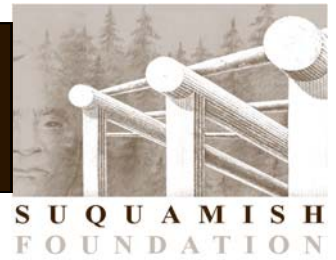


2017 ANNUAL REPORT



Greetings from the Director...

Dear Friends,

2017 has been an amazing year and my third as Director of the Suquamish Foundation. In those 3 short years, our operational capacity has grown to where we now host three large, community events and award over \$300,000 in grants to local schools and non-profits every year. We continue to enjoy the skilled commitment of our valued Foundation Board, some of whom have been with us our entire 12-year lifespan; Leonard Forsman, Frances Malone, Marilyn Wandrey, Sarah Van Gelder, Luther Mills, Jr., Rich Deline, Brittany Bakken, Noel Purser-Rosario, Rosie Bayes, Windy Anderson and Jim Nall. And we continue to expand our donor base of supporters. I want to extend my sincere appreciation to all of you for your continued support of the Suquamish Foundation's Mission to build on our ancestral vision to strengthen the community for all.



Robin Little Wing Sigo

The focus of our fund-raising efforts in 2017 was in support of the return of the Suquamish Shores property to Tribal ownership; 36 acres of waterfront property that was leased by a real estate developer 50 years ago for a fraction of its worth and subdivided into a lucrative housing development that did little to benefit our tribal community. The end of the lease in 2017 brought an empowering opportunity for the Tribe to redevelop this land into a healthy, sustainable community landscape for all; an opportunity to celebrate our resiliency. Our current project, a dream of tribal families for many years, is to build a community playground and park based on Suquamish Tribal teachings, stories, and legends. It will be a place for families, Native artists, school groups and play. Once again, I thank you for supporting this powerful project. Healthy and sustainable community building remains at the heart of what you help us do.

A Time to Gather remained our largest fundraiser in 2017 and was a great success, raising almost \$59,000 for the community playground and park. The 2017 theme used was "the early blossoms of the dogwood tree" as a visible signal for the traditional gathering of cedar and other food stuffs integral to our culture and spirit. It is also a wonderful metaphor for the Foundation's own growth and preparation for the future.

In addition, the Foundation celebrated "Wrapped in Resilience", the second annual Sovereign Style fashion event. Through fashion, Native artists showcased shawls and vests that acclaimed their contemporary artistry while highlighting style, culture and perseverance. Artists have already begun planning their competition pieces for next year. What an exciting tradition!

Our inaugural Suquamish Community Tree Lighting event was successful beyond our imagining. With your support, over 300 community members gathered for a beautiful and free evening in the heart of Suquamish. Many guests remarked, "I can't wait to do this again next year!"

Having you and your family on this journey with us brings great joy. Again, my heartfelt thanks to you and a promise that the upcoming year will bring more rewards to share.

In love and solidarity,

Robin Little Wing Sigo, MSW

Suquamish Foundation Director

Suquamish Tribal Treasurer

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Sarah Van Gelder
Suquamish-Olalla Neighbors Co-founder

FRANCES MALONE
Community Activist

NOEL PURSER-ROSARIO
Suquamish Tribal Member

Windy Anderson
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Suquamish Tribal Council

ROBIN SIGO
Suquamish Tribal Treasurer

RICH DELINE
Executive Productions-Seattle

Brittany Bakken
Suquamish Tribal Member

Wrapped in Resilience 2017

In 2005, the Cultural Resurgence Campaign focused on bringing the Suquamish Tribe's ancestral culture, values and spirituality to the forefront of community life—recognizing their relevance in the present, reawakening Tribal pride in its members, and sharing the Tribe's history and culture with the greater Suquamish community in Kitsap County.

The inaugural Sovereign Style: Ribbons of Resilience event in October 2016 showcased the artistry of shirts, dresses, and children's clothes adorned with beautiful ribbons and modelled by Suquamish Tribal members. Hosted by the Suquamish Foundation, it was

the beginning of the Suquamish Sovereign Style campaign celebrating artistry, resilience and generosity.



Detailed shell button work

Ribbon shirts and dresses represent many aspects of indigenous history since contact—assimilation, creativity, prayer, ingenuity, tradition, strength, protec-

tion, style, and rebellion. Ribbons were used not only to adorn plain clothing, but to show status, family ties, and preservation of cultural values. As all cultural activities were outlawed by the U.S. government, ribbon clothing signified a covert resistance to assimilation.

