

NATIVE NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NATION

BIA Issues Final Determination on the Recognition of the Duwamish

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has issued a final determination to acknowledge the Duwamish Tribal Organization, hereafter referred to as the Duwamish of Renton, Washington, as existing as an Indian Tribe within the meaning of Federal law. The Duwamish first filed a letter of intent to petition for Federal acknowledgement on June 7, 1977.

The Bureau made its final determination based on documentary and interview evidence, which formed the basis for a 1996 proposed finding not to acknowledge the Duwamish, and an analysis of information and argu-

ments received in response to the proposed finding by third parties and the Duwamish themselves. In addition, the Bureau reached factual conclusions after a review and analysis of the existing record in light of the additional evidence. Today's final determination reverses the negative proposed finding issued 1996.

The review established that the Duwamish Tribal Organization (petitioner) has satisfied the criteria under the 1978 regulations on recognition (25 CFR Part 83). The Bureau concluded that while the petitioner meets the criteria for recogni-

tion throughout the period of first contact to the present, as an alternative basis for recognition, the petitioner has also demonstrated prior Federal acknowledgement in the form of numerous statutory references of the "Duwamish Tribe" or the "D'wamish Tribe" beginning with the United States Senate's ratification of the 1855 Treaty of Point Elliott in 1859 up until the final appropriation statute in 1923, and that the petitioner further meets the criteria for the period from 1923 to the present. Express statutory references also were found in an unbro-

ken series of appropriations statutes beginning in 1860 and ending in 1923.

The Bureau further concluded that the Duwamish met 1994 regulations requiring that a petitioner demonstrate historical continuity for the period commencing from the time of previous acknowledgement to the present. In light of the additional evidence, the Duwamish were determined to have met the criteria under both the 1978 and 1994 regulations.

The final determination will become effective 90 days after being published in the Federal Register.



A Visit to Washington, D.C.

Kathryn Harrison, Tribal Council Chair of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde attended the American Indian Inaugural Ball.

Tribe Gives \$100,000 to Build Long House on Lane Campus

The Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde will give \$100,000 to Lane Community College's (LCC) Long House project from the Tribes' Spirit Mountain Community Fund.

The grant will help finance the project, which will create a long house on main campus. The long house is a traditional meeting place for Native Americans. The new long house will provide permanent space for educational and cultural gatherings.

"The people at Lane Community College have worked hard to reach out to Native American students over the years," said Kathryn Harrison, Chair of the Grand Ronde Tribal Council. "I'm pleased that our Tribe is able to share our good fortune with the Eugene and Lane County community by joining with LCC on this exciting Long House project. As a graduate of Lane Community College, I know firsthand how important the education they provide can be in turning lives around."

Harrison is a 1972 graduate of

"At the long house, students can experience a sense of belonging and community when they may be a long way from home."

~ Angela Ellis, Community Fund Advisor

LCC, earning a degree as a licensed practical nurse. Lane Community College currently has 643 enrolled students who identify themselves as Native Americans.

The Spirit Mountain grant comes in two phases — a \$50,000 grant that will be given immediately, and a \$50,000 challenge grant that will be given to the college when the school raises an equal amount from other donors.

"Lane Community College is very grateful to Spirit Mountain for the generous donation for the Long House," said Mary Spilde, LCC's Vice President for Instruction and Student Services. "Building a Long House at Lane has been a dream for a number of years. We appreciate that Spirit Mountain is willing to step forward

to help us fulfill this dream. We will be actively seeking additional funding to meet Spirit Mountain's challenge. Meanwhile, we are developing a detailed site plan and will continue to work with Lane's Board of Education as the project progresses."

LCC's Native American Student Program provides students with an environment that supports traditional values and promotes academic achievement, said Angela Ellis, Community Fund Administrator. Staff members for the program help students maintain contact with their Tribal, academic and financial aid advisors.

"At the Long House, students can experience a sense of belonging and community when they may be a long way from home," Ellis said.

IHS Director Visits Tribal Council

Dr. Michael Trujillo, Director of the Indian Health Service, recently visited the Grand Ronde Tribal campus and spent some time meeting with the Tribal Council. Trujillo was in the Northwest and took some personal time to visit the Oregon Coast

and spend some time in Grand Ronde. It was his first visit to Grand Ronde. Trujillo and the council discussed issues of concern about the direction of Indian Health Care under incoming President George W. Bush.



Council members, from left to right: Secretary Reyn Leno, Cheryl Kennedy, Chair Kathryn Harrison, Vice Chair Ed Larsen, Dr. Michael Trujillo, Butch LaBonte, Bob Haller and June Sell-Sherer.

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Hosting Indian Nations at 2002 Winter Olympics

The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes has formally accepted an offer from the Native American 2002 Foundation to host all Indian Nations during the XIX Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah in February 2002.

The Shoshone-Bannock Official Tribal Host Committee, Winter Games 2002, has been established and would like to attract interested members throughout the U.S.

The committee is helping American Indians during the Olympic events and is establishing sub-committees for information; education; marketing of traditional fine arts and Native merchandise; marketing of traditional foods; performances; housing; and transportation.

Interest parties wishing to assist, please contact:

Garth Towersap, Chairman

E-mail: lit_sage@yahoo.com

Phone: 208-478-3936

Toll Free: 888-297-1378

Committee Fax: 208-478-3933