

## STATE OF WASHINGTON OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE

The Honorable Debra Haaland Secretary of the Interior U.S. Department of the Interior 1849 C Street NW Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Haaland:

I write in support of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians's effort to restore the land it has purchased on Ruston Way into federal trust status.

As governor I have worked closely with tribes throughout the state as they seek to restore their traditional homelands. The Puyallup Tribe of Indians is an important governmental partner to the state, county, and city on a multitude of issues, including community development, environmental restoration, and economic development. The acquisition of these two properties and the plans to maintain the businesses in this area is just another step in the tribe's goal of restoring what was committed to under the Treaty of Medicine Creek.

I support these efforts and look forward to working in collaboration with the Puyallup Tribe of Indians.

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Craig Bill, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs at <a href="mailto:craig.bill@goia.wa.gov">craig.bill@goia.wa.gov</a> or (360) 902-8826.

Very truly yours,

Jay Inslee Governor

cc: Senator Patty Murray

Senator Maria Cantwell