



Native Pathways Program & Office of Indigenous Student Engagement Navigation Program Newsletter.



AIANTA

American Indian Alaska Native
Tourism Association



American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association CEO Appointed to U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board



Sherry L. Rupert (Paiute/Washoe), CEO of the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA), has been reappointed by the U.S. Department of Commerce to serve a second two-year term on the U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board (TTAB).

This appointment represents a significant step forward for Indigenous voices in shaping the future of the U.S. tourism industry.

“I’m honored to join the U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board and represent Native Nations and communities in shaping our national tourism narrative,” said Rupert. “The TTAB plays a vital role in providing expert recommendations to enhance the American travel experience, and I’m committed to ensuring Indigenous voices are heard and represented.”

Before becoming AIANTA’s CEO, Rupert served as president of the organization’s Board of Directors and played a key role in advocating for the passage of the Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience (NATIVE) Act in 2016. She also served as executive director of the Nevada Indian Commission, working directly with the Governor to represent the state’s 28 tribes, bands, and colonies. Additionally, she chaired Nevada’s Indian Territory program under the Nevada Commission on Tourism. In April 2024, Rupert was appointed to the U.S. Travel Association Board of Directors, further solidifying her leadership within the industry. AIANTA. (2025, February 25). <https://www.aianta.org/about-aianta/our-team/>



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association CEO Appointed to U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board.....1

Message from Jay Inslee, Quinault Nation President Guy Capoeman2

West Coast Tribal Caucus.....3

Birthdays and QIN Presidents.....4-5

GHC/NPP ENROLLMENT.....5

Governor Jay Inslee recognizes QIN Presidents Vanessa Kowoosh from Queets in his final State of the State address

In outgoing Governor Inslee's final address to the people of the state of Washington, he covered the achievements and challenges he and the legislature have faced during his three terms as Governor. In his remarks, the Governor talked about the Climate Commitment Act (CCA), and in doing so, he included how the Act is benefiting coastal communities that are facing impacts from the rising oceans. The Governor said,

"We are glad that today we are joined by Vanessa Kowoosh from Queets. Vanessa works for the Quinault tribe's Generations Building supporting the community's culture through history and language and early education programs. Community resources like these are threatened because the very land it's on is at risk because of sea level rise caused by climate change.

They are not the only coastal communities living with this threat, the climate commitment act is supporting them by charging polluter's and investing in those communities' relocation to higher ground. Thanks to the climate commitment act and the choice by lawmakers to honor its purpose, the people of Queets are getting a new Generations Building

on higher ground, safe from flooding, funded by Cap and Invest. It's just one example of so many of how CCA is keeping our communities to be safer and healthier. Vanessa, we wish you well, we are going to keep you high and dry. So, Vanessa, thank you for being here . Johnstone, E. (2025, February). Governor Jay Inslee recognizes qin presidents Vanessa Kowoosh from Queets in his final state of the state . Nugguam, pp. 1-21.



The Native Pathways Bridge AA Degree Program is a direct transfer Associate of Arts (AA) degree.

Program Description

The Native Pathways Bridge AA Degree Program is a degree that can be transferred to any four-year college or University, but bridges nicely with the Evergreen Native Pathways Degree. In most cases, this degree will satisfy the general education degree requirements at any Four-year College or University.

A mostly-online program with Two Weekends a quarter(6 per year) spent studying with Evergreen students at the Longhouse in Olympia, WA.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT GUY CAPOEMAN

Guy Capoeman



The past few weeks have been a whirlwind of productive meetings, team-building moments, and significant progress for our ongoing projects. With a packed schedule and plenty of exciting updates, we've made great strides in key initiatives, especially in relation to relocation.

Many of our regular BC meetings, Subcommittees and community dinners are where we have laid the groundwork for upcoming milestones and worked through critical decisions to ensure we stay on

track. These discussions, combined with a retreat attended by our Business Committee in January, provided the perfect opportunity to step back from day-to-day operations and focus on our long-term goals. The retreat proved to be a productive time of reflection, strategy, and alignment, setting the tone for the months ahead.

Perhaps the most exciting news to share is the successful transfer of relocation funds that will be used for our ongoing relocation projects. This significant financial support will enable us to move forward with important components of the project. With these funds, we'll be able to enhance our

impact, extend our reach, and continue making a difference in the areas we are committed to.

Despite the demanding schedule, the Business Committee remains energized and focused, driven by the momentum of these key developments. We're looking forward to the next phase of the project and the many opportunities that lie ahead.

The future is bright, and we're excited about the road ahead.

Siokwil

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Guy Capoeman".

