



PRESS RELEASE

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE COLVILLE RESERVATION

**For Immediate Release
July 11, 2019**

**Contact: Neeka Somday
509-634-2213**

Reorganized Colville Business Council Elects Officers Rodney Cawston Returning as Chair by Acclamation

(Nespelem, WA)- - The Colville Business Council of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation today completed its annual post-election reorganization, selecting officers and committee chairs and welcoming two new members to its ranks.

Rodney Cawston, of the Nespelem District, will continue to serve as Chairman of the CBC, elected by acclamation. Jack Ferguson, Keller District, was elected Vice-Chair and Joel Boyd, Inchelium, was selected as Secretary.

Committee chairs elected were Jack Ferguson, Management and Budget; Joseph Somday, Natural Resources; Richard Swan, Sr., Law and Justice and Veterans; Janet Nicholson, Health and Human Services; Joel Boyd, Employment and Education; Darnell Sam, Culture; and Marvin Kheel Tribal Government. Roger Finley, a newly-elected CBC member from Inchelium, will chair the Community Development Committee.

The CBC welcomed its two new members, Roger Finley and Jarred-Michael Erickson from the Nespelem District. The Council honored outgoing Nespelem District representative Andy Joseph, Jr. and Susie Allen, who had served the Inchelium District.

Chairman Cawston noted that Andy Joseph and served for 16 years on the CBC and was indispensable to a number of health care services improvements for the Tribes during his tenure. The Chairman also commended Susie Allen for her work on broadband and other telecommunications services for the Tribal membership.

The Chairman and others on the CBC noted that 2018-19 was a year of several accomplishments for the Tribes, including numerous legislative successes in health care, broadband funding, and voting rights. The Tribes also secured two major court victories in the past few months: the successful conclusion of Colville's longstanding litigation to hold Teck Cominco Ltd. responsible for its contamination of the Upper Columbia River, and a second appellate victory in the Rick Desautel hunting rights case in British Columbia.

“We all look forward to continued successes for the Colville Tribes and to improving the lives of the Tribal membership in the areas of health care, economic development, natural resources and education, to name a few,” Cawston said.

The 14-member CBC is the governing body of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation.

###

About the Colville Tribes:

The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation works to maintain and protect viable populations of native and desired non-native species of fish and wildlife and their supporting habitats, while providing sufficient numbers to meet the cultural, subsistence, recreational and economic needs of the tribal membership.

Today, more than 9,365 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; s̓x̓^wyʔilp (sharp pointed trees) or Colville; šnt̓iyátk^wx^w (grass in the water) or Entiat; sn̓áýckst (speckled fish) or Lakes; m̓ətx^wu (blunt hills around a valley) or Methow; škwáxčənəx^w (people living on the bank) or Moses-Columbia; nspilm (prairie) or Nespelem; uknaq̓in (seeing over the top) or Okanogan; palúšpam (people from Palouse) or Palus; s̓ənp̓^wilx (grey mist as far as one can see) or San Poil, and šnp̓əšq̓áw̓səx^w (people in between) or Wenatchi.