In This Issue:

• 20th Anniversary of Re-Recognition
• Celebrating Tribal Heritage With The Snoqualmie Valley YMCA
• Snoqualmie Welcomes N8tive Vote
• And More!
**Table of Contents**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call For Submissions</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal Member News</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feature: 20th Anniversary of Re-Recognition</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Plant Harvesting with Snoqualmie Tribal Staff</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebrating Tribal Heritage with the Snoqualmie</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valley YMCA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habitat Restoration with ENR</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capturing and Preserving Tribal Culture</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Through Film</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th Anniversary Tribal Gala</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Donations and Sponsorships</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribe Offers WSDOT $1M for Immediate Action on SR 18</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centennial Accord: Suction Dredge Mining Update</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snoqualmie Welcomes N8tive Vote</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2018 Election Results</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal Council Members Travel to Washington D.C.</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casino Update</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Elders Retreat at the Quinault Beach Resort &amp; Casino</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Bird’s Eye View for the Snoqualmie Tribe</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lushootseed Phrase of the Quarter</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans Day Program</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tribal Member Artwork</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reminder: Holiday Closure Dates</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tribal Member News**

**Northwest Native American Basketweavers Association**

Linda Sweet Baxter, Lois Sweet Dorman and McKenna Sweet Dorman traveled to Toppenish, WA to attend the Northwest Native American Basketweavers Association’s (NNABA) 24th annual gathering in October.

They sat with Laura Wong-Whitebear, who was teaching coil weaving with hemp cord and waxed linen.

**Please Welcome Rémy May!**

Christopher Castleberry and his wife Audrey Castleberry are honored to present their newest family member, Rémy May.

Born on Nov. 27th she is 8lbs 6oz and 20.5 inches tall.

Here, dad and daughter are pictured at Snoqualmie Falls.

**BMX Racing**

Caden de los Angeles (son of Steve de los Angeles) has been racing BMX since August 2017. He is about to finish his first full season and is currently ranked 90th in District points for boys/men. This summer he qualified for the Washington State finals and finished 4th for boys 14 novice/intermediate. Caden also qualified for Race of Champions in Tulsa Oklahoma, but he could not attend the National Race. Caden has joined Racer Army BMX Team, which has helped out tremendously with his growth as a rider. Caden’s goals for 2019 are to qualify for Nationals again, rank up to intermediate and continue making new friends and having fun!

**Double Exposure Exhibit**

Angela Wymer had a Lushootseed language panel and interactive audio recording to welcome patrons to the Double Exposure exhibit at the Seattle Art Museum this past summer.

The Double Exposure exhibit featured 150 images by historic photographer Edward S. Curtis, alongside immersive experiences from three contemporary artists, Marianne Nicolson, Tracy Rector, and Will Wilson.

**Chief Andy de los Angeles Honored**

In June 2018, Chief Andy de los Angeles was honored with Puyallup Tribal Elder Ramona Bennett by the Seattle Indian Center at Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center for their past work with the American Indian Women’s Service League. Since May 2018, Chief de los Angeles has also been working with the Urban Native Education Alliance and the Seattle Clear Sky Native Youth Council to protect Licton Springs, one of the last Duwamish sacred sites in the City of Seattle, by teaching Native youth the importance of the site and its connection to the Snoqualmie Tribe.
In October of 2019, the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe will celebrate the 20 year anniversary of our Federal Recognition being finalized. From Treaty signing to losing Federal recognition status, to regaining Federal Recognition, was almost 150 years; generations of work that got us to where we are today as a Tribe.

We are the Snoqualmies who stayed.

We raise our hands to those who came before us, who carried the work for our next seven generations and ensured we had a future for our people.

McKenna Sweet Dorman is a Snoqualmie Tribal Member and has been an active participant in the Snoqualmie Tribe all her life. Sweet Dorman has worked for the Tribe for the past 5 years working on cultural preservation within the Environmental and Natural Resources (ENR) department while partnering with Governmental Affairs and Special Projects (GASP) for the last 3 years on projects surrounding sacred Snoqualmie Falls, Lake Sammamish and other important local areas within King County. Since July 2018, Sweet Dorman has transitioned to working in GASP, expanding previous work and new projects including on a State and National level. More recent projects include working on Snoqualmie Curriculum to supplement the State’s Since Time Immemorial Curriculum as well as working with Snoqualmie Tribal Elders to help document more of our Snoqualmie history and culture for future generations.
Our people continued to wait for the reservation that was promised 50 years earlier with the signing of the Point Elliott Treaty.

Reservation Talks – World War II

In the decades that followed, there were efforts made to secure a Snoqualmie reservation for those unallotted, unenrolled Snoqualmies. To acknowledge this, one of the membership criteria listed in our constitution is that our members trace back to our base roll, the 1919 Charles Roblin’s roll of unenrolled Indians. “All persons of Snoqualmie Indian blood whose names appear on Charles Roblin’s schedule of Unenrolled Indians as of January 1, 1919” Constitution of the Snoqualmie Tribe of Indians.

There were some Snoqualmie People who chose to move to Tulalip, Muckleshoot, Lummi, Puyallup and so on, because they had to or they had family already living there. They are our relatives to this day. The Snoqualmies who stayed, however, were still in need of a Snoqualmie reservation.

During the 1930’s it was determined that there were approximately 25% of all Indians under the Tulalip Agency who were still not allotted. Among these listed in 1934 was, “Quite an important band of Snoqualmie Indians under the leadership of Jerry Kanin,” who were “a group in the vicinity of Snoqualmie Falls and scattered through Northwest Washington are unallotted and landless.” Superintendent of the Tulalip Indian Agency, Oscar Upchurch, suggested the creation of a Snoqualmie Reservation in the Snoqualmie National Forest to accommodate the unallotted Snoqualmies. Over the next three years, a reservation was mapped and discussed by the U.S. Government.

