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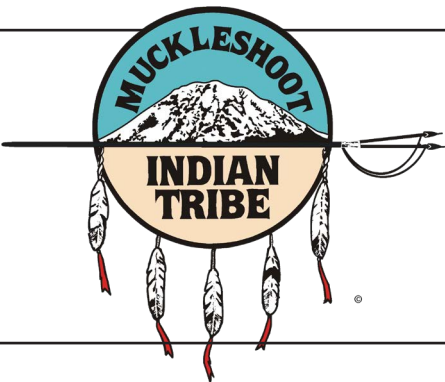
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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AUBURN, WA
PERMIT NO. 86

VOL. XXVI, NO. 3

MUCKLESHOOT MESSENGER

July 2025 Edition · Section I



MUCKLESHOOT INDIAN RESERVATION — AUBURN, WA

A Message from Tribal Council About the “One Big Beautiful Bill”

WASHINGTON DC — President Trump signed his “One Big Beautiful Bill Act” (“BBB”) into law on July 4th. This law is the President’s signature piece of legislation and contains many of his administration’s priorities. Although the bill has been heavily featured in the news the past few weeks, the foundation of the bill was set back in January when the President outlined his vision for One Big Beautiful Bill to encompass all his priorities.

The Muckleshoot Tribal Council, Muckleshoot Intergovernmental Affairs, and our D.C. team were actively engaged since the BBB’s inception in January to ensure that the Tribe’s sovereignty and treaty rights were protected in this

process. The Tribal Council met continuously with our Congressional delegation and Congressional leaders to try to shape this massive piece of legislation as best as possible – or least to cause minimal harm to the Tribe.

This outreach included numerous in-person and virtual meetings, trips to DC, and phone calls as well as continuous boots on the ground on Capitol Hill. The Tribal Council was an active participant in this process and while we have concerns about the overall bill we are heartened that there are many places where the Tribe had an impact.

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Vice Chairman John Daniels Jr. with Rep. Dan Newhouse (WA-04).



Tribal Council Visits Washington DC

WASHINGTON DC — This time of year, as our students and the community enjoy the summer heat, we continue to celebrate all our graduating students, their many accomplishments, and their plans for the future.

Although summer brings some welcome tranquility, the national news headlines continue to be turbulent. Muckleshoot Tribal Council is closely monitoring actions coming from D.C. and listening to the concerns of our people. This Spring, Muckleshoot Tribal Council sent a delegation to Washington, D.C. to carry your voice to key Senators and Members of Congress.

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Muckleshoot Celebrates Record Number of College, Technical Education, and Vocational Certificate Graduates in 2025

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A Message from Tribal Council About the “One Big Beautiful Bill”

Originally, the bill contained provisions that would either allow or force the sale of federal lands in 11 western states including the State of Washington. The Tribal Council opposed these efforts because of the threat that it would pose to the practice of our treaty rights in ceded territories.

This is especially true when it comes to U.S. Forest Service lands. We are happy to report that the provisions authorizing and forcing the sale of federal lands were removed from the final piece of legislation thanks to the Tribe’s allies in Congress.

The BBB imposes new requirements for Medicaid participants as well as participants in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP”). Both Medicaid and SNAP are crucial programs that help form the safety net for all our communities – both Native and non-Native.

The Tribe has concerns that some of the new requirements in the BBB will result in individuals losing access to both Medicaid and SNAP. However, the Tribal Council worked with Congressional allies to create exemptions for Tribal nations and Tribal citizens for both programs based on the unique trust obligations that the federal government has to Indian Country.

The Tribal Council remains concerned about the overall cost of the BBB to the national debt and its implementation down the road. The BBB permanently extends

the 2017 tax cuts (that disproportionately benefit the wealthy) as well as increases the debt ceiling by \$5 trillion. As the national debt grows, the cost of financing that debt increases. As the cost of financing the national debt increases, Congress will be under pressure to cut discretionary spending. All of Indian Country’s federal funding, including allocations for the Indian Health Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Bureau of Indian Education, and countless other programs spread across other agencies, comes from the discretionary side of the federal budget. This means that as the national debt increases, the pressure to cut discretionary spending may disproportionately harm Indian Country programs.

Tribal Council is also concerned about the BBB’s treatment of funding to combat climate change previously allocated in the Inflation Reduction Act (“IRA”). The BBB rescinds unobligated funding from the Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grants. It also phases out tax credits for clean electricity production and clean energy investments under the IRA. These were valuable tools as the nation looks to unleash reliable, dispatchable, and innovative renewable American energy.

There are short-term tax benefits for many workers within this law. The BBB eliminates federal taxation on overtime pay as well as on tips. The federal tax deduction on overtime is capped at \$12,500 and the deduction on tipped earnings is

\$25,000. Both caps decrease as income increases. These short-term tax benefits expire in 2028. Similarly, seniors will be eligible for a temporary tax deduction of \$6,000, which also expires in 2028.

