



POTLATCH FUND

INSPIRING THE NATIVE TRADITION OF GIVING

PRESS RELEASE

Potlatch Fund sends deepest condolences to the Finkbonner Family and Lummi Nation

December 16, 2015

Seattle, WA – With deep regret, Potlatch Fund acknowledges the passing of Justin Finkbonner. Justin touched many lives and inspired people throughout Indian Country. He worked for Potlatch Fund for several years as Program Coordinator. A job that allowed him to do what he did best, connect with people. As Program Coordinator he toured Northwest Indian Country sharing successful grantwriting and fundraising models with emerging Native non-profits. His contributions to the organization are immensely appreciated and will not be forgotten.

Executive Director, Dana Arviso shared these remarks, “Like so many of you, my life was immensely changed by knowing Justin Finkbonner. I had the honor of working with Justin for a few years at Potlatch Fund when I was a newbie to the world of Native philanthropy. He taught me some of the most important lessons that I still carry with me today: how to teach grantwriting in an inspiring way, how to uplift people's dreams for their community, and how important it is to serve as a connector of people and resources. Safe travels on the rest of your journey, Justin. Prayers to your family, the Lummi Nation, and all of the canoe families and youth who will miss you dearly.”

Dr. Charlotte Coté, Board of Directors President wrote this statement: “I will remember Justin as a person who always showed the deepest respect and kindness for everyone and someone who took great pride in his Lummi culture. His cultural legacy will live on in the youth he worked with and empowered through his sharing of Lummi culture, language, and traditions.”

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