In 1937 there were efforts by the Snoqualmie Tribal government to legally secure reservation lands in Tolt. These efforts led to plans for a 10,240 acre reservation for the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe which would have been split between one location along the Tolt River and another section located on Puget Sound between Suquamish’s current reservation lands.

Unfortunately, soon after World War II broke out—which brought many changes including new government policies—the efforts to secure a reservation for Snoqualmies were suspended by the U.S. Government.
Loss of Federal Recognition

After past attempts had failed to eliminate tribes, a new federal policy of Indian Termination, that lasted between the 1940s and 1960s, was adopted to eradicate tribes. During this period, tribes without land bases lost their Federal Recognition status.

Because the promised 10,240 acre reservation was never legally transferred to the Tribe, the Tribe was considered a “landless tribe” and the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe lost its Federal Recognition status in 1953.

The loss of recognition had numerous consequences. Among them, Snoqualmie was excluded from the landmark 1974 fishing rights litigation and Tulalip used evidence of Snoqualmie fishing activities for their own fishing rights.

Jerry Kanim

Jerry Kanim spent his life leading the Snoqualmie people and advocating for exercising our treaty rights.

“He led his people and had meetings and he wanted to get a reservation and the rights, fishing rights and the rest…hunting and fishing rights.” Head Chief, Earnest Barr, 1992.

“And that’s how our business was taken. And we had started to record. Jerry Kanim decided to organize us as, at that time we were the Snoqualmie Tribe Organization.”

“In his home, he could call what we would call now, council meetings, business meetings he would have at his home that would be for the leaders of the families would go there or whatever had come up at the time that needed an answer.” Snoqualmie Elder, Emma Sweet, 1992.

After our chief Jerry Kanim passed in 1956, our tribe was in mourning for 30 years before we elected a new head chief, Earnest Barr, and four sub-chiefs, Kenny Moses, Jim Zackuse, Ron Lauzon and Nathan “Pat” Barker in 1986.

Re-Recognition Process

In the decades that followed, even with the loss of our Federal recognition and the passing of our chief, the Snoqualmie Tribe remained resilient. In the 1970’s, we declared our intent to reclaim our Federal Recognition status. This long path to re-recognition was initiated with a letter from Helen Harvey, daughter of Juanita Carpenter, in February of 1972.

From that point forward, it would take more than 20 years to document and prove to the U.S. Government that as Snoqualmies, we had maintained our government and meetings, connections to each other and cultural practices to our lands and sacred sites. Snoqualmie Tribal Members worked together and were supported by community leaders including the late Harriet Turner and late Dr. Kenneth Tollefson who both helped document the maintained history, culture and political structures of the Snoqualmie. People like Doug Pennoyer worked at the direction of Dr. Tollefson, and Mitch Daily helped by researching and traveling back and forth from Washington, DC to advocate for the Tribe and meet with government officials.

Snoqualmie Falls Preservation Project

In 1987 Seattle Ecumenical Bishops to the Native Community made an unprecedented public apology to Native Peoples for the churches responsibility for the destruction of Sacred Lands, Objects and Sacred Lifeways. They vowed to stand together with Native Peoples to help restore sacred places, sacred objects and sacred lifeways. Their commitment to stand with us became evident in 1990, as the Snoqualmie Falls Preservation Project (SFPP) was formed as a coalition of the Church Council of Greater Seattle, the Washington Association of Churches and the Snoqualmie Tribe. The SFPP filed as intervenors in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) project 2493 opposing the desecration of our sacred Snoqualmie Falls.

The SFPP filed comments on the relicensing process for the hydroelectric facility operating at our sacred Snoqualmie Falls and gave testimony to the FERC hearing board through 1995. A year later, FERC recommended Puget Sound Energy continue with a minor upgrade to the power plants.
Two Sisters Return.

In 1992, Snoqualmie Falls was determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as a Traditional Cultural Property. This was a significant step, as the listing documented the Tribe’s history, culture, and continued presence in the region at our sacred Snoqualmie Falls and our continued presence for re-recognition. It was also a new mechanism to legally support the Tribe in protecting the Falls from future irresponsible development.

“A Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) is a property that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) based on its associations with the cultural practices, traditions, beliefs, lifeways, arts, crafts, or social institutions of a living community. TCPs are rooted in a traditional community’s history and are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community. The cultural practices or beliefs that give a TCP its significance are, in many cases, still observed at the time a TCP is considered for inclusion in the NRHP. Because of this, it is sometimes perceived that the practices or beliefs themselves, not the property, make up the TCP.” (Department of the Interior, National Parks)

PSE opposed and fought the listing of the Falls as a TCP until 2009 when Snoqualmie Falls was finally listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a Traditional Cultural Property, acknowledging its precontact history and sacred, spiritual and cultural significance of the area to the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe.

The same year Snoqualmie Falls was eligible for listing on the NRHP, the Snoqualmie City Council passed the Snoqualmie Viewshed Ordinance on April 27th, 1992.

Conserving Two Sisters Return

In 1999, the Snoqualmie Ridge development was growing and plans were approved to have it encompass everything up to the rim of Snoqualmie Falls. The proposed development, named Falls Crossing, would have contained up to 370 dwelling units and 215,000 square feet of commercial development.

