



JOINT PRESS RELEASE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION & CITY OF PASCO

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Colville Tribes, City of Pasco, to Sign Historic Agreement in Principle

For immediate release
November 15, 2019

NESPELEM AND PASCO, WASHINGTON—The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Pasco City Council will sign an “Agreement in Principle” affirming their intent to work closely together on a number of issues of mutual interest, leaders from the Tribes and the City announced today. The ceremony will be held at the Red Lion on November 20 in Pasco.

“This is an historic agreement for the Colville Tribes,” Colville Business Council Chairman Rodney Cawston said today. “We are very pleased to lay the groundwork for future cooperation on important projects and matters for the benefit of all our community members.”

“Growing up in Washington many of us have a basic familiarity with the indigenous tribes of our area and region like the Confederated Tribe of the Colville and I’ve always enjoyed personally visiting and camping weekends on Reservation lands. What’s been a learning opportunity for me given their recent purchase of land in Pasco is the wider breadth of their traditional ancestral lands and history including the Palouse region, and that hundreds of Colvilles have long lived and worked in the Tri-Cities,” said Pasco Mayor Matt Watkins.

The Colville Tribes recently purchased property in Pasco as part of its efforts to recognize this area as the homeland of the Palus, one of the twelve Tribes in the Colville Confederation.

“The Palus people lived in this part of the country for millennia, and their connection to their historic territory is strong to this day,” Cawston said. “The word ‘Pasco’ is in fact derived from the Palus place name “Pasxa.” The written historical record since Lewis and Clark

recognizes this region as Palus homeland. We will be working with the City of Pasco to expand public awareness of the Palus' culture and traditions.”

“The City is looking forward to a long and fruitful relationship with the Colville Tribes as we work together for the betterment of our communities,” said Pasco City Manager Dave Zabell, adding, “I am pleased that the Colville Tribes have chosen Pasco to invest in for the long-term.”

The Agreement in Principle was passed unanimously by both the Colville Business Council and the Pasco City Council earlier this month. The signing ceremony will be held at 5:30 p.m., with a reception for area elected officials to follow.

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About the Colville Tribes:

Today, more than 9,526 descendants of 12 aboriginal tribes of Indians are enrolled in the Confederated Tribes of the Colville. The tribes, commonly known by English and French names, are: the Colville, the Nespelem, the San Poil, the Arrow Lakes, the Palus, the Wenatchi (Wenatchee), the Chelan, the Entiat, the Methow, the southern Okanogan, the Moses Columbia and the Nez Perce of Chief Joseph's Bands.

About the City of Pasco:

One of the Tri-Cities of south-central Washington State, Pasco has a current population of 75,290. Boasting good schools, health care facilities, faith communities, numerous retail/professional opportunities, recreational areas, and predominantly good weather, Pasco is a place where people put down roots and raise families in a safe, forward-thinking, active environment.