



Northwest Indian College Foundation

2522 Kwina Road, Bellingham, WA 98226

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Dear Friend of Northwest Indian College,

As you plan for 2010, we are inviting you to consider pledging your sponsorship support of our ***TL'aneq'-Gathering for a Celebration*** benefit dinner and **Native cultural arts and experience auction in support of Northwest Indian College**. Our vision for education at Northwest Indian College is based in deeply held beliefs about relationships and stewardship. The Lummi value of *lengesot* means that we love and take care of one another in our community. It is a good way to describe the foundation of our educational mission. Diversity of people, nature, and knowledge is honored by us. Our TL'aneq benefit celebrates that love and care for others.

On April 24, 2010 we are expecting 250 philanthropic, civic, and tribal leaders to gather at the Semiahmoo Resort Ballroom in Blaine, Washington. Guests may bid on a handful of Native experiential auction items and Coast Salish art items or raise their paddle to make a direct gift to support Northwest Indian College.

The higher education model at Northwest Indian College was developed at the Lummi Nation which is located near Bellingham, Washington. Our mission is to promote indigenous self-determination and knowledge. We are the only regional Tribal college in the U.S. and the only accredited Tribal college in Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Last year, within the framework of an accredited two-year and now four-year institution, the College honored the Native cultures, languages and traditions of students representing 100 tribes from throughout North America.

Please join with us in this celebration of the Native cultural arts and education. Our goal for the evening is to raise \$250,000 in support of Northwest Indian College and to enhance our relations and understanding within the region.

We are honored that David and Jonathan Syre once again join us as co-hosts. Their support contributed to the tremendous success of our 25th Anniversary event this past March.

We are pleased to offer sponsorship opportunities at the following levels

Reception and Cultural Silent Auction Sponsor (exclusive \$10,000 sponsor):

- Signage with your logo at the entrance of the reception area.
- A patron-level table for ten at the dinner (located in preferred seating section).
- Inclusion of your logo as a sponsor in our "save the date" material, event invitation, auction item promotion flier, and the event program. (Your logo will also be projected on the event screen).

Lengesot Patron Table Sponsor at \$5,000:

(Lengesot is the Lummi value of loving and taking care of one another).

- A patron-level table for ten at the dinner (located in a preferred seating section).
- Inclusion of your logo as a sponsor in our “save the date” material, event invitation, auction item promotion flier, and the event program. (Your logo will also be projected on the event screen).

Cedar Table Sponsor at \$2,500:

- A table for ten at the dinner.
- Inclusion of your name as a sponsor in our “save the date” material, event invitation, auction item promotional flier, and event program. (Your name will also be projected on the event screen).

We hope to hear from you soon. To help you with your planning, we have attached a sponsorship form. The form allows you to make a pledge to the event today or to let us know when you will be considering the sponsorship in your planning cycle. (Please see the response form for other important deadlines for sponsors). Please note that sponsorship pledges may be paid by June 20, 2010.

Thank you. If you have immediate questions, please contact Jamie Foode at (360) 392.4238 or jfoode@nwic.edu. A follow-up contact will also be made in the next few weeks.

Warm regards,



Cheryl Crazy Bull

President
Northwest Indian College



David Syre

TL'aneq Co-Chair



Jonathan Syre

TL'aneq Co-Chair

Background on this event: Our first *TL'aneq – Gathering for a Celebration* benefit was held in spring 2009 in honor of the Colle.ge's 25th Anniversary. Over 125 guests attended from Whatcom County and our greater region's tribal, corporate and civic communities. We estimate that over 75% of that audience was new to Northwest Indian College. This first time event and auction of just five Coast Salish cultural experiences grossed over \$100,000. For the 2010 event, we are adding a selection of Native American art pieces to the evening as we combine TL'aneq with our previous popular Fall Cultural Event, which featured primarily Coast Salish Native Art.