Guy Capoeman

West Coast Ocean Tribal Caucus - 2025 Tribal Summit

On January 13 - January 15, 2025, Tribal representatives from the Westcoast of the U.S. met at the Quinault Beach Resort and Casino to honor Tribes' Rights in the Ocean, with a specific emphasis on Tribal marine lifeways protection and planning areas. The Summit provided a platform for inter-Tribal sharing of successes and challenges that would be informative to others to learn from. On the first day, the tribal representatives visited Taholah to get a tour and hear from Councilmember Hendricks, staff Lia Frenchman, Justine James, Joe Schumacker and others about how the change in the climate is affecting our coastline, resources and the plans for relocating the lower village to the Northeast Neighborhood to escape the rising ocean.

The group was also treated to an opportunity to dig razor clams on the beach directly in front of the Quinault Beach Resort & Casino. Throughout the Tribal Summit, were panels of representatives to cover topics such as challenges in accessing the resources, impact on resources such as fur seals from commercial fisheries in the Bering Sea with Alaska Natives, and discussions about protective efforts to implement a ecomanagement agreement to benefit or protect resources, but in some cases, they were not successful due to the lack of response or cooperation from the federal agency involved. Each speaker expressed the difficulty in working with outside agencies, states and in some cases, their own tribal council to get agreements created and implemented. In many cases when agreements were developed and implemented, the response by the non-tribal public was a bit fearful of how agreements like Sanctuary protections would affect them.

It was mentioned that explaining and meeting with neighboring communities or governments, is a strategy that can build support for more successful outcomes in managing ocean resources for them, otherwise it may not be feasible or affordable. As we are experiencing at Quinault, with the flooding, relocation, erosion, and the funds to address all of these comes with a big price tag and many years to develop and complete. And that's in addition to the other impacts to our ocean and river fisheries and other resources. The last day of the four-day gathering included Federal, state, tribal and two federal sister agencies – Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) for offshore energy, oil, gas, wind and tidal issues. The day was used for interactive group discussion on priorities and goals for the final two years of NOAA Regional Ocean Partnership funding. In the final session, the Summit concluded with a recap of themes, takeaways, and meeting to address follow-up tasks identified over the week-long gathering.

whatever strategy is being proposed or implemented. Marine Climate Impacts for Planning and Resource Management was another topic of discussion. The Shoalwater Bay Tribe talked about toxic algae blooms and how they are making their way into the Bay due to the higher temperatures in the waters. The impact on the farming of oysters is devastating and deadly. By sharing experiences of what is working or what solutions or strategies are being used, can help others avoid pitfalls or unnecessary steps. Collaborations in funding to address these issues was an important topic due to the costs and man hours to study them, work on them, and staffing.



The Degree Connects With GHC Mission, Vision, Core Themes, and Values.

Vision—GHC is a catalyst for positive change.

Setting goals while reaching academic objectives in the Native Pathways Program enhances areas of accomplishment.

Mission—GHC provides meaningful education and cultural enrichment through academic transfer, workforce preparation, basic skills and service to community. **Many Native Pathways Students go on to earn upper division degrees as well as employment upgrades. Many use acquired skills to improve and enrich tribal communities.**

Core Themes-Academic Transfer, Workforce Preparation, Basic Skills, & Service to Community. **These are concentrated areas of focus in the Native Pathways Program which articulates with Evergreen Native Pathways upper division degree.**

Values-Access to educational opportunities; Success for students, faculty, and staff; Respect for diversity of people, ideas, culture and environment; Efficient use of Resources.



Grays Harbor College/ Native Pathways Program

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BIRTHDAY'S

- Tashia Arnold FEB 02
- Dwayne Capoeman FEB 04
- Hunter Turchan FEB 07
- Caleb McGruire FEB 14
- Justin M. James FEB 18
- Patricia Howtopat FEB 21
- Frankie Pope Jr. FEB 22

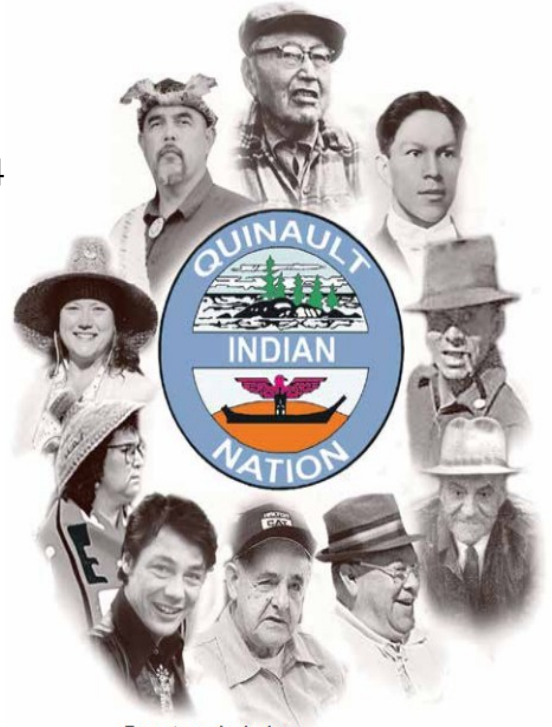


The Native Pathways Bridge AA Degree Program is:

A place-based program designed for students to complete their education without moving or commuting long distances to a campus. A powerful program where students use Native Case Studies to study issues in Indian Country.



