

LUMMI NATION | Ferndale, WA

EXPLORING INDIGENOUS-LED US GUARDIANSHIP GATHERING

April 28-30, 2024

SUNDAY, April 28th 2024 – Salish Institute, Lummi Nation

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| 9:00am | OPEN GATHERING IN CEREMONY
In conjunction with sacred journey and bakvla exhibit opening ceremony. Canoes will meet at Fishermen's Cove. |
| 10:00am-11:00am | CANOE ARRIVAL AT STOMMISH GROUNDS
LUMMI NATION WELCOME CANOES ASHORE
2295 Lummi View Drive |
| 12:00pm | OPENING (BLESSING) CEREMONIES OF
THE SACRED JOURNEY & BAKVLA EXHIBITS
Coast Salish Institute, 2522 Kwina Road, Box Lunch |
| 1:00pm-3:00pm | EXHIBIT TOURS |
| 3:00pm-5:00pm | UPDATE MEETING FOR YOUTH FOCUS PADDLE TO PUYALLUP
Wexliem Community Building, 2100 Lummi View Drive Road |
| 5:00pm | DINNER AND PROGRAM
Wexliem Community Building, 2100 Lummi View Drive Road
<i>Cultural Sharing: Heiltsuk, Lummi and Visiting Canoe Families</i> |
| 7:30pm | CLOSING REMARKS |



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MONDAY, April 29th 2024 – Silver Reef Casino Resort-South Event Center, Room 20

9:00am

OPENING BLESSING AND FRAMING

1. Valérie Courtois (Member of Ilnu community of Mashteuiatsh), Indigenous Leadership Initiative
2. Warren Jones (Gwich'in and Yup'ik), Alaska Venture Fund
3. Steve Kallick, Resources Legacy Fund
4. Shawn Watts (Cherokee), The Christensen Fund
5. Michael Painter (Cherokee), Nia Tero

9:15am-10:30am

WHY ARE WE HERE?

- Historical context and current landscape of Indigenous guardianship in the world, including North America.
- Past successes, ongoing challenges, and the critical role of Indigenous knowledge and leadership in environmental conservation and cultural revitalization.

Speakers:

1. Joel Moffet (Suquamish/Nez Perce) Native Americans in Philanthropy, Tribal Nations Conservation Initiative
2. Valérie Courtois (Member of Ilnu community of Mashteuiatsh), Indigenous Leadership Initiative
3. Warren Jones (Gwich'in and Yup'ik), Alaska Venture Fund
4. Steve Kallick, Resources Legacy Fund

10:30am-10:45am

BREAK

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10:45am-12:30pm

EMERGING INDIGENOUS GUARDIANS PROGRAMS IN NORTH AMERICA

Group discussion, offering participants time to describe current experience and interest in Indigenous guardianship in their territories.

Discussion will include:

1. What are Your Experiences and Interest in Indigenous Guardianship?
(Please bring photos, handouts, or other materials to share.)
2. What external factors are prompting the process currently (for example, federal or state government initiatives, availability of public or private funding, other factors).

12:30pm-1:30pm

LUNCH

WHERE AND WHY BROADER GUARDIANSHIP NETWORKS EXIST

In Australia and Canada, Indigenous nations formed national networks connecting individual guardianship programs, addressing joint needs and challenges. In Alaska, emerging guardianship programs are already starting to work together. We will hear from leaders in these three places discussing how and why and how they came together and how those efforts are progressing, followed by group discussions.

Speakers:

1. Canada. Miles Richardson (Haida),
First Nations National Guardians Network
2. Australia. (Denis Rose (Gunditjmara), Country Needs People
3. Alaska. Warren Jones (Gwich'in and Yup'ik), Alaska Venture Fund
4. Alaska. Kevin Witworth (Deg Hit'an Athabascan),
Kuskokwim Intertribal Fish Commission

2:45pm-3:00pm

BREAK



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3:00pm-4:30pm

EXPLORING EXISTING LEGAL FRAMEWORKS AND POLICIES.

For most Tribes in the US to extend their stewardship activities across their traditional territories, they must address other claims on those lands or resource ownerships, particularly federal or state public lands. Government policies can support or hinder establishing a guardianship network in the United States. We will hear from Indigenous experts in the federal government, outlining some of the concerns they are seeing in their work for the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Shawn Watts (Cherokee) will lead open conversation on:

1. Co-stewardship/co-management agreements
2. Assuring government-to-government relationships
3. Land Back initiatives

4:30pm-

FREE TIME, FOLLOWED BY DINNER



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TUESDAY, April 30th 2024

9:00am

OPENING

9:10am-10:30am

STRATEGIES FOR FOSTERING COLLABORATION

Where helpful or necessary, formally, or informally, Indigenous nations are already working with each other on shared challenges or concerns. There are also multi-party collaborations among Indigenous communities, governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and other stakeholders. We will explore, in group discussion, some of these current exchanges and strategies to foster more.

1. Sara Boario, Alaska Regional Director
for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2. Frank Brown (Heiltsuk), Coastal Guardians Network
3. Heather Douville (Tlingit),
Seacoast Indigenous Guardians Network

10:30AM-10:45am

BREAK

10:45am-12:00pm

OPPORTUNITY OF FORMING A STEWARDSHIP NETWORK IN THE US

Looking at the experiences in other countries or regions
Valérie Courtois (Member of Ilnu community of Mashteuiatsh), will lead open conversation.

12:30pm-1:30pm

LUNCH

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1:00pm-2:00pm

FINANCING AND SUSTAINING INDIGENOUS GUARDIANSHIP INITIATIVES

Indigenous guardianship networks require substantial funding to build and sustain.

Nichlas Emmons (Shawnee), Nia Tero, will lead discussion on:

1. Identifying and securing sustainable funding sources.
2. Innovative financing models, philanthropic support, and public funding opportunities.

2:00pm-3:30pm

WHAT'S NEXT?

Summing the conversations from the previous two days, the group will consider potential next steps, including:

1. Hopes, ideas, and interests for a guardianship network in the US.
2. Principles related to public and private funding.
3. Who will help support this effort?
How will they provide that support?
4. How can we most effectively foster necessary capacity building, education, outreach, and empowerment?
5. What kind of structure is needed to move forward?

3:30pm

CLOSING

