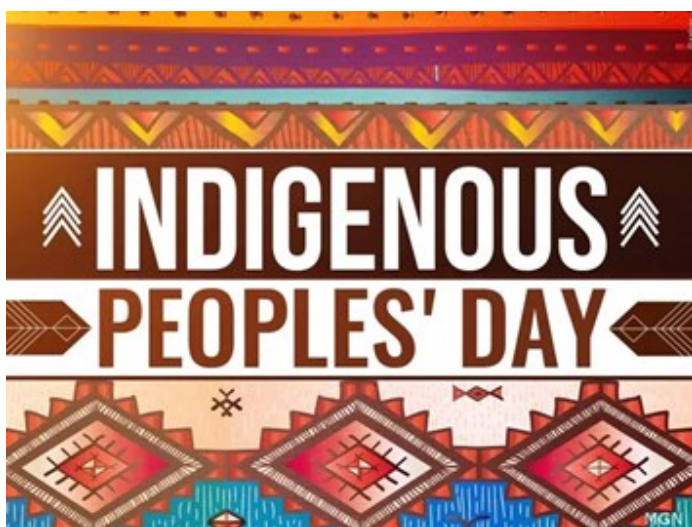




GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS

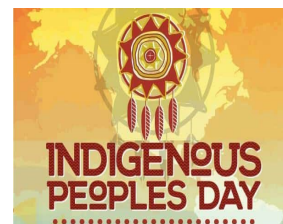
GHC NATIVE PATHWAYS PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

October 2023



Indigenous Peoples' Day

Indigenous Peoples' Day is a holiday in the United States that celebrates and honors indigenous American peoples and commemorates their histories and cultures. It is celebrated across the United States on the second Monday in October, and is an official city and state holiday in various localities



Celebrating Indigenous People's Day (October 9th)

A Proclamation on Indigenous Peoples' Day (President Biden)

Since time immemorial, American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians have built vibrant and diverse cultures — safeguarding land, language, spirit, knowledge, and tradition across the generations. On Indigenous Peoples' Day, our Nation celebrates the invaluable contributions and resilience of Indigenous peoples, recognizes their inherent sovereignty, and commits to honoring the Federal Government's trust and treaty obligations to Tribal Nations.

The Federal Government has a solemn obligation to lift up and invest in the future of Indigenous people and empower Tribal Nations to govern their own communities and make their own decisions. We must never forget the centuries-long campaign of violence, displacement, assimilation, and terror wrought upon Native communities and Tribal Nations throughout our country. Today, we acknowledge the significant sacrifices made by Native peoples to this country — and recognize their many ongoing contributions to our Nation.

(Published in Indian Country Today)

Humankind has not
Woven the web of life
Whatever we do to the web
We do to ourselves
All things are bound together
All things are connected
Chief Seattle

In this issue:

Pg. 1 - Indigenous People's Day

Pg. 2 - NPP Degree and Student Quotes

Pg. 3 - Tribal Steward, Naming Committee

Pg. 4 - Native Nation Note-worthy

THE GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE NATIVE PATHWAYS DEGREE PROGRAM

The Grays Harbor College Native Pathways Degree is a direct transfer Associate of Arts (AA) Degree. This degree can be transferred to any four-year college or university, in most cases satisfying the general education degree requirements. An online degree with a hybrid component makes it truly unique and tailored to the students we serve.

The Native Pathways Degree is designed to connect to GHC Vision, Mission, and Values.

Vision – Setting goals while reaching academic objectives in the Native Pathways Program enhances areas of accomplishment, esteem, and efficacy providing a catalyst for positive change.

Mission – The benefits of earning the Native Pathways Degree are evident in the areas of achievement and upward mobility exhibited by our graduates through academic transfer, workforce preparation, basic skills, and service to community.

Values – Administration and faculty strive to support access to educational opportunities, student success, excellence in practices and principles, respect for diversity, and effective and efficient use of resources in our Native Pathways Program.



GHC Native Pathways Service Area

The GHC Lower Division Native Pathways AA program degree serves students from Nisqually, Quinault, Queets, Squaxin Island, Chehalis, Shoalwater Bay/Aberdeen, Tacoma, Suquamish, Puyallup and Makah. Students from other reservations or urban areas are also welcome to join the program.

GHC Native Pathways Degree Course Load

A full time course load for the quarter would include two online courses plus the Weekend session courses. 12 to 13 credits are considered a full time load. Scheduling is flexible according to student personal and work schedules. A part time schedule of less than 12 credits is also on option, but may affect financial aid situations.

Online Component

Online courses at GHC are delivered through a program referred to as CANVAS. Canvas is a web-based online learning system that allows students to log in for access to their classrooms. Features include reading information, inputting responses to instructors or classmates, printing host documents, testing and emailing.

