

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

2020 Draft Strategic Plan



Meaning of Seal:

The winding river and pine tree depicted on the Seal of Tribe honor the riverine and woodland traditions and history of the Little River Ottawa people. The two (2) adult eagles represent the balance and different strengths brought to the Tribe's families and community by the male and female, as well as ones who bring our people's prayers to the Creator. The circle with the four sacred colors represents the balance of life: the four races of people, the four periods of our lifetimes, the four seasons of nature, etc. The nine feathers represent the nine historic Grand River Ottawa Bands, from whom the members of the Tribe descend.

- 1) The Budget and Appropriations Act of 2013 requires the Tribal Council to prepare a five-year strategic plan. The strategic plan is to be guided by this mission statement: Long-term results oriented goals and objectives covering the major functions of each Branch (Judicial, Legislative and Executive Branches)

Little River Band Mission Statement

Focus on providing essential government services, Culture / Treaty Rights preservation, economic independence and growth with self-sufficient government enterprises.

Little River Band Legislative Branch Vision Statement:

The LRBOI Legislative mission is to Preserve and Enhance Tribal Existence, Improve the Quality of Lives of LRBOI Citizens and Protect and Improve Economic Development

Organizational History:

The LRBOI was federally recognized on September 21, 1994 and adopted its constitution on May 27, 1998. The Tribe currently has approximately 3800 members. The Government is comprised of three (3) independent branches of government. The Legislative, Executive and Judicial branches.

The Legislative branch of LRBOI Tribal Council is comprised of nine (9) enrolled members of the band. The adult members of the Band elect members of the tribal council for four-year terms. Once elected by the membership, Tribal Council select for with their ranks, the Speaker and the Recorder. Tribal Council also oversees a number of tribal committees and the office of Business and Accounting.

Legislative Priorities

Exercise Sovereignty

Support Constitution, Establishing/maintaining Regulations and Ordinance, Acquire and exercise jurisdiction over land, exercise all 1836-treaty rights. Hunting/Fishing/Gathering. Presenting LRBOI at National level Meetings EI NIGC, NCAI, NIGA, CORA,

Fiscal Responsibility

Approve annual budgets, approve changes to budgets, approve contracts, ensure funds are for the benefit of the membership. Establish EDC to diversify investments.

Legislative and Executive Shared Priorities

Express Culture

Participate and Promote annual Tribal cultural activities IE POW WOW

Promote Membership Programs

Promote governmental membership programs, IE Family Services, USDA,

Each Branches Major functions include.

Judicial

- Consistent with LRBOI Constitution (Article 6 section 8)
- Adjudicate civil and criminal matters arising within the territorial or membership based jurisdiction of the tribe.
- Review Ordinance and resolutions of TC or general membership to ensure they are consistent with LRBO Constitution.

Legislative

- Consistent with LRBOI Constitution (Article 4, Section 7 Constitution A-J)
- Exercise powers of LRBOI to enact ordinance and adopt resolutions.
- Provide for the General Welfare of Membership.
- Authorize and Ratify Contract Approvals.
- Manage/Oversee Commission or subordinate organizations as directed by Article 4 Section 7 of the LRBOI Constitution.
- Manage any funds within exclusive control of LRBOI and appropriate funds for the benefit of its members.

OB&A

- Provide Internal Audit Program.
- Evaluate Proposed Budgets.
- Assist Council in Legislative Activities.

Executive

- Consistent with LRBOI Constitution (Article 5, Section 5 Constitution A-C)
- Write executive orders to govern work along with the State and Federal Government.
- Negotiate contracts and execute agreements on regular basis.
- Keep working relationship with the state as well as the U.S. Government through being member of CORA, MEDC, MEHD, and United Tribes of Michigan and other similar agencies.
- Make appointment to various committees within the tribe.

- Prepare and present budgets and modifications to the tribal council for approval.
- Collect taxes and assessments through the Accounting Department.
- Manage the economic affairs of the Tribe through regular meetings.
- Conduct Bi-Annual General Membership meetings, keeping membership informed on the “state of the Tribe”.

Legislative Performance Plans

The Speaker or their designate person will prepare performance plans for the Legislative branch.

Legislative Performance Goals and Objective for upcoming budget year.

- Hold Tribal Council (TC) Meetings.
- Hold TC Work Sessions.
- Reviews of Government Finances.
- Reviews of Casino Finances.

OB&A

- Maintain Monthly Objective Worklist/Checklist.
- Internal Audit Schedules.

Legislative Goals and Objective will be met by.

- Weekly Schedules will ensure TC weekly meetings
- Daily/Weekly Schedules will ensure TC work sessions.
- Monthly Financial Reviews with Executive/Government Staff.
- Monthly Financial Reviews with Casino Staff.

OB&A

- Updating the Objective Worklist Daily/Weekly to ensure completion of Objectives.
- Updating Internal Audit Schedule monthly as part of Objective Worklist.

Legislative Performance Goals and Objectives are measured and verified by.

- TC Weekly meeting will be held in record and posted publically. Membership input will be considered and follow-up will be handled, case by case.
- TC Weekly work sessions will be held in record and follow-up will be handled, case by case.
- TC will hold monthly reviews with Executive/Government Staff to determine financial status of Tribal operations
- TC will hold monthly reviews with Casino Staff to determine financial status of Casino operations.

OB&A

- Objective worklist is turn into TC Monthly for review by Speaker/TC; they will give direction, as needed.

- b. Internal Audit Schedule is turned in annually to TC/Speaker TC/Speaker, they will give direction, as needed,

This Legislative Performance Plan will be submitted to Tribal Council with its annual draft budgets

By April 15th, the Speaker or their designate person will prepare and submit to TC a performance report that reviews legislative branches success and failures in meeting their performance goals and objectives from previous years. (See Last Page Attached for example)

The Tribal Council Speaker has prepared this essential services list of service provided by Legislative branch. In case of budget shortfall, this list will be maintain in priority order.

1. Tribal Council Weekly Meetings
2. Tribal Council Work Sessions
3. Ensure communications to membership via LRBOI Website and tribal newspaper "Currents".
4. Annual External Audit of LRBOI financial activates.
5. Ensure Tribal Activities *provide benefit/experience to membership*, Pow Wow, Youth and Round Dance, etc

A list of Legislative essential services are required to be submitted to LRBOI "Currents" by the publishing deadline for the Annual January issue.

Draft Example

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Strategic Plan Legislative 2020 Performance Goals Report to Tribal Council

Legislative Performance Goals and Objective have all been completed year to date 2020 and as scheduled. I see no reason at this time to change or update any strategic plan or Performance plans requirements for Legislative 2021 budget year.

Successes:

- Improve open communication by streaming Council Meeting Live and providing interaction/feedback opportunities for membership
- Improve response times for council objectives increasing meeting time from twice a month to weekly.
- Complete Cyber Security Audit.
- Complete LRBOI Information Technology Assessment.
- Work with Executive Branch to ensure the Wellness and Safety of Team members by reacting/responding to nation health events as they arise.
- Work with Executive Branch to verify feasibility of Ambulance/emergency services to service the area.

Failures:

- Recommend in 2020 budget review, we need more help in the Grants department to ensure tribe is receiving as many grants as possible.
- Recommend in 2020 budget review, Government Maintenance department needs to improve wages to compete with Casino Maintenance.