



# *Narragansett Indian Tribe*

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## *Chief Sachem's Office*

December 21, 2022

Dear Fellow Tribal Members,

As the Chief Sachem of the Narragansett Indian Tribe, I am honored to provide an update on tribal activities from August 2, 2012 till December 21, 2022. I want to thank the tribal council, tribal directors and the tribal staff for providing services to our tribal membership throughout a very tough year. At this time our tribal membership stands at over 3450 people enrolled. A tremendous effort was out forth to service our tribal members to the best of our ability. Over 15 million dollars of services has been provided over the past two years. The tribal membership has received more services than at any time during our history since Federal Recognition. We have continually provided information regarding nutrition, health care, health care supplies and whatever the Federal Regulations allow for distribution to the tribal membership. The Covid-19 pandemic is still ongoing and all tribal members and their families are encouraged to take as many precautions as possible for continued well-being/health. Although we now are using "zoom" computer equipment for our tribal assembly meeting we are still trying to invest in ways to improve the computer capabilities to efficiently hold monthly meetings. We were able to swear-in over 400 people that were "technical corrections" or people that were put on hold until their paperwork was reviewed and approved. This happened during the months of June, July, and August. We were also able to have a tribal assembly meeting on the tribal lands in September. At this time due to the incoming inclement weather the tribal monthly meeting will be held utilizing the "zoom" process until we get warm enough weather to meet on the tribal lands outside. I want to recognize the work done by the staff and screening committee to review and confirm all the required paper work and records that allowed those 400 people to be sworn in. I thank all that made that possible. We also allowed the tribal membership to have access to Deep and Schoolhouse Pond. Due to "Controversial Behavior" we had to once again shut down and close the gates for four weeks and later reopen in September. We were able to hold our 347<sup>th</sup> annual August Meeting/Powwow. A near record number of people were in attendance and basically all went well. I thank all that participated and it was good to be doing what we have done since time immemorial. At least 40 people have passed away since 2019. A time of ceremony was held at our 347<sup>th</sup> annual August Meeting/Powwow to honor those that had passed on into the spirit world and our traditions were upheld. On a sad note, some tribal members were stricken with Covid-19 and became ill. As most of you are aware the Narragansett Indian Tribe was awarded funds for "economic stimulus" derived from the American Rescue Plan Act. At three different times we were able to provide "financial assistance" to the entire tribal membership nationwide. Needless to say, this was also a very difficult task and I have to thank and give credit to all that were involved that made it happen as it had never been done in our tribal history.

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Below you will find a list of activities that have continued since my last update Please note that they are listed in no particular order.

Work has continued on our tribal roads.

Continued work and plans for the Crandall Farm.

Continued litigation on Viaduct Project.

Continued litigation on Salt Pond.

Continued litigation on Camp Davis

Obtained 5 acres of the Great Swamp.

Awaiting award for Health Services from Opioid litigation.

Continued dialogue with Brown University.

Continued dialogue with the University of Rhode Island.

Continued talks with Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland.

Will be establishing meetings with Rhode Island Governor Dan McKee.

Will be resuming talks with Rhode Island Senator Jack Reed.

Will be resuming talks with Rhode Island Senator Sheldon Whitehouse.

Will be resuming talks with Rhode Island Attorney General Peter Nerohna

Have been in process of making our tribal housing policies more user friendly.

Will be reorganizing and restructuring the tribal health center.

Working with consultants on a 30-year comprehensive plan.

Working with consultants on feasibility/economic/marketability studies for the tribe.

Continued working on strategy for potential economic development projects.

Continued pursuit of Broadband capabilities and other usages for the tribe.

Have been awarded a grant to obtain fish/shell fish for the tribe

Fulfilled Traditional, Cultural, Ceremonial, obligations for our 347<sup>th</sup> annual August Meeting

The annual Great Swamp Pilgrimage and our annual October Thanksgiving.

Renovations have been completed at the tribal police station.

Renovations have been completed at the tribal day care center.

Renovations are being continued at the tribal meal site.

Renovations are being continued at the tribal senior center.

Renovations are being continued at the North Wind building.

Projections for 2023

Power point presentation about the Police Gym.

Power point presentation on work at the Crandall Farm.

Power point presentation on Economic Development possibilities.

In conclusion I recognize and acknowledge all the tribal members and extended family members that have passed away and hope for a better tomorrow for all of us. I want to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and a great New Year.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony Dean Stanton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Chief Sachem Anthony Dean Stanton