

The Inter Tribal Canoe Journey 2011
Healing, Rebirth and Hope



INSPIRING THE NATIVE TRADITION OF GIVING

POTLATCH FUND



2011 InterTribal Canoe Journey: Images courtesy of the Cowlitz Tribe



2011 InterTribal Canoe Journey: Images courtesy of One People Canoe Society



Lummi CEDAR Project

uniting the wisdom of the elders with the dreams of the youth

Thank you for the care, time, support and understanding you have offered to the Lummi CEDAR Project these last few years while we have been recipient's in the successful fundraising workshops, LEAD Cohort Program—the amazing leadership program that you offer—and more recently with your support of our Canoe Journey efforts.

As indicated in our Canoe Journey application, our organization, with community in-put, learned and gained valuable information that will help us as we shift our summer program to becoming a yearlong one which is now called the **Native Youth Leadership Canoe Journey Program** where we integrated our summer leadership curriculum into a yearlong program—prepping young people (ages 13-25) with skills, tools and abilities to take part in the 3-week Annual Inter-Tribal Canoe Journey. During this program, young people are taught the traditional songs, dances, and practices of the Lummi people, hand craft their regalia, and make give-a-way items for the ceremonial potlatch ceremony conducted at each site stop. While on the Canoe Journey, participants paddle anywhere from 2 to 9 hours, take part in ceremony when approaching the shore, and camp at each tribal nation site. Needless to say, this is a journey that requires discipline, patience, and deep respect (for self, elders and the water). With the Canoe Journey's rising notoriety and acclaim, we are being intentional about including youth who would not otherwise be able to participate in such an event, and helping to restore pride in tribal heritage.

The Potlatch Fund knows better than anyone the impact the Canoe Journey has made in Indian Country, since your organization has done a wonderful job promoting and supporting this event and was a major source of inspiration to our organization to develop a youth leadership program based on the Canoe Journey teachings. Thank you so much for your support and your recent grant of \$1,500.00 which will help the Lummi CEDAR Project on the Paddle to Swinomish for 2011 for the *Cedar Spirit Canoe Family*.

Again, thank you for the opportunity. I would love to share more about our recent successes and acknowledgements, since they are each a deep reflection of the Potlatch Fund and the opportunities afforded us. Enclosed you will find more recent pictures of the canoe that was built this year, which went through a naming ceremony and is now called the *cedar spirit*.

Hy'Shqe (Thank-You),

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Shasta Cano-Martin'.

Shasta Cano-Martin

Shasta Cano-Martin
Executive Director



2011 InterTribal Canoe Journey: Images courtesy of Lummi CEDAR Project

Potlatch Fund *A Tradition of Giving*

2011 Grants

Nineteen groups received grants for the summer 2011 Journey to Swinomish, helping with ground support, food, safety equipment and other living costs during the weeks-long journey.

A total of \$38,500 aided 32 canoes. Funding was provided by:

First Nations Development Institute
Kalliopeia Foundation
Eulalie Bloedel Schneider Foundation
Jeffris Wood Foundation
contributions from
2010 Potlatch Fund Gala

Groups receiving grants: [# of canoes]

Swinomish Indian Tribal Community [Host Tribe]

Blue Heron Canoe [2]

B.R.I.D.G.E. [1]

Chinook Indian Nation [4]

Coquille Tribe [1]

Cowlitz Indian Tribe [2]

Grand Ronde Canoe Family [1]

Ha'y Tilixam Canoe Society [1]

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe [3]

Lummi C.E.D.A.R. Project [1]

Makah Nation [1]

Ohileqw-sen Healing Center [1]

Oliver Canoe Club [1]

One People Alaska Canoe Society [1]

Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe [3]

Sacred Water [1]

Snoqualmie Tribe [4]

Squaxin Canoe Family [2]

Warm Springs [1]

West Shore Canoe Family [1]