Finally, the BBB will allocate an additional \$150 billion in defense spending and military-related investments such as shipbuilding, munitions, nuclear deterrence, Coast Guard improvements, and artificial intelligence. It also includes \$170 billion for border security creating the potential capacity to deport up to one million people per year. The BBB significantly increases funding for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) from \$10 billion to more than \$100 billion by 2029, making it the most heavily funded law enforcement agency in the federal government.

The Tribal Council heard from many of you in the community about your concerns surrounding the BBB and the policies that it advances. The Tribal Council worked hard to bring those concerns to our federal partners, identified opportunities to improve the BBB, and successfully eliminated provisions that would have detrimentally harmed the Tribe’s sovereignty, or at minimum, mitigated its impact on the Tribe. This is not a perfect bill and we still have concerns about its cost, policies, and implementation. We will continue to work with our Congressional allies and the Trump Administration to protect the Tribe’s sovereign interest and treaty rights.

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Tribal Council's May 2025 Visit to Washington DC

A priority that the Muckleshoot Tribal Council advocated for is the protection of the Head Start program. We took immediate action when our Intergovernmental Affairs and D.C. teams raised the alarm about the current Administration’s consideration of eliminating the Head Start program.

As one of the first Tribal Head Start programs in the country, Muckleshoot proudly shared our history and success delivering comprehensive child development services and support to our children and families. Members on both sides of the political spectrum understood the importance of Head Start and were impressed with how Muckleshoot’s program provides a foundation for our community. We are pleased to share that your voice successfully reached D.C., and the President’s Budget Request to Congress did not include the proposal to eliminate Head Start.



Chairman Jaison Elkins, Vice Chairman John Daniels Jr., Councilman Louie Ungaro with former Secretary of the Interior and current Gubernatorial candidate for New Mexico, Deb Haaland.



Members of Tribal Council get a look at cultural artifacts in the Smithsonian Cultural Resources Center's archives.

The Tribal Council also discussed rising concerns about the current Administration's ambitious plan to reorganize the Department of the Interior and Department of Health and Human Services. These departments play a significant role in fulfilling the federal government's treaty and trust responsibilities to protect the health, land, resources, sovereignty, self-determination of the Muckleshoot Tribe. Muckleshoot Trib-

al Council communicated to our federal partners that any plans or significant changes to programs or services to Tribal nations need robust Tribal consultation and incorporate recommendations from the Muckleshoot Tribe. We will continue advocating for the Muckleshoot Tribe's self-determination during this process. Muckleshoot Tribal Council continues to actively advocate for our fisheries. Caught in the transition of this Adminis-

tration are funds that support our hatcheries and federally-approved assistance to address previous fishery disasters. Like many funds across the federal government, these are queued for review by the new Administration and require additional approvals according to recent executive orders. Muckleshoot Tribal Council communicated with our federal partners that this funding is critical to ensure the continued success of our fisheries, and we will continue working in a bipartisan manner to support our hatcheries and Tribal members.

There is a lot of action and discussion occurring both locally and nationally. The Muckleshoot Tribal Council is actively engaged in D.C. and will continue asserting our treaty rights and trust obligations with our federal partners to ensure that Muckleshoot's sovereign priorities are supported and our voice is heard. We wish you all a happy and safe graduation season.



Chairman Elkins, Vice Chairman Daniels, and Councilman Ungaro with Rep. Strickland (WA-10).

 Sincerely,
The Muckleshoot
Tribal Council



Councilwoman Virginia Cross and Seattle University Professor Fr. Pat Twohy, S.J.

Councilwoman Cross Celebrates Milestone with Longtime Friend of the Tribe

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY — This month, Councilmember Virginia Cross joined retired Seattle University professor Fr. Pat Twohy, S.J., to celebrate his 86th birthday and the recent publication of his latest book, *syaya?a?: Coast Salish Sacred Lifeways and the Sacred Lifeways of Jesus*. Twohy dedicated a half century to share the stories, struggles, loss, and joy of Native peoples in the Northwest and was instrumental in establishing the Indigenous Peoples Institute at Seattle University.

He is the author of two other books. Last year, Seattle University recognized Councilwoman Cross with an Honorary Doctorate degree. Cross has a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Washington and was one of Muckleshoot's first college graduates. In the 1960s, Cross helped establish Muckleshoot's Head Start program and served as its first director. Twohy retired in 2023 after 50 years of working with and supporting Native Peoples.

In Pictures: June 2025 Veterans' Powwow

Muckleshoot celebrated its Warrior traditions and veterans service with Tribes from around the region at the 2025 Veterans Powwow last month.

Young and old took part in the three day event featuring all of traditional dance, drumming, and special contests and great prizes our guests have come to expect from a Muckleshoot event. Thanks to everyone how took part and event staff for another successful Powwow.



Photos courtesy of photographer Danielle Wilcox. View all of Dani's photos at danirayestudio.pixieset.com/2025muckleshootveteranspowwow

