



# INSPIRING THE NATIVE TRADITION OF GIVING

# POTLATCH FUND



July 27, 2011



## Funder Tour to Tulalip, Stillaguamish and Swinomish Final Landing 2011

On Monday, July 25, 53 individuals traveled with Potlatch Fund to witness the final landing of the 2011 InterTribal Canoe Journey. The Seattle rain seemed to follow us northwards as we visited the Tribal communities of Tulalip Tribes, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians and Swinomish Indian Tribal Community. But even with the rain, it was an awesome experience.



We offer these tours to introduce individuals to both the successes and challenges faced by Tribal communities and aim to intentionally show the diverse nature of the Tribal communities and Native organizations that comprise Northwest Indian Country.

We had the opportunity to see three distinctly different Tribal communities. Tulalip was created as a reservation as a result of the treaties of the 1850's when a number of different Tribes and Bands were relocated to the land we toured. Tulalip has the most generous land base of the three Tribes we visited, and is also the largest community overall. The overall size of the community and the ongoing issues of trying to become one distinct Tribal entity as opposed to an imposed confederation are major issues for Tulalip. Stillaguamish, re-gained federal recognition in 1976, and has had to purchase the vast majority of its land back through private land sales in order to best serve its members. We also heard that once land has been acquired there is the additional complexities involved in bringing the lands into "trust" so that they can be preserved in perpetuity. Swinomish has more of a village feeling to its 2 square mile reservation which allows people to be able to easily move around, but also severely limits options for growth. The surrounding communities of Marysville, Arlington and La Conner are, likewise, very diverse with different economic bases and history of

*Photos taken by:  
Ken Gordon,  
Outgoing Executive  
Director, Potlatch Fund*

development.

Links: [New York Times article](#) and [photos of the funder tour](#).

Special thanks to First Nations Development Institute, which provided the funding for this tour.

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### 2011 Leadership Honoring Awardees



[Leadership Honoring Awards](#)

In 2005, Potlatch Fund launched its Leadership Honoring Awards. Named after five outstanding leaders, the awards seek to acknowledge leaders in Northwest Indian Country. The 2011 recipients will be honored at our Ninth Annual Gala. They are:

**Bruce Thomas** (Grand Ronde)

Antone Minthorn Economic and Community Development Award

**John McCoy** (Tulalip)

Pearl Capoeman-Baller Civic Participation Award

**Eric J. Quaempts** (Umatilla)

Billy Frank Jr. Natural Resource Protection Award

**Jamie Valadez** (Lower Elwha Klallam)

Patricia Whitefoot Education Award

**Leonard Forsman** (Suquamish)

Fran James Cultural Preservation Award.



[Potlatch Fund Gala - Honoring the Tradition of Community](#)

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### Upcoming Events and Trainings

[Kindly visit our [website](#) for the most up-to-date information]

August 2, 3: Journey to Successful Fundraising - Usk, WA

August 4, 5: Tribal CASA Capacity Building Training - Usk, WA

November 19: Ninth Annual Potlatch Fund Gala - Seattle, WA



*Participants at a Journey to Successful Fundraising training in Warm Springs (OR) earlier this year.*

Kindly contact [Heather Miller](#) (Wyandotte), Program Coordinator, at 206.624.6076 x 12 to find out more information about our Capacity Building trainings or to schedule one for your community.

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### Strengthening Community through Philanthropy



Quickly schedule monthly donations with [Network for Good](#) that fit your budget.

You can help Potlatch Fund strengthen Tribal communities and Native organizations through contributions of your time, talent and treasure. Learn more about our mission and how to get involved on our website, or call: 206.624.6076.

*Your support of Potlatch Fund*

Your support of Potlatch Fund  
will provide support to Native  
projects making a difference  
in Northwest Indian Country.

[Become a supporter of Potlatch Fund today, and make a difference  
for generations to come.](#)

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