visit the website at <https://www.kiowatribe.org/legislative>.

Understanding the Role of the Kiowa Legislature

The Kiowa Constitution establishes the framework for our tribal government, outlining the distinct roles and responsibilities of each branch. A central part of this structure is the Kiowa Legislature, a body of elected representatives dedicated to serving the Kiowa People. Understanding the specific duties of the Legislature is essential for all citizens.

The Legislature is composed of seven members, one from each of the seven Kiowa Tribal Districts. According to the Constitution, their primary purpose is to act as a body of representatives for the People. This involves several key functions that are vital to the effective operation of our government.

Core Responsibilities

As defined in the Kiowa Constitution, the Legislature's duties are focused on governance, oversight, and lawmaking. These responsibilities include:

- **Monitoring Government Actions:** The Legislature is tasked with providing oversight of the government's actions. This ensures accountability and transparency, making sure that all branches operate in the best interest of the Kiowa People.
- **Assessing Citizen Needs:** Legislators are responsible for assessing the needs of the People within their respective districts. This information guides their decisions and helps them craft laws that address the real challenges and opportunities facing our community.

- **Passing Kiowa Laws:** A fundamental power of the Legislature is to make laws and resolutions. This lawmaking authority allows the body to create a legal framework that governs the Tribe, addresses the needs of the People, and promotes better government.
- **Managing Tribal Finances:** The Legislature holds significant financial authority. It has the power to pass an annual budget, raise revenue, and appropriate funds for expenditure. This "power of the purse" is a critical check on the government, ensuring that tribal resources are allocated properly and subject to the approval of the voters.

The Power of Impeachment

The Constitution also grants the Legislature a serious and vital power for ensuring executive accountability. Article XII, Section 3, gives the Legislature the authority to impeach and remove a Chairman or Vice-Chairman. This action can only be taken for "good cause" and requires a unanimous vote of the Legislature, demonstrating the high threshold required for such a significant measure.

Clarifying the Legislator's Role

It is important for citizens to understand the specific boundaries of a Legislator's constitutional authority. Legislators are lawmakers, overseers, and representatives. Their role is to create policy, manage the budget, and hold the government accountable on behalf of the People.

The Kiowa Constitution does not authorize Legislators to act as social service workers or to provide direct financial assistance to individual citizens. Their power lies in creating laws and programs that can benefit all Kiowa citizens, not in providing individual aid. By focusing on their constitutional duties, Legislators can work to build a stronger and more effective government for the entire Kiowa Tribe.

Check out our latest podcast

Available now on YouTube (link in our Linktree, <https://linktr.ee/kiowaD7>)



!Dõñ:gyà!



***A conversation with
Joseph Granado***



Upcoming Events

You can find a clickable Zoom link on the Legislative webpage,
<https://www.kiowatribe.org/legislative>



KIOWA TRIBE

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OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATURE

NOTICE

KIOWA TRIBE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE PUBLIC HEARING IV (4)

Friday, March 13, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

To Join the Legislative Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87277132932?pwd=NTp0ChGaeyWh0o5Oa5T33IplI3amYyN.1>

PASSCODE: 970329

The Kiowa Tribe Legislature shall convene Friday, March 13, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., for Legislative Public Hearing IV-(4), regarding resolutions of the Legislature.

1. KL-CY-2026-0XX The Protecting Our Democracy Act of 2026. Sponsor, Tiya Rosario, District 5. Co-sponsor, Kyle Ataddlety, District 1.
2. KL-CY-2026-0XX Honoring the Legacy of Tribe Member Lavetta Jo Yeahquo. Sponsor, Cole Kickingbird-Delaune, District 4.

All attendees of all sessions shall clearly identify themselves with correct names and be visible to the other participants. All attendees other than the Legislators and the Legislative staff shall remain muted but visual unless called upon to comment by the Legislative Speaker.