Canoe Nations Support Consortium

Anacortes, WA \$5,000

Kent, WA \$1,500

Lakebay, WA \$1,500

Bay Center, WA \$1,500

North Bend, OR \$1,500

Longview, WA \$1,500

Grand Ronde, OR \$1,500

Pendleton, WA \$1,500

Port Angeles, WA \$1,500

Bellingham, WA \$1,500

Neah Bay, WA \$1,500

Bellingham, WA \$1,500

Kingston, WA \$1,500

Juno, AK \$1,500

Kingston, WA \$1,500

Suquamish, WA \$1,500

Snoqualmie, WA \$1,500

Shelton, WA \$1,500

Warm Springs, OR \$1,500

Ferndale, WA \$1,500

Seattle, WA \$5,000



2011 InterTribal Canoe Journey: Image courtesy of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

I want to thank you for supporting our canoe club. This was my first canoe journey where I pulled. It made me feel happy and proud that I got to pull. I am lucky to be in this family that likes to pull and can go to the canoe journey every year. This year when we landed in Swinomish, it rained like crazy, but I didn't care because I got to be in the canoe when it landed.

When I am on journey, I also help out at the camp making sandwiches for the pullers, helped set up the tents, and made key chains to give away during protocol. When we were in Swinomish I also got to help out in the booth and danced in the protocol. I learned five new dances and songs this year.

Thank you again for your support, it means a lot to my family

Hy'shqe Si'am

Josephine

Age 10

I learned that the canoe Journey was one of the most Fun parts of my summer, Because I got to see Family I have not seen For a year. Another reason ~~it~~ it was Fun was I learned how to Drum and Sing For protocol. I learned That it took days to perfect our dance for protocol, not hours. The most fun part was when I learned how to pull in the willapa spirit. I never knew pulling could be so hard on our body. I also learned how to Drive our support Boat. It is scary in the fog on a sail boat with no radar. The number one thing I learned was that the canoe Journey is one of the most Fun and interesting things all year!

Mitchell age 10



2011 InterTribal Canoe Journey: Photo courtesy of the Native B.R.I.D.G.E. Program

Multi-Generational



2011 Final Landing (Swinomish): Image courtesy of the Grand Ronde Canoe Family

Well on Journey we
stopped at many nations, and
traveled through there waters.
I thank ~~all~~ nations for letting us
on there waters, and shores. Throgh
out last year I tried to be
a diffrent person but now I have
awakend and I am PROUD to be
on canoe journey and to be me.

alex age 10

2011 InterTribal Canoe Journey: Story courtesy of the Native B.R.I.D.G.E. Program

Honoring a Rich Tradition

My experience on Canoe Journey this year was a lot of fun and very inspiring. I paddled everyday that I could and even though I got sick and was super tired I didn't want out of the canoe because the feeling I get when everyone is there to welcome us and they're all singing and happy to see us when we come ashore completely makes up for a hard day of paddling. It's a kind of feeling no one really understands unless they've paddled before. It's a feeling of accomplishment, belonging, excitement, and just total happiness all mashed into one emotion that you usually shows up in your facial expressions. I wish I could have stayed longer so I could have paddled the whole way. But there is really a lot more to Canoe Journey than just paddling.

Protocol is another important part of the journey. When you're watching other tribes share their songs and dances you kind of learn their life styles, like when Quinault did their protocol some of their dances had people hunting and their songs would have elk noises and you could tell that their ancestors depended on elk and respect it by having songs and dances about elk. When it's our turn to share our songs and dances we do what we do and its great. There's really no other way of putting it. And when we are done we just want to keep going because we love it.

Zoeey Age 14

2011 InterTribal Canoe Journey: Story courtesy of the Grand Ronde Canoe Family

Urgent Need. Strong Response.



2011 InterTribal Canoe Journey: Image courtesy of the Oliver Canoe Family



Potlatch Fund

*To inspire and build upon the Native tradition of giving and
to expand philanthropy in Tribal Nations and
Native Communities in the Northwest.*

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Cover image courtesy of the Makah Nation