With our Federal Recognition finalized in October of that year, the Tribe was able to exercise its newly strengthened sovereignty to step up and be heard by local governments. With this threat of development encroaching Snoqualmie Falls and our sacred lands, the Tribe initiated discussions with various individuals, conservation groups, and local governments to protect an area sacred to the Snoqualmie People and special to the entire region.

These discussions led to the creation of the Snoqualmie Preservation Initiative and eventually the protection of the property, now known as Two Sisters Return.

The Snoqualmie Preservation Initiative was an innovative collaboration between Cascade Land Conservancy (now called Forterra), King County, the City of Snoqualmie, Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Company and Puget Western, Inc. The Grant Deed of Conservation Easement, filed June 27, 2001, provides for a conservation easement that limits development on the property. This conservation was unique in its time and included the Traditional Cultural Property acknowledging the sacred, spiritual and cultural significance of the area to the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe.

The 154 acres of land directly adjacent to Snoqualmie Falls includes land within the viewshed of Snoqualmie Falls. This area is named for the two Snoqualmie sisters from the Tribe’s creation history who returned to their people with the baby Transformer.

Recognition Celebration

Regaining Federal Recognition


There was a period of time in which any surrounding Tribe could challenge our final determination and the Tulalip Tribes did so. It was not until October 6, 1999 that the Department of Interior affirmed its original decision and our final determination was published in the Federal Register.

After much celebration, a committee of Snoqualmie Tribal Member volunteers came together to plan a Recognition celebration that was held on July 15, 2000 at the Carnation tree farm. The committee was made up of Lois Sweet Dorman, Pat Carlson, Arlene Ventura, John Halliday and MaryAnne Hinzman.

Tribal Members also stepped up with John Halliday to provide fresh caught fish for our celebration feast. Wes Willoughby provided his boat and the Lake Washington sockeye fish were brought back to Bill Sweet’s house to process.

Surrounding tribes were invited to come celebrate with us. In attendance were: Robert Joe Sr. from Skokomish, Ray Olney from Yakima Nation, Cecile Hansen from Duwamish, Richard Markushtum from Makah, Vi Hilbert from Upper Skagit, Leonard Farman from Suquamish and Mark Kremen Teo from Skokomish.

We honored our speakers, witnesses and guests with blankets and handmade items in a traditional giveaway.
**The First 20 Years**

**Reservation Establishment**

With our Federal recognition restored, the Tribe was able to purchase property for our initial reservation base. The Tribe applied to have the land placed in Trust Status as the Tribal Reservation, and in 2006, the Federal Government approved the application, formally establishing our reservation. The Tribe also started work towards building the Snoqualmie Casino.

In 2008, the Snoqualmie Casino opened and provided revenue to the Tribal Government, which has created new opportunities for growth and development for the Tribe. In 2015 the Tribe refinanced the debt for the development, and this year the Casino marked its 10-year anniversary. Thanks to the work that started in 2012, the Tribe was able to completely pay off all debt on the Casino in December 2018.

**Practicing Sovereignty**

In July 2011, the Snoqualmie Tribe opened the new Snoqualmie Tobacco Company & Liquor Store. The business created jobs for Snoqualmie Tribal Members and others in the community, and generated new tax dollars for the Tribe. The collection of these new taxes on Tribal Reservation land marked a new milestone in practicing sovereignty.

Exactly five years after the opening of the Snoqualmie Tobacco Company, the Tribe celebrated the expansion of the store with the new Crescent Market at Snoqualmie. The new store further exemplifies tribal sovereignty, as we were able to collect new fuel taxes through our Fuel Tax Compact with Washington State.

The fuel, sales, and tobacco taxes collected by the Tribal businesses directly support Tribal Government activities, providing jobs, benefits and services to our Snoqualmie Tribal Members.

**Land Acquisition**

The Snoqualmie Tribe continues to purchase lands to expand our land base to provide a better future for our people. In the last few years, our lands have grown to include over 150 acres throughout our traditional lands.

**Celebrating Culture**

We continue our culture through advocating for and protecting our sacred sites like Snoqualmie Falls and surrounding lands from irresponsible development and planned projects. We exercise our treaty rights through our growing harvesting program on our lands. We travel together on Canoe Journey in the summer and maintain our inter-tribal connections.

**Caring for our Tribal Citizens**

It is the teaching of our ancestors to care for our people and our communities. We are able to support our tribal membership through benefits. We continue to expand our tribal programs to help service the Snoqualmie Tribal Membership and grow our land base to build a brighter future for the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe. Currently, we help our tribal membership with education, housing, funeral and burial assistance, health and wellness, elders support, Indian Child Welfare support, food assistance and traditional cultural recreation. We are continuing to expand our tribal programs to help serve the Snoqualmie Tribal Members to build a brighter future for the Tribe.

**Community Support**

With the economic benefit from the Tribe’s businesses we are able to support our surrounding communities. We have been able to give back to our surrounding communities through efforts like our Food Bank and donations, both physical and monetary. A portion of our gaming funds support the Tribe’s efforts to give back to our local communities in Washington State. Since 2010, we have been able to provide millions of dollars to hundreds of non-profits. Some more recent donations have included donations to the Snoqualmie YMCA, Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Recovery Café, donations of AED devices to local law enforcement within King County, and a donation of turkeys to the local food bank for Thanksgiving.

**Recap**

As a Tribe, we have been resilient in the face of many challenges to maintain our culture and traditions for time immemorial. We have been able to accomplish so much together. In our journey from Treaty signing to finally regaining our Federal Recognition, we have endured great changes - the transition times being forced from our longhouses - and sorrow - the loss of our chief and the desecration of our sacred sites and surrounding lands.

