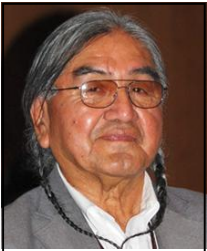




Words of Wisdom

A Potlatch Fund Publication
Spring Issue 2008

Message from the President



Antone Minthorn
(Umatilla)

2007 was a great year for Potlatch Fund and our annual report will be available on our website on March 12, 2008.

The Board's mission is to increase philanthropy within Northwest Indian Country. We achieve this mission by:

- Training Native communities about non-profits and philanthropy.
- Educating funders about Indian Country.
- Brokering relationships between funders and Native groups.
- Working to improve Indian philanthropy, and
- Our own grants programs.

In the 2007 year we received approximately \$673,000 in grants and donations to support the important work that we are doing.

We are pleased that approximately 26 percent of our funding comes from sources other than grants. This is an important result as it means that we are not overly reliant on any one funding source.

During the year Shelley Hanson and Luanne Belcourt joined the Board. At the Annual Meeting the Board increased its size to a maximum of 15 members and at that time Scott Clements, Charlotte Cote, Meredith Parker and Jim Thomas were also appointed.

This brings our total Board size to 12 members. Later this year we will begin a search for the three additional members that will allow us to increase the Boards size to the maximum allowed of 15 members.

The role of Board members and volunteers is demanding. I note that Board members and volunteers collectively committed over 600 hours of service during the year.

This has also been a big year for our staff. Under Ken Gordon's leadership we have seen our trainings and workshop presentations increase by 300 percent and the number of people trained increase by nearly 800 percent. These are truly remarkable results, especially since 99 percent of this work has been undertaken by existing staff. I also wish to place on record my acknowledgement of our other staff:

Dana Arviso, Finance & Evaluation Manager
Lawrence Leake, Office Manager, and
Justin Finkbonner, Program Coordinator.

2008 is going to be a vitally important year for both Potlatch Fund and Indian Country. We have something in the order of 24 trainings already planned for this year. We have new policies in relation to fiscal sponsorship and granting. We will also be developing new trainings and partnerships to further increase the ability for Indian Country to compete for and raise philanthropic dollars. 2008 is the year that the potential of Potlatch Fund will be truly realized.

Haida Heritage Rock the Show

The Haida Heritage dance group got a great response at Graham Hill Elementary School's annual heritage night. The group which comprised about 10 members ranged in age from 8 months to much older. They led off with an announcement song and then performed another six songs which helped to explain Haida traditions and culture.

There are a large number of people in Seattle who have a link back to the Haida. Groups such as Haida Heritage play an extremely important role in keeping their culture alive, educating their children about their traditions and their language and also bringing those traditions out to the wider community.



Potlatch Fund supported the Haida Heritage dance group with one of its 2007 Community Building Grants.

The 2008 Community Building grant round is now open. Applications are available at www.potlatchfund.org.

Calendar of Events

March

20/21 – *The Journey to Successful Fundraising*
Quileute, WA

April

17/18 – *The Journey to Successful Fundraising*
Kootenai, ID

28/29 – *Funders' Tour*
Warm Springs, OR

May

21/22 – *The Journey to Successful Fundraising*
Fort Peck, MT



A long deserved rest following the 2007 InterTribal Canoe Journey.

Please continue to monitor the online calendar for new updates and schedule changes.

www.potlatchfund.org



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Expanding Philanthropy in Northwest Indian Country

Warm Welcome in Warm Springs

Our first Journey to Successful Fundraising training for the year was during January in Warm Springs, OR. In total we had 49 trainees who came from several Tribal departments, from the Museum, from Tribal enterprises and from other agencies based at Warm Springs.

As you can imagine with 49 trainees, introductions threatened to take up much of the first morning - however after the first hour, everyone had been introduced and had also shared their dreams for their communities' development.

Warm Springs is located just north of Bend, OR and has about 4,000 thousand members, drawn from the three Tribes that make up the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation. There is a significant concern about the reducing revenues from forestry. Like many of the communities where we have worked there is also a range of projects and areas of significant need.

The Tribe and the community are responding to the demands of coordinating multiple services and the growing recognition of needs through the encouragement of grant writing to support Tribal and community activities. The Tribe is supporting grant writing through the creation of a support department which will become a one-stop shop for the newly trained grant writers.

Arising from the training, Potlatch Fund has already paid out two mini-grants - one to support the local radio station and one to support the local newspaper (these mini-grants have been supported by the Meyer Memorial Trust). It was a privilege to provide this training to the Warm Springs community and we are now looking forward to a funders tour to Warm Springs scheduled for April.



The amazing group from Warm Springs.

Key funding for Potlatch Fund provided by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Ford Foundation, WK Kellogg Foundation, Marguerite Casey Foundation, MJ Murdock Charitable Trust, The Medina Foundation, The Norcliffe Foundation, Washington Mutual, Paul G. Allen Foundation, Verizon and Boeing.

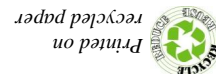


POTLATCH FUND BOARD/STAFF

- President:** Antone Minthorn (Cayuse/Umatilla)
Vice President: Natalie Charley (Quinalt)
Treasurer: Chandra Hampson (Winnebago/White Earth Chippewa)
Secretary: Colleen Jollie (Turtle Mountain Chippewa)
Officer at Large: Kirby Jock (Mohawk/Iroquois)
Board Members:
 Luanne Belcourt (Cree)
 John Chess
 R. Scott Clements
 Charlotte Cote (Nuu-chah-Nulth)
 Shelley Hanson (Grand Ronde)
 Meredith Parker (Makah)
 Jim Thomas (Tlingit)
 Jeff Pile (Board Intern)

- Staff:**
 Fin./Eval. Mngr: Dana Arviso (Navajo)
 Exec. Dir: Ken Gordon
 Prgm. Cdnt: Justin Finkbonner (Lummi)
 Office Mngr: Lawrence Leake

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