Online classes are very compatible with work and family schedules. They also support place based students who cannot travel to campus.

STATE BOARD SPONSORS GRAYS HARBOR COLLEGE TRIBAL NAVIGATOR POSITION

The selection process has begun as members of the Tribal Navigator Hiring Committee continue to hold meetings in connection with the hiring process for this position.

This enterprise is sponsored by the State Board of Instruction (SBCTC). Maya Esquivido (State Board Tribal Government Affairs) has been a spearhead of leadership along with GHC Dean of Instruction, Evi Buell. The position is meant to support and assist with initiatives that help indigenize curriculum. Todd Bates, Forest Resources Management faculty and a member of the Tribal Stewards Hiring Committee, has already crafted a proposal that connects Natural Resources with the Native Pathways Degree at GHC which will be supportive of Tribal Steward tasks.

Although the impetus to Indigenizing curriculum should connect with Natural Resources, GHC has been a leader in this regard as many GHC faculty have attended professional development sessions in the use of Native Case Studies in the classroom. The Evergreen State College sponsors the Enduring Legacies website that has over one hundred Native Case studies that address most all levels of education through the Native Cases Institute. A tribal steward could also work to enhance this approach as well as introduce other strategies.

The members of the Tribal Steward Committee are the following: Maya Esquivido (Graduate Student Intern, Tribal Government Affairs, Washington State Board of Community & Technical Colleges), Evi Buell (GHC Dean of Instruction), Todd Bates (Forest Resources Management), Patrick Mahoney (Forest Resource Management), Gary Arthur (Native Pathways Degree Coordinator), Monica Baze (Biology Faculty), and Paulette Lopez (Dean Of Workforce Education)



GHC Native Pathways Bridges with Evergreen

The GHC Native Pathways Program for years has been referred to as the 'Bridge Program' in so much as the culturally relevant curriculum connects in many areas with The Evergreen State College upper division Native Pathways Degree Program.

Two weekends during the quarter GHC Native Pathways Students gather at the Evergreen Longhouse in Olympia, Washington (pictured above) with the upper division Evergreen Native Pathways students for lecture and seminar on Indigenous current events and issues. These meetings are referred to as 'The Longhouse Gatherings.'



The new Student Services and Instruction Building (artist depiction above) will be finished near the end of Winter quarter.

Naming Committee Meets

Tuesday, October 24, this newly formed committee tasked with naming the new Student Services and Instruction Building on the GHC campus (picture above), met to discuss strategies for identification.

It has been decided that the name for the new building should connect with Northwest Pacific Native culture. During the meeting, discussion included names that connect in a general way with Native Culture to choosing the name of a famous person.

After discussing possible ideas, it was decided that each member of the committee would attend the next meeting with two possible designations as options for a name of the new building. The next meeting is scheduled for November 7.

NATIVE NATION NOTE-WORTHIES

CHEHALIS TRIBAL NATION -VISION STATEMENT

To be a thriving, self-sufficient, sovereign people, honoring our past and serving current and future generations

SHOALWATER BAY TRIBAL NATION

Our timeless presence in this area has given us a deep appreciation for this place.

The land, rivers, sea, and sky brought our ancestors everything they needed to thrive here. The same is true today. This special place and the things it offers still supports our Tribe and provides visitors and residents with a wonderful place to live and thrive. Come and find out for yourself.

CHINOOK TRIBAL NATION

Traditional Chinook religion focused on the first-salmon rite, a ritual in which each group welcomed the annual salmon run. Another important ritual was the individual vision quest, an ordeal undertaken by all male and some female adolescents to acquire a guardian spirit that would give them hunting, curing, or other powers, bring them good luck, or teach them songs and dances.

QUINAULT INDIAN NATION (QIN)

We are among the small number of Americans who can walk the same beaches, paddle the same waters, and hunt the same lands our ancestors did centuries ago. Our ancestors lived on a major physical and cultural dividing line. Beaches to the south are wide and sandy, while to the north, they are rugged and cliff-lined. We shared in the cultures of the people to the south as well as those to the north.



INTERIOR OF THE EVERGREEN STATE COLLEGE LONGHOUSE



Contact Us

Give us a call for more information on Native Pathways Programs.

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Grays Harbor College Land Acknowledgement Statement

Grays Harbor College is located on the ancestral lands of the Chehalis, Chinook, Quinault and Shoalwater Bay Peoples. With this awareness, we honor the ancestors and pay respect to elders past and present of these nations and all Native Peoples of this land who occupy these lands since time immemorial. The College expresses its deepest respect for and gratitude towards these original and current caretakers of the region and to our native students, staff, and faculty past and present as well as support and respect their presence and valuable contributions into the future. As an academic community, we acknowledge our responsibility to establish and maintain relationships with these nations and Native peoples, in support of their sovereignty and the inclusion of their voices in the teaching and learning process.