Through it all, we have still maintained Snoqualmie with our culture intact. With the dedicated work of our ancestors and friends of the Tribe who helped us along the way, we have been able to get to where we are today. Moving forward, our future can be bright if we hold on to what is important for our whole Tribe. We will continue to carry our teachings forward in a good way and continue to thrive together.

**Plans for Celebration**

The Snoqualmie Indian Tribe has plans in 2019 to celebrate our 20th anniversary of regaining our Federal Recognition.

Snoqualmie Tribal Members, we welcome you to contribute ideas and comments around this celebration. There will be several additional opportunities for input throughout the year. Keep a look out for other Snoqualmie Tribe events throughout the next year that will tie to celebrating our 20th anniversary of Federal Re-Recognition.

We welcome any and all documents and pictures you would like to share to help us tell our Snoqualmie Tribe story of re-recognition. Please contact us at GASP@snoqualmitribe.us with anything you would like to share.

**Contributors Note:** This article is an attempt at sharing a piece of our Snoqualmie Tribe’s history leading up to our 20th year of Federal Re-Recognition. We are not a linear people and our history and culture are so intertwined; there is a lot of back and forth in order to demonstrate the interconnections that would flow better through sharing in our oral tradition ways. Because of the complexities and fluidity of our history and culture, this article is only a sliver of the entire story. Please reach out to the Tribe so we can continue to build upon this and tell our Snoqualmie story. One thing we can take away from the long process from Treaty signing to regaining Federal Recognition is to document everything in order to tell our story to those who do not know us or our history, especially the U.S. government who have an obligation to us as a Tribe. This is a current need as we continue to advocate for and protect sacred places and our tribal people.
Native Plant Harvesting with Snoqualmie Tribal Staff

Earlier this autumn, the Snoqualmie Tribe Culture and Environmental & Natural Resources (ENR) Departments collaborated to harvest native plants for their respective projects. Culture staff Wayne Graika, Buzz Cloud, Franchesca Curtis, and ENR staff Alex Harwell have all participated in researching and developing harvesting practices.

Cattail — In late September Wayne and Buzz worked with plant specialist Heidi Bohan and harvested cattail in the upper Snoqualmie Valley for the 2018 Fall Elders Retreat. They learned techniques for harvesting, processing, and storing cattail for weaving, as well as the variety of ways the plant can be utilized. The time spent stripping each cattail leaf in the sun with Heidi was a valuable learning experience.

Mushroom — A few days later, Culture staff organized and led a mushroom hunt in the upper Snoqualmie Valley. The turnout at the event included elder and youth participation. All participants felt the thrill of finding mushrooms within the thick moss and salal of the quiet forest. The teachings involved with this event were reciprocal as staff and tribal members both had experiences to share.

Wapato — Then, the Culture staff worked with Alex Harwell and harvested wapato, or Indian potato, in the lower Snoqualmie Valley. Together they developed a hands-on technique for harvesting wapato, which typically grows one to five feet under muddy marshes. Buckets of wapato were harvested, peeled, boiled, and cooked in a stew with chanterelle mushrooms, nodding onions, and smoked salmon to be served at the 2018 Fall Elders Retreat.

These inter-departmental harvesting projects have helped to strengthen the Snoqualmie Tribe’s connections with our traditional native foods and medicines. With each harvest comes greater understanding of native plants’ relationships with the modern world.

Celebrating Tribal Heritage with the Snoqualmie Valley YMCA

For the second consecutive year the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe has worked in partnership with the Snoqualmie Valley YMCA/Community Center to share information about the Tribe’s heritage and language.

In honor of Native American Heritage Month the YMCA has opened their lobby and classroom spaces to the Tribe. Native American Heritage Month was established in 1990 to highlight Native culture, traditions, crafts, and concepts of life. On October 30th, 2018, Governor Jay Inslee signed a proclamation to make November 23, 2018 Native American Heritage Day, and November 2018 Native American Heritage Month. This proclamation also designates the Friday immediately following the fourth Thursday in November a state legal and school holiday.

For the duration of November 2018, the lobby of the Snoqualmie Valley YMCA exhibited several display posters that detailed the cultural practices, history, and stories of the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe. Some of the posters also featured buttons that provided relevant audio of Lushootseed by Snoqualmie Tribe Language Director, Angela Wymer.

A new display was also added to the collection which detailed the various projects and sites overseen by the Snoqualmie Tribe Environmental & Natural Resources Department (ENR). Take-home supplies were also provided at this display which included a Traditional Tribal Lands sticker guide, a guide to noxious weeds in the Snoqualmie Valley, Snoqualmie Tribe and Canoe Journey bookmarks, and Canoe Journey posters, and a coloring page from our Snoqualmie Indian Tribe Plant Coloring Book.

In addition to the exhibit, the Culture Department organized four separate after-school craft sessions with youth, from grades kindergarten to 4th grade, for Native American Heritage Month. At each of these two hour-long sessions Snoqualmie Tribe Culture staff, Jo-Anne Dominick and Franchesca Curtis, taught youth how to weave cedar into bracelets or how to make hand drums.

Meanwhile, Culture staff Wayne Graika and Buzz Cloud gave two presentations about their work from 2018. On November 8th, they gave an immersive presentation of the Tribe’s harvesting practices. They reviewed the plants that they have been harvesting for medicines, foods, and weaving. While none of the harvesting methods were actually shared, plant samples and medicines were brought in for the audience to experience first-hand.