QIN Presidents



From top, clockwise:

- Harry Shale Sr. 1922-1926 / 1928-1932 / 1934-1935
- Webster Hudson 1927
- Herbert Capoeman 1933
- Cleveland Jackson 1936-1961
- Horton Capoeman 1961-1964
- James Jackson 1964-1972*
- Joe DeLaCruz 1972-1994
- Pearl Capoeman-Baller 1994-2006
- Fawn Sharp 2006-2021
- Guy Capoeman 2021-current

* Helen Mitchell (Sanders) was acting president while Jim Jackson was in the hospital in 1971.

GHC Native Service Area

The GHC Lower division Native Pathways AA program degree serves students from Nisqually, Quinault, Queets, Squaxin Island, Chehalis, Shoal water Bay/Aberdeen, Tacoma, Suquamish, Puyallup and Makah. Students from other reservations or urban areas are also welcome to join the

5 STEPS TOWARDS ENROLLMENT AT GHC



1. Apply for admission-application may be printed off of our homepage and faxed or mailed to our college. The application may also be accessed online and submitted online to our college (quickest method is to apply online). Please submit admissions application as soon as possible to expedite the overall application process. <https://www.ghc.edu/admissions>
2. Submit any and all “Official Transcripts” from other colleges you have attended to our “Admissions and Records” department. <https://www.ghc.edu/transcripts>
3. Do college placement test GHC Enrollment Services. Contact Cherie Edwards (Cherie.edwards@ghc.edu) if assistance is needed. <https://www.ghc.edu/admissions/placement>
4. Do “entry advising” Meet with an advisor and go over some intake questions that have to do with your entrance into our college and program. Once you have done this, then you can register for your clas-

Quarterly Course Offerings

Grays Harbor College (Bridge Program)

(If a student placement at pre-college level on the placement test.

The length of time required to complete the degree maybe longer than outlined below.)

QUARTER	YEAR 1 COLUMN	YEAR 2 COLUMN	YEAR 3 COLUMN
FALL	FYE 101-ORIENTATION (1 CREDIT) ENGLISH 101 (5 CREDITS) B-TECH 101 (2 CREDITS) HUM 107 (1 CREDIT)	ANTH 210 (5 CREDIT) ENGLISH 102 (5 CREDIT) WEEKEND CLASSES: HUM 103 (2 CREDIT)	EARTH SCIENCE 102 (5 CREDIT) MATH 107 (5 CREDIT)
WINTER	ANTH 206 (5 CREDIT) LIBRARY 101 (2 CREDIT) WEEKEND CLASSES: HUM 101 (2 CREDIT) HUM 108 (1 CREDIT)	POLS 202 (5 CREDIT) GEN-PSYCH 100 (5 CREDIT) WEEKEND CLASSES: HUM 105 (2 CREDIT)	HEALTH PROMOTION 101 (5 CREDIT) ASTRONOMY 101 (5 CREDIT)
SPRING	BIOLOGY 100 (5 CREDIT) ART APPR'N: 100 (5 CREDIT) WEEKEND CLASSES: HUM 102 (2 CREDIT) HUM 109 (1 CREDIT)	MUSIC 105 (5 CREDIT) ANTH 216 (5 CREDIT)	
SUMMER	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MESSAGE FROM JENEL COPE, TO GARY ARTHUR.

Gary Arthur was a welcoming colleague to me from the moment I was hired at Grays Harbor College. I was hired as a History & Political Science instructor, and based on my background he knew I was interested in Native American History and Anthropology so he reached out to me and introduced me to the Native Cases Institute at Evergreen and invited me to pursue the possibility of teaching these topics at GHC. Thanks in part to his suggestion, we were able to begin offering Native American History at GHC. I've also been fortunate enough to attend the Native Cases Institute several times thanks to his encouragement, and the things I learned there improved both my teaching skills and my local knowledge of indigenous topics. Gary Arthur and I also worked together on the Diversity Advisory Committee where he showed absolute and inspiring dedication to supporting and celebrating indigenous students and our local native nations. Working with Gary is always a positive and enriching experience and he will definitely be missed.



Annotated Bibliography

All information including pictures, except those from emails and front page came from Nugguam News articles. Article page one came from courtesy of AIANTA.ORG. Nugguam. (2025, February 1). *Latest news*. Quinault Indian Nation, WA | Official Website. <https://www.quinaultindiannation.com/>

Johnstone, E. (2025, February). Governor Jay Inslee recognizes QIN presidents Vanessa Kowoosh from Queets in his final state of the state. *Nugguam*, pp. 1–21.

AIANTA team. AIANTA. (2025, February 25). <https://www.ainta.org/about-ainta/our-team/>