Posted on the Kiowa Tribe Webpage, March 10, 2026



KIOWA TRIBE
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OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATURE

NOTICE

KIOWA TRIBE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION CVII-(107)

Date: Saturday, March 14, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Kiowa Tribe Complex
100 Kiowa Way
Carnegie, Oklahoma 73015

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82733127727?pwd=WJKlpDU769TQarCmc4xz4knGaGbvap.1>

Passcode: 697233

*Kiowa Tribe Constitution, Article VI – Legislative Branch, Section 7. Sessions, (a)
The Legislature shall convene at the Tribe Headquarters for twelve regular sessions
of up to two consecutive days beginning on the second Saturday of each month
beginning at 9:00 a.m.*

Posted on the Kiowa Tribe website, March 10, 2026.

Kiowa District 7 Language Class

MARCH 16TH



**PLAINS CLASSROOM
AT SAM NOBLE MUSEUM**

2401 CHAUTAUQUA AVE
NORMAN, OK 73072

POTLUCK! PLEASE BRING AN ITEM TO SHARE!
IN PERSON ACTIVITY BEGINS @ 7:00PM
VIRTUAL CLASS BEGINS
@ 8:00 PM

ZOOM
MEETING ID: 834 4943 7664
PASSCODE: KIOWA



For any questions, please contact:
rhoadsconnywerdy@gmail.com



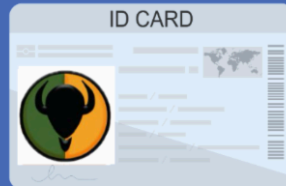
KIOWA TRIBE DISTRICT 7

ENROLLMENT AT THE D7 TULSA OFFICE

MARCH

24TH 12PM-5PM

25TH 10AM-12PM



15 E 16TH ST
TULSA, OK 74119
PHONE NUMBER: 539-525-0437

EMAIL
DISTRICT7LEGISLATURE@KIOWATRIBE.ORG



KIOWA HYMNS AND LANGUAGE LESSON CLASS

**LETS LEARN
KIOWA!**

**INSTRUCTOR:
WARREN QUETON**

**MARCH 30TH
6 TO 7:30 PM**



**LIGHT
REFRESHMENTS**

**Kiowa
District 7
Tulsa Office:**

**15th E 16th Street
Tulsa OK 74119**

ALSO AVAILABLE ON ZOOM

Zoom link available on our Linktree:

[HTTPS://LINKTR.EE/KIOWAD7](https://linktr.ee/kiowad7)



(539) 525-0437



DISTRICT7LEGISLATURE@KIOWATRIBE.ORG

KIOWA INDIAN COUNCIL

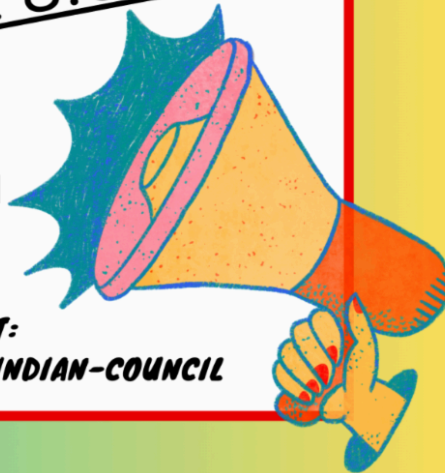
ANNUAL MEETING

Red Wolf C.C., Saturday
April 4, 2026

Doors Open at 8:00 a.m.