On November 15th, they gave a second presentation which was an overview of the Tribe’s participation in Canoe Journey 2018, Padle to Puyallup: Honoring Our Medicine. Buzz and Wayne took the audience through each step and pull of Canoe Journey 2018. Together they also explained the importance of carving and sang a few Snoqualmie Tribal songs. They also had help from Culture staff and Journey Ground Squirrel Franchesca Curtis, so the public could gain a comprehensive account of the team experience.

The Snoqualmie Indian Tribe Native American Heritage Exhibit at the Snoqualmie Valley YMCA/Community Center is an ongoing project. Each year more programs and features are added to this experience that contribute to a greater vision of the Tribe’s public presence and connection to the Snoqualmie Valley.
Habitat Restoration With ENR

Tree and Shrub Plantings with the Environmental & Natural Resources Department (ENR)

These volunteer planting events have occurred between the months of September 2018 and November 2018. Some of these events have included partnerships between the Snoqualmie Tribe Environmental & Natural Resources Department (ENR) and organizations such as the nonprofit Forterra, the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, the nonprofit Trout Unlimited and other local governments such as King County. No matter how many people came to help, at each of the following events the planting work has either been finished earlier than scheduled or right on time.

Zackuse Creek – Lake Sammamish

A public volunteer event that helped to restore the riparian forest along the Zackuse Creek, which feeds into Lake Sammamish. Trees planted at this site improve habitat and conditions for the native kokanee salmon that once traveled up this stream to spawn. A production team was also present at this event to capture this important work for their upcoming Kokanee documentary. A total of 80 volunteers planted 1,265 plants at this site. The following planting event at Zackuse Creek included 15 volunteers who planted 550 more plants.

Three Forks Nature Area – Snoqualmie River

A public volunteer event that helped to restore the riparian forest along the banks of the Snoqualmie River where the north fork and main channel meet. Trees planted at this site improve critical habitat by controlling and stabilizing the water temperature of the Snoqualmie River. A total of 20 volunteers planted 1,077 plants at this site.

Upcoming ENR Volunteer Events

Restoration work is a year-round job and the Snoqualmie Tribe ENR Department needs all the help that can be offered! Almost all events occur on Saturdays from 10 AM-2 PM and are open to all Tribal Members, guests, and community members. Tools and snacks are also provided at the open events. For more information, please visit the Events section of the Snoqualmie Tribe Facebook Page or contact Alex Harwell at alex.harwell@snoqualmietribe.us via e-mail.

Three Forks Nature Area - Snoqualmie River

A volunteer event with Forterra and Expedia that helped restore the riparian forest along the main channel of the Snoqualmie River. This special location is the confluence of the north, south, and middle forks of the Snoqualmie River. Trees planted at this site improve critical habitat for fish and other wildlife. Volunteers at this event helped to maintain the protective casings around each sapling which are often disturbed by herds of elk.

Tolt MacDonald Park – Snoqualmie River

A public volunteer event in partnership with the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust that helped restore the habitat for this long-standing tribal site. Trees planted at this site prevent the growth of invasive plants such as Himalayan blackberry, which had been physically removed by ENR prior to the event. A total of 12 volunteers planted 1,220 plants at this site.

Volunteer training at Zackuse Creek near Lake Sammamish

Volunteers from Expedia at the Three Forks Natural Area

Training Volunteers at Tolt MacDonald Park

Volunteers and Staff at the Three Forks Natural Area on the banks of the Snoqualmie River
Capturing and Preserving Tribal Culture Through Film

One of the main functions of the Snoqualmie Tribe’s Communications & Multimedia Design Department is to capture Tribal events and updates to communicate with Tribal Members and the public. The Department’s intention to capture these events and historical moments is also driven by the desire and need to memorialize these important developments for generations to come.

In order to meet its objective to increase Tribal coverage, the Department strategically hired a new employee with skills and experience in multimedia and video production. A recent college graduate and former Snoqualmie Tribe high school intern, Snoqualmie Tribal Member Sabeqwa de los Angeles was hired this summer as the new Communications Assistant. In her first few months working for the Tribe she has captured Canoe Journey, harvesting, Tribal administration events, and participated in Tribal Elder events. This work is showing how the Tribe has had, and continues to have, a connection to the Snoqualmie Valley since time immemorial. The communication materials created in the Communications Department are also useful tools when informing the public about the Tribe’s presence and impact in the Valley.

This fall, with the additional skills and experience Sabeqwa has brought to the team, the department has produced two videos to assist the Culture Department in their public outreach work. One video captured Tribal Members exercising treaty rights through harvesting in our traditional lands, and the other memorialized the Tribe’s participation in 2018 Canoe Journey, Paddle to Puyallup.

Each film has required careful planning and coordination with Tribal Members and staff. Once the image content is captured, de los Angeles has then interviewed the prominent individuals connected to each program. The result is a living and preserved digital archive of the Snoqualmie Tribe’s participation in culture and community.

Having the ability to perform this work in house, by Tribal Members, is a tremendous asset to the Tribe. When you see Michael and Sabeqwa at events, don’t hesitate to ask what they’re working on! They take great pride in sharing with others what they’re creating for the Tribe. Thank you to all who have helped contribute to the Tribe’s effort to capture and preserve this work for generations to come.

Scan this QR code with your phone to watch the Snoqualmie Tribe’s Canoe Journey Video on YouTube!
https://youtu.be/eCzRPcHmEL4

Scan this QR code with your phone to watch the Snoqualmie Tribe’s Harvesting Practices Video on YouTube!
https://youtu.be/KyIoJIM_fNM

10th Anniversary Tribal Gala

On Saturday, November 3 a Tribal Gala was held in the Snoqualmie Casino ballroom to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the casino. The event featured dinner, giveaways, a desert bar, dancing to live music and access to the new private gaming lounge.
Thanksgiving Turkey Donations

In November, the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe donated Thanksgiving turkeys to the Carnation Food Bank, the Mount Si Food Bank, the Mt. Si Senior Center, the Snoqualmie Valley Food Bank, and the Fall City Pantry. A total of 325 turkeys were donated.