The second event was held again in October 2017 with the theme of "Wrapped in Resilience." This fashion happening called for shawls, blankets and vests to be exhibited by Suquamish high school student models. Shawls, blankets and vest have been a traditional showcase for Native artistry while serving the practical purpose of keeping a person warm. The exquisite pieces on display ranged from an original woven cedar vest to breathtaking colorful shawls depicting revered Salish characters. The designs incorporated Native artistry representing traditional craftsmanship and dedication to preserving long-honed skills in a celebration of beautiful garments.

Telling our story through style. That is the tradition that the Suquamish Foundation Sovereign Style campaign seeks to uphold



Photos by Landon Acohido

for the Tribe and the broader, shared community. It represents the style in which we gift grants, education, and love. It also represents the need to seek support to further our goal to build resilience for our children and generations to come.

As we reclaim our homeland, we celebrate with pride the ceremonial style that has



CKA Student volunteer on the runway.

been an outward sign of our creativity, spirit, prayers, strength, protection and preservation of cultural values, relationships to homeland, and the natural world. By this practice, we enable these traditions and practices to continue on with future generations.

The Suquamish Foundation's mission is to build on our ancestral vision to enhance the culture, education, environment, and physical well-being of the Tribe and the greater community. It works best when we all are involved as a community of Givers. Sovereign Style allows all of us ways to give with our hands, our heads and our hearts.

The Sovereign Style event in 2018 has been set for October 19th. We hope you join us this year!

FINANCIALS

Revenue & Expenditures

Donations	\$31,569
Income	\$51,810

Fund Balance \$83,379

Expenditures Breakdown

Salaries	\$31,776
Fringe	\$8,127
Travel & Training	\$50
Contractual	\$0
Supplies & Materials	\$34,710
Indirect Costs	\$3296

Expenditures \$77,959

Holiday Tree Lighting at the House of Awakened Culture

First Suquamish Community Holiday Event



Holiday Tree Lighting at the House of Awakened Culture

What brings us together as a community? Sharing the fun and festivities of the holidays? Sharing our love of children and family? Sharing our love of traditions? Sharing a reason to celebrate hope and joy with music?

All these things merged and created a beautiful sense of community in the first Suquamish Community Holiday Tree Lighting on December 7th at the House of Awakened Culture as over 400 community attendees celebrated the start of the Christmas season together. The Suquamish Foundation, the non-profit arm of the Suquamish Tribe, hosted the event as a way to thank the community for its generosity and build a new tradition we can share as a community. The beautifully decorated House had over 1,000 sparkling lights that joined with the clear winter night's sky full of stars. Indoors, there was a hot chocolate bar with cookies, candy canes and marshmallows for everyone. A Christmas concert was presented by

the Kids in Concert, an organization that includes and trains children of all ages that want to learn to play an instrument in a performing orchestra. Outdoors, the brightly lit Argosy Cruise Christmas Ship kept a date to come close to the shore to serenade us with carols from the water. At the same time, Suquamish Tribal Chairman, Leonard Forsman, led the countdown to lighting up the tall cedar trees outside the House of Awakened Culture. A wonderful cheer rose up from the delighted crowd surrounding the luminous trees and viewing the waterfront reflections.

One of the community attendees made a most memorable remark. She said when the tree was lit and the cheer went up, she turned around and looked at the shining, laughing faces of all the children there with their families and she realized that this was the beginning of a new tradition that these children would remember all their lives and return to with their own children year after year.

MANY THANKS TO OUR 2017 INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Larry Nakata	Mary Russell
Sean & Heather Hickey	Andrew Shogren
Clifford & Beverly Kincaid	Al-Garadi Swansan
Robin Hunt & Arther Schmidt	Anthony Breen
Dennis Foster	Aaron Byrne
Patricia Beffa-Nigiri	Cynthia Carper
Marlaina Anderson	Irene Carper
Teri Bayes	Mike Coles
James Bellis	Cody Haley
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Alaina Capoeman	Dennis Hutton
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Relena Maloney	Sally Oranski
Emily Olsen	Jennifer Pratt
Leroy Paine	Renee Quintanilla
Jennifer Pratt	Rochelle Stockwell
	Elizabeth Strickland
	Leiming Sun

UPCOMING FOUNDATION EVENTS

A Time to Gather
Annual fundraising dinner and auction

March 30

Wrapped in Resilience
#Sovereignstyle Event

October 19

Community Holiday Tree Lighting
A Holiday Event that Brings the Community Together

December 2018



S U Q U A M I S H
F O U N D A T I O N

PO Box 498
Suquamish, WA 98392



Photo by April Leigh

Thank you from the Suquamish Grants and Suquamish Foundation Staff.