

Words of Wisdom

A Potlatch Fund Publication



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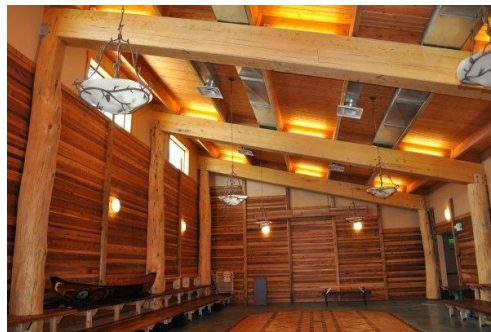
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Duwamish Longhouse Opens

For years, the Duwamish Tribal Organization has dreamt of a gathering place for its people. Through a long capital campaign and with advice and support from Potlatch Fund, this dream has become a reality. Longhouse Director Mr James Rasmussen said that "Potlatch Fund staff have given us invaluable financial and professional support. Specifically, Ken Gordon helped with the connection to the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Tribe that made the construction of our commercial kitchen possible".

The recent grand opening of the Duwamish Longhouse and Cultural Center marked a defining moment in the history of the Duwamish Tribe. Composed of a beautiful art gallery, museum, gift shop, tribal offices, and a 1500 square foot meeting space with a full commercial kitchen, the Duwamish Longhouse stands as the only facility of its kind in Seattle. Tourists and community members alike have found themselves inspired by the history and culture found within this magnificent structure. Just a quick trip from the big city, the Duwamish Longhouse and Cultural Center offers an experience that should be had by all.

In May, the Duwamish Longhouse will be hosting three cultural events that are open to the public. On May 9, Seattle can join



with the Duwamish Tribe for 'Cecile's Fry Bread for Justice.' In support of the Duwamish Tribe's quest for federal recognition, a \$20 donation will provide you with all of the fry bread and Indian tacos you can eat. This is the last of three fry bread events that the Duwamish Longhouse will be hosting, so don't miss your final opportunity to dine with the Duwamish!

On May 23, the Duwamish Longhouse will be hosting Roger Fernandez, master artist in traditional Salish art and design. Renowned for his storytelling and artistic capabilities, Roger will be presenting stories and Native songs to the public for \$25 a ticket. Students and elders can purchase discounted tickets at \$20 per person. The doors open at 6 pm, and the show begins at 7 pm.

The Duwamish Longhouse will also be presenting a documentary by internationally acclaimed producers Sandy and Yasu Osawa. Sandy Osawa, a

member of the Makah Tribe, is one of the few Native American members of the Writers Guild of America, and has had her work presented on NBC, PBS and the Learning Channel. The unique focus of her documentaries on Native American culture and history has earned her international success. Please check our website at www.duwamishtribe.org for more information.

The Longhouse and Cultural Center is located at 4705 West Marginal Way SW in Seattle. For information on scheduling tours, corporate meetings, weddings, or other events please call (206) 431-1582 (longhouse), (206) 369-7204 (tribe), or you can email at dts@qwestoffice.net.



Our hands go up for the Duwamish Tribe and all those who helped them bring the Longhouse and Cultural Center to fruition.



Potlatch Fund

We are a grantmaking foundation and leadership development organization.
Our mission is to inspire the Native tradition of giving and to

Canoe Journey Youth Committee

For the last several years Potlatch Fund has been distributing grants to some of the canoes participating in the Annual Inter Tribal Family Canoe Journey. This year Potlatch Fund aims to give out nearly \$40,000 in grants and safety equipment to canoes participating in the journey.

The big difference this year is that a committee of young people will meet to make the grant recommendations to the Potlatch Fund Board. Potlatch Fund President Jim Thomas said, “We are excited that young people who have been on the journey will be looking at these grant applications this year. They know more about the journey than we ever could, they understand the needs and the areas where we can make the biggest difference”.

Potlatch Fund expects that at least ten young people will take part in the committee this year. However, if more show up that will be great. Committee members will range in age from 14 through to 23 and will have all been on the journey at least once. Mr. Thomas also said, “We see this as a great way to involve young people in philanthropy – in essence we are starting now to train the next generation that will take over from us”.

The Quest to Train Grand Ronde and Siletz

Through windy back roads, and the thick dense woods of Oregon’s countryside, Ken and Justin trekked out to deliver the Journey to Successful Fundraising Training - this time to the Grande Ronde Tribe and to the Siletz Tribe.