Catch a Perch and Save a Kokanee!

In September, the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe sponsored the 12th Annual Eastside Native American Education Program (ENAEP) Veteran’s Powwow. The event was hosted by the ENAEP at Juanita High School in Kirkland, Washington. The powwow was entirely run and directed by students and admission was free.
On September 24th and 25th, Tribal Council and staff attended the annual Centennial Accord hosted by Suquamish. The Centennial Accord is the annual government to government meeting in which the Governor and State agencies meet with Washington State Tribes to discuss items of mutual interest. This year the Tribal Council asked the Tribe’s Water Quality Manager Matt Baerwalde to speak about suction dredge mining which is harming crucial fish habitat throughout the State.

“Suction dredging impacts ESA fish and ESA Critical Habitat, and it is not being addressed. Washington needs to comply with the federal Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act, and it needs to follow its own laws to avoid impacts to cultural resources. Right now, it’s not... The Snoqualmie Tribe values fish and orca more than a few flakes of gold. We believe that the Governor and the majority of Washingtonians do too. Please ban suction dredge mining in Washington.” – Matt Baerwalde, Snoqualmie Tribe Water Quality Manager, presentation at 2018 Centennial Accord

To learn more about suction dredge mining read the “Washington’s Salmon and Steelhead – More Precious than Gold” op-ed in the Tribe’s Fall Quarter News Magazine (page 20).

The Tribe is going to continue pushing for a moratorium on suction dredge mining in the 2019 legislative year.

Governor Jay Inslee and Council Representatives from Tribes throughout Washington State at the 2018 Centennial Accord hosted by the Suquamish Tribe. From Snoqualmie: Chairman Bob de los Angeles, Secretary Jolene Williams, Treasurer Jerry Boney, and Council Member Suzanne Salita.

Leading up to the 2018 election, Tribal Members and leaders embarked on a 10-day tour to visit all 29 Tribal Reservations in Washington State. On November 3rd, the Snoqualmie Tribe welcomed the group at sacred Snoqualmie Falls.

Elder Ramona Bennett (Puyallup), President Fawn Sharp (Quinault), Council Member Tim Reynon (Puyallup), and Council Member Jim Rideout (Puyallup) traveled to the Falls as the N8tive Vote Tour representatives.

According to the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), nationwide, 54% of eligible Native voters are not registered to vote. The turnout rate of American Indian and Alaska Native registered voters is also very low, being historically 5 to 14 percentage points lower than the rate of many other racial and ethnic groups. The N8tive Vote 2018 Rez to Rez tour sought to change that by going directly to Native voters and encouraging them to vote. While encouraging Native voter turnout, the N8tive Vote Tour also shared information about initiatives 940 and 1631.

“It’s important to the Tribe that we meet here today at sacred Snoqualmie Falls, as I-1631 recognizes that Tribal lands extend far beyond what is legally classified as “reservation lands”. I-1631 recognizes that tribes are not restrained by legal definitions in identifying what is important or sacred to tribal people, which is one of the reasons Snoqualmie is so proud to support I-1631,” said Tribal Elder Lois Sweet Dorman.

“Both of these initiatives have proven, yet again, that it is Washington’s Tribes that are thinking of the seven generations. It is Washington Tribes that are the stewards of this earth. And it is Washington Tribes that are doing whatever they can to best provide for and protect our communities. Natives in Washington State need to do what they can to make sure they get out and vote in this election. Now is the time to make history and provide for the next seven generations.”

The Facebook live video for this event is available on the Snoqualmie Tribe Facebook page, and has been viewed over 4,300 times.

Snoqualmie Tribal Elder Lois Sweet Dorman addresses Tribal Members and guests from the N8tive Vote group touring all 29 Washington State reservations.
In Congressional District 8 where the Tribal Reservation is located, Kim Schrier (D) was elected with 52% of the vote, defeating Dino Rossi. Kim Schrier is new to public office, and is a pediatrician. She is the first Democrat ever to be elected in the district. The Tribal Council met with Schrier prior to the election and they have remained in contact with her as she approaches being sworn in, this coming January.

State Legislature

In State Legislative District 5, Bill Ramos (D) was elected to State Representative Position 1, and Lisa Callan (D) was elected to State Representative Position 2. Bill Ramos has experience working with tribes, including Snoqualmie, and has been serving on the Issaquah City Council since 2015. The Tribe supported and endorsed Ramos. Lisa Callan worked at Boeing as an engineer and also recently served as the Issaquah School Board Director.

I-1631 – Initiative 1631, the Washington Carbon Emissions Fee and Revenue Allocation Initiative was co-written and co-managed by tribal leaders, and supported and endorsed by the Tribe. The initiative unfortunately failed 56.56% to 43.44% after the opposition campaign, funded by big oil companies, significantly outspent the Yes campaign.

I-940 – Initiative 940, the Police Training and Criminal Liability in Cases of Deadly Force Measure, also known as Deescalate Washington, was also co-written and co-managed by tribal leaders and passed 60% to 40%. This initiative was also supported and endorsed by the Tribe.

