



INSPIRING THE NATIVE TRADITION OF GIVING

POTLATCH FUND

August 13, 2013

Virginia Beavert, PhD - Leadership Honoring Awardee Patricia Whitefoot Education Award



Virginia Beavert, PhD
Yakama Nation

Dr. Virginia Beavert, is a respected Elder of the Yakama Nation, and a teacher and fluent speaker of the Ichishkíin (Sahaptin) language. She is an instructor at the Northwest Indian Language Institute (NILI) at the University of Oregon and Heritage University in Toppenish Washington. She authored the Ichishkíin Sinwit Yakama/Yakima Sahaptin Dictionary (2009) with Sharon Hargus.

Dr. Beavert has a Bachelor's degree from CWU and an MA in Bilingual/Bicultural Education from the University of Arizona. She also holds an Honorary PhD from the UW, and a PhD in Linguistics from the University of Oregon. She graduated from UO at the age of 90. Her dissertation, Wántwint Inmi Tiináwit, A Reflection of What I Have Learned, documents older traditions that are being lost, with a particular focus on the language of those traditions. Dr. Beavert has inspired students from her own Tribe and Tribes across the country to pursue work in language and cultural preservation.

Funder Tour to Quinault Indian Nation Paddle to Quinault 2013 - Honoring our Warriors



On Thursday, August 1, staff from foundations, corporations, and Potlatch Fund boarded a 12 passenger van bound for the Washington Coast and two days of culture, tradition, and canoes.

The group's first stop was [Point Grenville](#) where they witnessed a number of canoes ask permission to come ashore – thus culminating their Paddle to Quinault 2013: *Honoring our Warriors*. Canoes from British Columbia, Oregon, Washington, and beyond



Tour participants prepare to leave Seattle on their way to Taholah.



Dancers and Drummers from the Quinault Indian Nation welcome the canoes ashore during the Final Landing's Protocol.



The Quinault Indian Nation gifts the second of ten canoes during the final day of Protocol.



Dana Arviso (Diné), Executive Director, and Meredith Parker (Makah), Board President, at the 2012 Annual Meeting.

made the *Journey to Quinault* over a four week period ([route map](#)).

The group then enjoyed a traditional dinner with some participants staying to watch the opening protocol. Friday started with a breakfast briefing during which Marilyn Oliver (Oliver canoe family), Andrea Alexander (Makah), and Marilyn Sheldon (Tulalip) all spoke about the importance of the InterTribal Canoe Journey.

The InterTribal Canoe Journey seeks to honor the centuries-old tradition of transport and trade by the coastal Tribes of the Northwest. Historically many traveled the waters to meet and gather for festivities. The modern canoe journey was revitalized in 1989 by Quinault elder, Emmett Oliver. Today the journey is an important event for many Tribes and has become a way of teaching today's youth Tribal history, protocol, and cultural preservation.

The group then visited the Quinault reservation before heading back to Point Grenville for a final tour of the vendor stalls and protocol tent prior to their return to Seattle.

The ten rules of the canoe, may be found [here](#).

In the News:

- [Paddle to Quinault continues a proud tradition](#) (8/1/13)
- [History Sails Full Circle as Tall Ships...](#) (7/3/13)
- [Quileute plan two-day celebration in LaPush...](#) (7/28/13)
- [Perilous paddle: Another mishap...](#) (7/24/13)
- [Canoe Journey helps participants connect...](#) (7/24/13)
- [The challenge of the Canoe Journey](#) (7/19/13)
- [Canoe Journey stops at Suguamish...](#) (6/27/13)

Bella Bella (BC), which hosted the second *Journey* in 1993, will return as host of the 2014 InterTribal Canoe Journey.

**Public Announcement - 2013 Annual Meeting
Meeting of the Potlatch Fund Board of Directors**

Potlatch Fund will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 21 in the Neptune room of the Chinook Winds Casino Resort (1777 NW 44th Street, Lincoln City, Oregon).

The Annual Meeting will start at 9AM, and is scheduled to conclude at 10:30AM. Kindly let us know if you intend to join us by sending an [electronic RSVP](#) by noon, Friday, September 13.

Thank you,
The Potlatch Fund Staff



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

Your Opportunity to Make a Difference

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.

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