



## Chalon Indian Council of Bakersfield 2022 Annual Report

***Mission Statement:*** The mission of the Chalons Indian Council of Bakersfield (California) is to develop tribal resources, protect and preserve Native American heritage and cultural traditions, seek Federal recognition for our descendants, assist Native Americans in pursuing higher education, assist those seeking their tribal affiliation, and to promote healthcare services to Native Americans.

This report summarizes the activities and accomplishments of the Chalons Indian Council of Bakersfield's efforts in support of the citizens of the Chalons Indian Nation. Significant progress was made possible by securing two major grants to fund activities that directly supported our citizens to attend our equinox ceremonies at Pinnacles National Park and to educate the public about our tribe and its history in California.

Chalons Indian Council of Bakersfield  
P.O. Box 902 Bakersfield, CA 93302

[www.chalontribe.com](http://www.chalontribe.com)

Facebook Chalons Indian Council of Bakersfield

[chaloncouncil@gmail.com](mailto:chaloncouncil@gmail.com)

# Progress and Accomplishments

## Towards Goals

### 2022

**Goal:** *To seek federal recognition for our Chalon descendants /tribal members.*

**PROGRESS:** compiled and scanned old documents required to submit formal application to California and US Government to gain recognition; founding member of the Coalition of California Tribes that seeks to support and unify unacknowledged indigenous tribes in CA; co-signed letter to Truth and Healing Council about unacknowledged indigenous tribes concerns; participated in CA Truth & Healing Council's hearings to raise our concerns; and continued to gather information for federal filing for recognition.

**Goal:** *To develop community resources.*

**PROGRESS:** distributed four issues of the Chalon Newsletter; issued timely informational notices via our Facebook page; strengthened connections with Bakersfield American Indian Health Project (BAIHP) and shared their information about services for our member; held successful fry bread events for BAIHP as a major fundraiser; received a \$2,500 grant from Hopa Mountain Fund to fund our Equinox expenses and \$14,000 from Western National Park Association to support public education outreach; and submitted requests for funds from California Truth & Healing Fund (\$50,000) and First Nation Fund (\$20,000) to support our 2023 programs.

**Goal:** *To assist Native Americans in pursuing higher education and assist those seeking information on their tribal affiliation.*

**PROGRESS:** distributed \$1,000 in scholarship funds to 4 college students; participated and provided sweet frybreads to students and community members at the CSUB Culture and Food Event; continued involvement with CalTerra's apprenticeship program through **Cameron Garcia's** participation; and joined the California Tribal College Advisory Council through **Lawrence Salcido Jr.'s** participation.

**Goal: To promote health care services for all Native Americans.**

**PROGRESS:** continued relationship with BAIHP and publicized their services/ activities; outreach to service providers in Kern County area about their services; limited in-person activities during COVID; shared information to citizens about free COVID test packets; and submitted letters to federal agencies about health concerns for proposed land disruptions (Bakersfield area).

**Goal: To promote and protect American Indian cultural heritage and traditions.**

**PROGRESS:** the September equinox ceremony was attended by 31 citizens and park rangers; conducted a public education session at Pinnacles for park visitors; strengthened connection with Pinnacles staff to conduct regular educational sessions; produced a brochure about our ancestor Piu-Úina; Pinnacles National Park will install a new entrance sign that states—*Heartland of the Chalon People*; **Yvonne Blank, Cynthia Rios, Noey Alonso, Esther Hernandez** and **Frenchie Turner** held a youth session on how to make gourd rattles; held a Holiday gathering for all citizens in December; and submitted letters in support of Amah Mutsun’s sacred site.



**Goal: To serve as a guide for deliberations of our Tribal Council.**

**PROGRESS:** the Council held elections in April and elected Chair **Audrey Alvarado**, Treasurer **Sonya Dorado** and Secretary **Bridget Escalera** to two year terms. **Natalie Garcia** was appointed by the Council to fulfill one year term for a resigning member. **Larry Lopez** was appointed as Elder’s Rep and **Lawrence Salcido Jr.** was appointed chair of the Elections Committee. The council reviewed requests by outside groups to support or endorse their efforts.

**2021-2022 Financial Reports**

The 2021 and 2022 revenue and expenses are outlined below:

<b>Revenue</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Fry Bread	\$ 3,500	\$11,250
Grants	—	\$16,500
Other	\$ 168	\$ 1,696
Checking Balance from prior year	<u>\$13,162</u>	<u>\$12,279</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,830</b>	<b>\$41,725</b>

**Expenses**

Scholarships	\$1,000	\$ 1,140
Insurance	\$1,320	\$ 1,320
Supplies	\$ 775	\$ 65
Fry Bread Supp	\$ 417	\$ 3,316
State Filing	\$ 200	\$ 29
Postage/Fees	\$ 134	\$ 45
Pinnacles Grant	—	\$ 8,490
Travel Stipends	—	\$ 700
Special Events	\$ 191	\$ 2,929
Pinnacles Site	—	\$ 2,065
Other	\$ 514	<u>\$ 509</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,551</b>	<b>\$20,608</b>
<b>Checking Balance</b>	<b>\$12,279</b>	<b>\$21,117</b>
<b>Savings Balance</b>	<b>\$522.19</b>	<b>\$523.76</b>

The Council improved its financial position in 2022 due to two grants and providing frybreads for the Bakersfield American Indian Health Project’s annual gathering and open house. We invested in equipment for future use for frybread sales. A truly significant accomplishment is the new sign that will be installed at the Pinnacles National Park recognizing it as the heartland of the Chalon people.

**2022 Council Board**

Audrey R. Alvarado – Chairwoman  
 Natalie Garcia – Vice Chair  
 Bridget Escalera – Secretary  
 Sonya Dorado— Treasurer  
 Julian Behill— Member at Large  
 Esther Hernandez – Sargent at Arms  
 Larry Lopez—Elder’s Rep

**Elder’s Council**

Gloria Medina – Chairwoman  
 Irene Soto – Vice Chair  
 Yvonne Estrada – Pursuer  
 Richard Suniga – Sargent at Arms