First Native American Women Elected to Congress – Democrat Sharice Davids (Ho-Chunk) from Kansas and Democrat Deb Haaland (Laguna Pueblo) from New Mexico became the first Native American women elected to the United States Congress. Haaland was a community organizer and was the chairwoman of New Mexico’s Democratic Party. In her campaign she spoke out against the Trump administration immigration policy and discussed the challenges of being a single mother and promoted indigenous sovereignty.

Davids attended Cornell Law School and was a White House fellow in the Obama administration. She is also the first openly lesbian candidate to be elected to Congress in Kansas.

Their wins doubled the number of Native Americans in Congress as they join Republican Tom Cole (Chickasaw) from Oklahoma and Markwayne Mullin (Cherokee), also from Oklahoma.

The week after the midterm elections, Tribal Council Members Michael Ross and Steve De Los Angeles traveled to Washington D.C. to visit with the new incoming members and others who support the Tribe. Council Members and Governmental Affairs staff visited with the members and key staff with Senator Patty Murray (D-WA), Representative Suzan DelBene (D-WA), Representative Ruben Gallego (D-AZ), Congresswoman-elect Kim Schrier (D-WA), Representative Derek Kilmer (D-WA), Representative Raul Ruiz (D-CA), Representative Pramila Jayapal (D-WA), Senator Jon Tester (D-MT), and Representative Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ). During their meetings, Tribal Council Members advocated heavily for action to protect sacred Snoqualmie Falls and tribal sovereignty.

Tribal representatives also participated in the Land Sovereignty Walk and Rally hosted by the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe in DC on Wednesday, November 14th. On September 7th of this year, the Department of the Interior issued its first Carcieri decision in which it refused to affirm its own authority to confirm the status of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe’s reservation, which was approved under the Obama Administration in 2015. The rally was in support of H.R. 5244 and S. 2628 the Mashpee Reservation Reaffirmation Act, a bipartisan bill that reaffirms the status of Mashpee’s reservation and will prevent the Department of the Interior from disestablishing the Tribe’s reservation.

Tribal representatives also attended the press conference hosted by Senator Murkowski (R-AK) announcing the release of the report on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women from the Seattle Indian Health Board. Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell (D-WA) both attended, as well as Senator Jon Tester (D-MT), Senator Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND), and Representative Derek Kilmer (D-WA).

The new elected Congressional leaders will take their oaths of office in January, and the Tribal Council looks forward to continuing their advocacy work on the federal level in the 116th Congress.

Their wins doubled the number of Native Americans in Congress as they join Republican Tom Cole (Chickasaw) from Oklahoma and Markwayne Mullin (Cherokee), also from Oklahoma.
Snoqualmie Casino Celebrates 10 Years of Growth and Achievement

In 2008, the Snoqualmie Tribe opened the Snoqualmie Casino amidst the turmoil of an economic recession and uncertainty. Ten years later, not only would Snoqualmie Casino be the valley’s largest employer by providing more than 1,300 jobs, but would also be known for its sophistication and elegance in a crowded gaming market. In its pinnacle year of operation, Snoqualmie Casino reached a new level of achievement by being recognized as one of Washington’s Best Workplaces (250+ full-time employee category), in the Puget Sound Business Journal’s annual survey.

“We are very fortunate to work for an employer who cares so deeply about our community and the Snoqualmie Valley,” said Brian Decorah, who serves as president and CEO. “The experience we provide to each guest is a direct reflection of the Snoqualmie Tribe. It is because of this, that we are relentless in our efforts to improve the property and in providing a signature experience for our guests.”

The casino underwent four large-scale renovations in its tenth year of operation. Mist Bar, the centerpiece of the Snoqualmie Casino, underwent a dramatic redesign which includes a programmable tiered LED lighting structure. Next, the Snoqualmie Casino opened a fully-enclosed non-smoking slots room for guests who seek a true non-smoking gaming experience. The Snoqualmie Café and Deli opened this past October providing a quick-serve dining option open 24/7. The final upgrade project this year, opened on the day of the 10th Anniversary, featured a new Private Gaming Salon; a semi-private table game room for VIPs and celebrities that expect a state-of-the-art, exclusive gaming experience. The salon includes an electrochromic glass wall that allows the visibility to change from a transparent to opaque to provide enhanced privacy.

“All of these renovations are part of our vision to maintain our award-winning property as the premier gaming destination in the Northwest,” said Decorah. “We are extremely proud of our property and the level of service that our guests have come to expect from Snoqualmie Casino over our first decade of operation.”

In its first ten years, Snoqualmie Casino has given away more than $645 million in jackpots to its players, have dealt approximately a quarter-million blackjacks, given away 100 vehicles, paid out over $500 million in salaries and benefits and has employed over 5,200 people. The casino proudly employs 174 that have worked at the property since its opening. The casino spends approximately $7 million per year with local contractors and remains very active in the region.

Summer Student Internship Program Providing Career Path for Tribal Youth

Jenna Willoughby – Summer Tribal Student Intern, Year One

Jenna will graduate as a first generation college student with a Bachelor’s in Science in Hospitality Management from the University of Nevada Las Vegas. During her time at UNLV she was an active member in the Native American Student Association, the National Society of Minorities in Hospitality and also served as the Primary Secretary on the executive board. She was also in the Beverage Management Club.

Her future goals are leading her to Indian Country, where she can learn from the best in the industry before returning home to Snoqualmie, where she plans to finish her career serving the Tribe.

Since graduating high school she has participated in four internships: one in education at Administration, two casino internships, and one marketing internship outside of tribal relations. With each internship she narrowed down where she wants to be in her career. She recommends to anyone who might not know where they want to go in life to consider an internship.