- Transportation Provided
(Locations TBA)

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:
[KIOWATRIBE.ORG/DEPARTMENT/KIOWA-INDIAN-COUNCIL](https://kiowatribe.org/departments/kiowa-indian-council)**



Link can be found on our Linktree, <https://linktr.ee/kiowaD7>

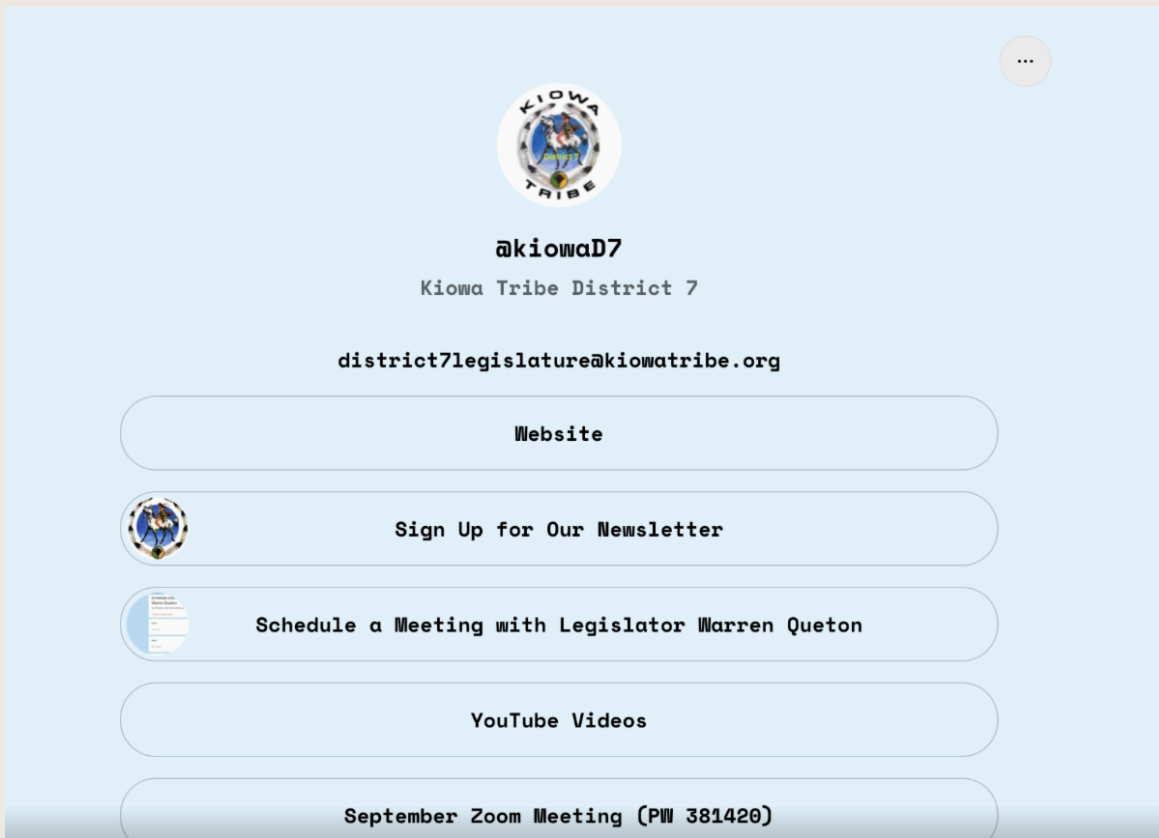
Past Events

Please check out our YouTube channel to see recordings of:

January and February Tulsa Language class

Links can be found on our Linktree, <https://linktr.ee/kiowaD7>

D7 Links



The screenshot shows a social media profile for @kiowaD7. At the top is the Kiowa Tribe logo, a circular emblem with a horse and rider. Below the logo is the handle @kiowaD7 and the name Kiowa Tribe District 7. The email address district7legislature@kiowatribe.org is listed. There are five rounded rectangular buttons with the following text: Website, Sign Up for Our Newsletter (with a small globe icon), Schedule a Meeting with Legislator Warren Queton (with a small calendar icon), YouTube Videos, and September Zoom Meeting (PIW 381420).

Please bookmark and save <https://linktr.ee/kiowaD7> this page will be updated with easy-to-navigate links.

Kiowa District 7 Legislative Office | 15 E 16TH ST | Tulsa, OK 74119 US

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