



# **Press Release**

**Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation**

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## **CTUIR Board of Trustees Announce Interim Executives**

Mission, OR – The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation’s Board of Trustees (BOT) has announced executive staff assignments of interim executives in the Office of the Executive Director in accordance with management policies. Effective on March 1, Ms. Debra Croswell became Interim Executive Director and Mr. Charles F. Sams III became Interim Deputy Executive Director.

The Tribes’ executive management policy states that these positions are to be filled in the event the executive director’s position becomes vacant. With the resignation of Dave Tovey, which became effective on February 28, the announcements were made to ensure continuity of government and administrative leadership.

Ms. Croswell has served in CTUIR government for over 22 years. She has served as the public information officer, public affairs manager, Confederated Umatilla Journal publisher, communications director, deputy executive director and interim executive director two times before. Mr. Sams has served in a number of executive positions in both the non-profit and for-profit sectors regionally and nationally over the past 25 years. He has worked for the CTUIR over the past five years as the environmental health officer/planner and communications director.

Ms. Croswell and Mr. Sams will serve in this interim capacity until the Board of Trustees hires an executive director. The hiring process and search for a new executive director will take place over the coming months.

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation is made up of the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla Tribes, formed under the Treaty of 1855 at the Walla Walla Valley. In 1949, the Tribes adopted a constitutional form of government to protect, preserve and enhance the treaty rights guaranteed under federal statute.

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