



Tribal Leaders Congress on Education

To: Tribal Leaders, Tribal Education Leaders, and Tribal Early Learning Educators

From: Leonard Forsman, Chairman of Suquamish Tribe
Bernie Thomas, Lummi Nation

Re: Tribal Leaders Congress on Education Endorsement of the Since Time Immemorial: Tribal Sovereignty Early Learning Curriculum

Date: April 15, 2015

The Tribal Leaders Congress (TLC) on Education unanimously voted to approve and recommend the use of the Early Learning Tribal Sovereignty Curriculum in all early learning classrooms throughout Washington State on April 15, 2015 at the TLC Summit hosted at Chief Leschi Tribal School.

About the Early Learning Tribal Sovereignty Curriculum

The *Early Learning Tribal Sovereignty Curriculum* is a unique curriculum designed by Native Early Learning educators for ALL early learners in Washington State. The curriculum consists of three lessons designed for our early learners to experience concepts related to tribal sovereignty and local tribal history. The Early Learning Tribal Sovereignty Lessons were developed through a partnership of Puget Sound ESD and Thrive Washington. Funding for this project is provided through the Washington State Department of Early Learning, the Gates and Boeing Foundations, and Tribal donors.

Features of the Early Learning Tribal Sovereignty Lessons

The Early Learning Tribal Sovereignty Lessons will be:

- Free and available online
- Aligned to the K-12 "Since Time Immemorial: Tribal Sovereignty in Washington State" curriculum (www.indian-ed.org)
- Developmentally appropriate for early learners and aligned to Washington State Early Learning Development Guidelines (2012)

Who We Are

Exploration of family & cultural identity through discussions, family participation, collage project – Experience a sense of place/where they live & Native families present since time immemorial

House of Salmon

Exploration of historic & contemporary significance of salmon: habitat/water quality, uses of salmon, sacredness, connection/importance of salmon to ecosystem/animals/humans/world

Respecting Our House

Reciprocity, taking care of the land/stewardship, acknowledging & honoring place, health & wellness, giving thanks for all

Cc. Joe Davalos, Superintendent Chief Kitsap Academy
Michael Vendiola, OSPI Office of Native Education
Joan Banker, OSPI Office of Native Education