

PRESS RELEASE

POTLATCH FUND BOARD ELECTS NEW OFFICERS FOR COMING YEAR

(August 30, 2006 – Seattle, WA) Potlatch Fund, a Northwest regional Native led foundation, held its annual board meeting on Monday, August 28, 2006. At that meeting, the Board of Directors per their by-laws elected new officers for the coming year. New officers are: Antone Minthorn, (Umatilla) Potlatch Fund President; Natalie Charley, (Quinalt) Vice President; Colleen Jollie, (Turtle Mountain Chippewa) Secretary Chandra Hampson (White Earth Chippewa/ Winnebago); Treasurer, Kirby Jock, (Mohawk) Officer At Large.

Andrea Alexander, founding Executive Director and President is shifting her focus to spend more time with her family. She will continue to remain on the Board of Directors.

“During our start-up phase, when Potlatch Fund started in the basement of my home, recruiting volunteer board members was difficult. With thanks to our many early volunteers who helped raise the funds, develop our infrastructure, design and deliver the training and grants programs, our team effort helped make Potlatch Fund a unique model of native philanthropy. Since the founding of Potlatch Fund in 2002, we have seen interest explode in the area of native philanthropy and I am excited to see many tribal leaders and native activists interested in joining the board,” said Alexander.

The new Potlatch Fund President, Antone Minthorn, is the current chairman of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and serves on the board on the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Economic Development Corporation. Minthorn’s experience in the tribal governance structure ensured his selection as the next Potlatch Fund President.

“I am honored to have been chosen as the next President of the Potlatch Fund. As one of the founding members of the Potlatch Fund I am committed to its future success,” stated Minthorn. “We’ve served as a bridge linking our northwest native communities with the philanthropic world. I will work with the staff to continue to strengthen our role in that regard.”

Potlatch Fund Board is seeking nominations and resumes to fill the two vacant board seats. For more information contact Lawrence Leake, Officer Manager, Potlatch Fund, 206.624.6076, lawrence@potlatchfund.org.

Potlatch Fund is a Native foundation, which provides technical assistance and grant funds to Native organizations throughout the Northwestern United States. Potlatch Fund works to build bridges between the larger philanthropic community and Native foundations. For additional information, please call 206.624.6076

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