



PRESS RELEASE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

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Contact: Neeka Somday
509-634-2213

Colville Tribal Police Receive Prestigious Award

(Nespelem, WA) — The North Central Washington Narcotics Task Force (NCWNTF) was named 2023 Agency of the Year for Washington Region 2 by the Western States Information Network (WSIN). Colville Tribal Police Chief Steve Brown is the Commander of the NCWNTF.

Kent Shaw, Executive Director of WSIN, noted that the investigative efforts of NCWNTF in 2023 resulted in the seizure of 166,500 fentanyl pills, over 81 pounds of methamphetamine, 6 pounds of heroin, 2 pounds of cocaine, and more than 40 firearms. The NCWNTF is comprised of less than 4 full-time employees, including other Colville Tribal Police officers in addition to Chief Brown.

Colville Business Council Chairman Jarred-Michael Erickson said, “Chief Brown and the other Colville Tribal Police who work on the NCWNTF truly deserve this recognition. This award typically goes to much larger agencies that enjoy many more staff and access to more resources. But the numbers don’t lie, and the record of success of the NCWNTF is clear even when compared to much larger agencies. The Colville Tribes appreciates the work the NCWNTF has done, and continues to do every day, to rid the Colville Reservation of illegal drugs and the crime that accompanies drug use.”

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About the Colville Tribes:

Today, more than 9,226 descendants of 12 aboriginal tribes of Indians are enrolled in the Confederated Tribes of the Colville. The twelve tribes which compose the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation include: ščəlám̓xəx^w (deep water) or Chelan; walwáma (Wallowa people) or Chief Joseph Band of Nez Perce; s̓x̓w̓y̓ʔiɫp (sharp pointed trees) or Colville; šnt̓iyátk^{wəx} (grass in the water) or Entiat; sn̓áyc̓kst (speckled fish) or Lakes; m̓ətx^{wu} (blunt hills around a valley) or Methow; šk̓wáxc̓ənəx^w (people living on the bank) or Moses-Columbia; n̓spilm (prairie) or Nespelem; uknaq̓in (seeing over the top) or Okanogan; palúšpam (people from Palouse) or Palus; s̓ənp̓f̓w̓ilx (grey mist as far as one can see) or San Poil, and šnp̓əšq̓w̓áwsəx^w (people in between) or Wenatchi.