

NW tribes call on Grand Ronde

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ter pulled together — they were great," Olson said.

Participants were also brought to the Tribe's new Governance Center for a buffet dinner and presentations by Before and After Care Chinook Wawa language students and Grand Ronde Royalty.

Ernie Stensgar, Affiliated president and Coeur d'Alene tribal chair, also expressed appreciation to the Grand Ronde Tribe.

"You have a good reason to be proud," he told the Tribe's Chairperson, Kathryn Harrison, in his opening remarks at the conference. "Please pass this on to your tribal members."

As host and co-sponsor, the Tribe's Color Guard opened the event with the customary flag bearing and Council member Leon Tom performed the invocation.

Kathryn Harrison, tribal chairperson, welcomed guests by calling for a round of applause honoring the Makah tribe's successful whale hunt which had taken place the previous day.

The controversial hunt was the first in 70 years and in celebration, Donna Wilkie, Makah tribal member and Affiliated tourism committee chair, led attendees in a 'whale love song' before attendees began the usual order of business.

Stensgar set the tone of the conference in his opening remarks.

"We have a long list of common concerns," he said, noting such issues as preserving the Columbia River, meeting the needs of tribal members, and countering next year's reelection attempt by Sen. Slade Gorton, R-WA.

"We see a need to defeat this man who has sponsored or co-sponsored almost every bill that is unfriendly



ABOVE: Donna Wilkie, Makah member and Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians tourism committee chair, leads conference attendees at SMC in a traditional whaling love song after receiving news of her tribe's first successful hunt in 70 years. **RIGHT:** Honoring Governor John Kitzhaber, Justin Martin (left), tribal lobbyist, presents Henry Lazenby, legal council to the Governor's office, with a token of appreciation as Mary Gentry, ATNI secretary, looks on.



to Indians," Stensgar said.

A variety of presentations and discussions took place at the meeting's General Sessions.

These include a call for more tribes to financially support Affiliated; tribal challenges and successes in working with the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and the long-term affects of termination on Native Americans (see story on page 4).

Nearly a dozen intertribal committees also met during the conference to address concerns and strategies on topics such as Indian veteran affairs, child welfare, culture and Elders.

The group passed 20 resolutions

ranging from a decree to support advisory committees in developing community-based HIV prevention programs, to opposing a House bill that if passed would impose state sales taxes on tribes.

The resolutions will be presented to the National Congress of American Indians who, upon agreeing with them, will advocate for them on the national front.

This was the first time the Grand Ronde Tribe hosted an Affiliated conference but the Tribe has had a long history with the group.

"It's a good group and it's always good to see old friends," Harrison said.

Grand Ronde has been an active

member of the organization for more than 15 years and Harrison is regularly involved with the Affiliated's election committee.

Lauri Smith, Council's department secretary, and Jackie Whisler, administrative assistant, have also been instrumental in facilitating Affiliated conferences in other locales, Harrison said.

"It was kind of a dream come true," added Harrison.

"We heard a lot of good comments about the casino and hotel services," she said. "We've heard it from other people but it was good to hear it from other tribes who also have casinos."

Sacred Landscape held at OSU

Tribal Chair Kathryn Harrison was invited to speak with other Native leaders at the "Sacred Landscapes: Native American Perspectives of the Pacific Northwest" conference for students at Oregon State University on May 14. The conference was organized to raise awareness and educate students on the important relationship humans have with the environment. Harrison's topic was "the Importance of Sacred Land to Me." Other speakers included Esther Stutzman, (pictured) a Kalaupya storyteller, who spoke at the conference on the topic of "Connections to the Earth."



Hatfield fellowship

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her tribe's Public Safety and Natural Resource divisions.

Her previous internships include working for the American Indian Science & Engineering Society, the White House's Office of Public Liaison and the Committee on Resources for U.S. Rep. of American Samoa, Eni Faleomavaega.

As a Hatfield Fellow, Calica will

work in the office of Sen. Gordon Smith, R-OR., performing various duties that will help keep the Senator's hand on the political pulse of Oregon tribes about a number of issues.

She says her future plans include "being a mom" and earning a degree in environmental law because "that's what seems to affect tribes the most."

Spiritual leader speaks to youth

Chief Arvol Looking Horse, Native spiritual leader and member of the Lakota Nation spoke to Native youth at the Governance Center on May 15.

Looking Horse, who has dedicated his life to working toward world peace, spoke about the importance of Native Culture and embracing spirituality. He is a key organizer of World Peace and Prayer Day, which will take place on June 21, 1999. He encouraged youth to visit Spirit Mountain on June 21 and participate in World Peace and Prayer Day. Looking Horse spoke as part of the youth track for ATNI. Youth from Grand Ronde and Willamina Native American clubs, Chemawa, Portland and Salem/Keizer Public Schools Title IX programs attended.

Born on the Cheyenne River reservation in South Dakota, he speaks both Lakota and English. At age 12 he was given the enormous responsibility of becoming the 19th generation keeper of the Sacred White Buffalo Calf Pipe, the youngest in history.

- He traveled to New York in 1993 with Elders of many tribes to the United Nations "Cry of the Earth" conference where he gave the opening prayer.
- The city of New Orleans honored Looking Horse with a key to the city in recognition of his dedication to world peace and prayer.
- Chief Looking Horse has joined forces with other peace leaders around the world including the Dali Lama, Desmond Tutu, and President Clinton.