The Grande Ronde Tribe hosted the training at the Adult Education Center with open arms and seemingly endless biscuits and gravy. Seventeen senior administrators worked with us to learn more about philanthropy and the exciting funding opportunities that exist particularly for infrastructure development projects. Future Tribal growth was the hot topic of discussion, with the Tribe experiencing and expecting a further staggering rate of growth. Ken with his Planning background was very helpful. Friend, Council Member and Community Elder Wink Soderberg attended the training to make sure that we doing a good job. Thankfully he agreed that we were!



After two days, we were off again. This time through the mossy woods, out to the beautiful ocean and down the famous HWY 101 to Newport, Oregon. The Siletz community was our next stop. Fifteen community members attended this training which focused on the formation of a Siletz Community Improvement Foundation. The Foundation goals are to provide more language & cultural projects, responsible teenage family projects and assistance to the elders.

We had an incredible trip to Oregon and wanted to send a Hy’shka to our new friends and thank you for your gracious hospitality.

The view on HWY 101 looking toward Newport, Oregon.



ization serving Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Montana.
expand philanthropy in Northwest Indian Country.



Training Calendar

April 23rd & 24th 8:30-4:30pm both days
Journey to Successful Fundraising Training
Chief Dull Knife College – Campus Room #207
Northern Cheyenne Tribe, MT

April 24th 8.30-4.30pm
Introduction to Non-profit Financial Management
Seattle Indian Health Board, Pearl Warren Building
606 S Weller Street, Seattle, WA

May 4th & 5th 8:30-4:30pm both days
Journey to Successful Fundraising Training and Non-Profit Startup
Portland State University – Native American Student & Community Center
710 SW Jackson Street, Portland OR

May 20th & 21st 8:30-4:30pm both days
Journey to Successful Fundraising Training
Muckleshoot Tribal College – Evergreen Room #206
39811 Auburn WA 98092

June 3rd & 4th 8:30 – 4:30pm both days
Journey To Successful Fundraising
Stone Child College – Conference Room
R.R. 1 Box 1082 , Box Elder , Montana 59521

June 11th 8:30 – 4:30pm one day
Public Relations for Native Non Profits and Tribes
Potlatch Fund Conference Room
801 Second Ave., Suite 304
Seattle, WA 98104

June 17th & 18th 8:30 – 4:30pm both days
Financial Management for Non Profits
Coordinated with
American Indian Business Leaders Program
University of Montana
32 Campus Dr, Missoula, MT

Northwest Area Foundation Funding

Potlatch Fund has been extremely lucky to be the recipient of strong support from the Northwest Area Foundation over the last four months. In total we have received \$65,000 which has helped to support our work, particularly in Montana and Idaho. This kind of support is invaluable as funders in some of the more remote areas are few and far between. Executive Director Ken Gordon said “these funds help us get to Reservations like Fort Belknap, Fort Peck, and Northern Cheyenne in Montana.”

For the past ten years the North West Area Foundation (NWAFF) has been a very strong supporter of Indian Country. A recent report from Philanthropy Northwest showed that as much as 1/3 of the mainstream funding for Indian communities in the Northwest came from NWAFF. Our hands go up to you for the support that you provide to Potlatch Fund and your strong commitment to Northwest Native communities.

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POTLATCH FUND OFFICE

801 Second Avenue, Suite 304

Seattle, WA 98104

(206) 624-6076

www.potlatchfund.org



Are You Ready to Start Fundraising?

One of the barriers to Native groups getting money from mainstream foundations is that they do not have their 501(c)3 letter from the IRS. Potlatch Fund has been working for two years to increase the number of non-profits in Indian Country. One way in which we do this is by holding regular Non-Profit Startup trainings. Setting up a non-profit in Washington State is very easy. However the process of being acknowledged by the IRS is much more daunting and can also take a long time.

Potlatch Fund can help emerging Native non-profits, through its fiscal

sponsorship service, as these new groups start to work through the process of getting their own 501(c)3. Fiscal sponsorship allows the new group to begin raising money and Potlatch Fund helps the group through the provision of accounting, grant writing/reporting and other services.

So far Potlatch Fund has fiscally sponsored 12 separate organizations who have collectively been able to raise \$200,000. Potlatch Fund charges a nominal fee (3%) for providing the service. Finance and Evaluation Manager Dana Arviso said, "we know

that we lose money on each fiscally sponsored group, however for us helping new groups get started and become robust is central to our mission of expanding philanthropy". For more information contact either Dana Arviso or Ken Gordon.



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