



**Snohomish County
County Executive's Office**

For immediate release – Wednesday, September 13, 2006

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Second annual Native American heritage celebration to be held Thursday, September 28

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*Free event offers public an opportunity to learn
about Native American culture and history*

The Snohomish County Diversity Council and Snohomish County Government are pleased to present the 2006 Snohomish County Native American Celebration. This free event is open to the public and will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, September 28 on the Snohomish County Campus Plaza, 3000 Rockefeller Ave., in downtown Everett.

“This celebration gives our community a unique opportunity to learn more about the culture and heritage of our Native American neighbors,” Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon said. “The event will be both educational and interactive, offering something for everyone who attends.”

Performers, artists and representatives from multiple tribes across the region will be on hand. In addition, the celebration includes traditional dance, arts and crafts, a storytelling tent and Native American historic artifacts for viewing.

The event begins at 11:30 a.m. with a welcome and Salmon Ceremony from the Canoe Family (Tulalip Tribes), followed by opening remarks by Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon. At Noon, Raven Dancer Gene Tagaban (Lummi Nation) brings his tales to life with the use of traditional flutes, drums, dance and regalia.

Contemporary Blues singer Pura Fe (Tuscarona Nation) brings a potent mix of native influences with good old fashioned Blues to captivate all at 12:30 p.m. At 2:30 p.m., Craig Young and Mathew War Bonnet will share Lakota songs, followed by a traditional

music performance from drum and flute players Peter Ali (Yaqui) and Tammy Kennedy (Eastern Band Cherokee) at 3 p.m.

Tulalip Tribes Chairman Stan Jones and City of Everett Mayor Ray Stephanson will also take part in the celebration.

Native American vendors will be on-hand throughout the event and will highlight beadwork, basketry, jewelry, musical instruments and masks. A canoe used in the annual Canoe Journey will be on display, as well as on-site totem carvers. Educational displays by Everett Community College, Cascadia Community College and Snohomish County will also be available throughout the event.

Attendees will also have an opportunity to purchase traditional food such as Indian Fry Bread and Indian Tacos from Native American vendors. In addition, the Plaza Café on the County campus will have Salmon Burgers and other Native American-style side dishes available for purchase during the event.

For more information on the Native American Celebration and other Diversity Council events, please visit:

http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/County_Services/Diversity_Council/.

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For additional information, please contact:

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