Dylan Sweet – Two-Time Summer Tribal Student Intern

Dylan started his career at the Snoqualmie Casino this past November, joining the Facilities Team as an EVS Cleaner. He, like Jenna before him, had participated in the Tribe’s summer internship program twice. Dylan spent a day at the casino visiting with other tribal members, managers and directors from various departments, exploring the options available. Welcome to the team, Dylan!

Snoqualmie Casino and Seattle Seahawks Announce New Partnership

Snoqualmie Casino and the Seattle Seahawks announced a new partnership granting Snoqualmie Casino the use of the Seattle Seahawks logo and marks for advertising and collaboration for on-site promotions. The partnership is the first of its kind between a casino and the Seahawks franchise. Snoqualmie Casino CEO, Brian Decorah, and Chief Marketing Officer, Stanford Le joined Seattle Seahawks Senior Vice President of Revenue, Amy Sprangers, Director of Sales, Corporate Partnerships, Gina Martinez Todd and Seahawks Legend, Randall Morris, on the 12 Flag platform at CenturyLink Field for the announcement.
Snoqualmie Tribal Culture Staff host the Fall Elders Retreat

This year’s Fall Elders Retreat was located at the Quinault Beach Resort and Casino. Attendees were welcomed with warm and windy weather at the beach. There were also many stories and nostalgic moments shared amongst the elders this year.

Tribal staff also organized several work stations including a deer rattle work station, a beading work station, an Environmental & Natural Resources informational station, an oral history informational station, a cattail weaving station with Heidi Bohan, a family portrait station, and several open tables to discuss tribal member benefits and services.

Snoqualmie Tribe Culture staff also organized a raffle for drums, regalia, rattles, and blankets. At the end of the weekend tribal elders were also gifted items by Culture staff including salmon and huckleberry jam.

The following photos highlight the activities provided at the retreat. A photobook of the 2018 Fall Elders Retreat will be available for elders and their guests at the 2019 Spring Elders Retreat.

A Bird’s Eye View for the Snoqualmie Tribe

Tribal Departments Begin Using Drone Technology

This year two Tribal departments—Environmental and Natural Resources (ENR) and Communications & Multimedia Design (CMD)—have obtained professional drones and started using them as part of their work on behalf of the Tribe. ENR flies a DJI Phantom 4 Pro drone with FAA licensed staff member Heather Minnella at the controls. ENR will be using their drone for data gathering as part of their habitat restoration efforts. The drone will allow ENR to capture photo and GPS data for mapping and survey purposes. The ability to program a route for the drone to fly and shoot photos will allow them to document properties multiple times from the same points of view, allowing them to assess changes in different seasons or at different points in the restoration process. CMD will be using their DJI Mavic Pro drone as a flying camera platform to shoot still photos and video. This capability will be used to document Tribal projects and events, and has already been used during Canoe Journey. Department director Michael Brunk is FAA licensed and is already mentoring several Tribal Members that might be interested in pursuing their license in the coming year.

You’ve probably already seen photos on our Facebook page and in Tribal publications that were captured using a drone, but may not have realized this is now a capability the Tribe has available. You will be seeing even more in the future!

Communications Department Assistant
Sabequa de los Angeles

Aerial view of Mount Si from the Three Forks Wilderness Area
Veterans Day Program

On Veterans Day, the Issaquah/Mt. Si VFW Post #4356 and American Legion Post #79 teamed up with the Snoqualmie Casino for a special Veterans Day program honoring those men and women who served in the Armed Forces.

Over 50 people attended the program which recognized the 100th year end of WWI as well as 50 years since Vietnam.

Marine Corp veteran and Snoqualmie Tribal member and casino employee Gil de los Angeles along with VFW’s David Waggoner conducted a pinning ceremony for over 20 Vietnam veterans who had never received their Vietnam Veteran Commemorative Lapel Pin for their time in service and sacrifice.

Lushootseed Phrase of the Quarter

Lushootseed in the Wintertime

Provided by Snoqualmie Tribe Language Instructor Angela Wymer

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<th>Winter; “Cold Time”</th>
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Traditionally the winter months were spent at home in the ‘Longhouse,’ also known as the ‘Big House’ (hikʷələlal).

Gathering of supplies and food were done until pedTes.

Certain ceremonies would take place during pedTes.

Storytelling is a great part of entertainment for the long dark months.

2018 Tribal Christmas Card Artwork Submissions by Tribal Members

This year the Communications Department of the Snoqualmie Indian Tribe asked its membership to participate in creating artwork for the annual Tribal Christmas Card. The chosen artwork was submitted by tribal member Colleen A. Barker.

Colleen is 65-years-old and is the daughter of Tribal Elder Katherine Barker. She has been a dedicated artist for years and her use of mediums in her work is diverse.

We would also like to thank our other tribal artists who submitted their work, featured below.

If you are an artist or photographer and would like to have your work featured in the quarterly news magazine, please contact us at newsletter@snoqualmietribe.us to make arrangements. If you are near Snoqualmie, we can help you scan or photograph your material for publication.

Tribal Member Artwork

Sketch by Colleen Barker

Photo by Stephanie Koplin

Lushootseed Phrase of the Quarter

Winter; “Cold Time” pedTes

Pronunciation pəd-tuh-s

Longhouse; “Big House” hikʷələlal

Pronunciation həikʷələlal

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Reminder: Holiday Closure Dates

A reminder that Tribal Administration will close for the holiday break on Friday, December 21 at noon. The offices will remain closed through January 1st and will re-open on Wednesday, January 2nd.

Merry Christmas & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Get all the latest news and event updates on our Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/snoqualmieindiantribe/